By BEVERLY CLARK

AIDS Quilt on Quad wraps up hope, action

By BEVERLY CLARK

For the fourth year in a row, the Emory campus commemorated World AIDS Day with “Quilt on the Quad,” presented by Emory Hillel Dec. 1. In marked contrast to the gray skies overhead, sections presented by Emory Hillel Dec. 1 in marked contrast to the gray skies overhead, sections

were unfurled on the Quad in a joyous display of color and patterns that also served as a somber reminder of the lives each of the 800 panels represented.

As current chairman of amfAR, the world’s largest HIV/AIDS research organization, Cole said that although a stigma still prevails around HIV/AIDS, “profound advances have been made during this journey…and I believe a cure is within reach.”

Rev. Jill Patterson Tolbert, campus minister for the Presbyterian Church-USA, also dedicated a panel for her brother, John Hunter Patterson, who died in 1996 “much too young” at the age of 41. “He is still remembered and he is still missed,” she said during the opening ceremony.

Tolbert said later that when she started at Emory last year, she was eager to get involved with Quilt on the Quad, and it gave her the motivation to put the finishing touches on the panel she had created with her husband and three young sons at the NAMES Project Memorial Foundation. The foundation, headquartered in Atlanta, curates the Quilt and also provides materials and assistance to people working to create the memorials for their loved ones.

Tolbert’s other brother, suggested that she base the design for the quilt panel on a shirt that was specifically created for Hunter by Maria Sahina, a famous Mazatec medicine woman, in 1975.

The University community got into the spirit of the season with campus events including Night of Lights and Festival of Faiths.

Emory Hospitals hosted its annual holiday lighting celebrations from Dec. 1–4. This year’s festivities featured thousands of lights and decorations at each facility including the new Emory University Orthopaedics & Spine Hospital. A fireworks show further lit up the night at Emory Crawford Long Hospital.

Festival of Faiths, a Wonderful Wednesday event organized by Associate Professor in the School of Medicine Neil Shulman, was a celebration of religious and spiritual diversity. The more than 30 campus and community faith organizations present allowed participants to “window shop” the world’s faith traditions, “to walk from church to temple to synagogue, and connect one-on-one in a non-threatening way,” said Shulman. “I’d like to give Emory credit for the outpouring of support” for this event, he added.

Please see QUILT page 8
EMORY REPORT DECEMBER 8, 2008

NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU
www.emory.edu/PROVOST/facultydevelopment/

Meet the new faculty who joined Emory in 2008–09. Icons and photos are listed on the Provost’s Office of Faculty Development Web site. Also recognized here are faculty who have earned tenure or received a promotion to the next rank during the 2006–07 school year.

ATTENTION OFF-CAMPUS SUBSCRIBERS
Beginning January 2009, Emory Report will no longer offer free subscriptions via U.S. mail. Emory Report is always available free online at www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT. If you wish to continue to receive your mailed copies of Emory Report for a $12 annual subscription, please contact Christi Gray at 404-727-5546 or christi.gray@emory.edu, or send a check to Emory Report, 1762 Clifton Rd., Plaza 1000, Atlanta, GA, 30322. Please include your name and mailing address, and pay to the order of Emory University.

GOING TO D.C.
FOR OBAMA’S INDUCTION?
Emory Report is looking for staff, faculty or students who will be attending the Presidential Inauguration in January to share their experiences. Please contact Editor Kim Urquhart at kim.urquhart@emory.edu or 404-727-9507.

EMORY profiles:
Connie Moon Sehat

A virtual librarian
She wants you to check out digital scholarship

By CAROL CLARK

Connie Moon Sehat, Emory Library’s new director of digital scholarship initiatives, combines a love of history, art, culture, language and technology in one compact, high-energy package. “I’ve had a wide-ranging set of interests,” she says, laughing as she settles into a comfortable chair outside her office in Woodruff Library.

Sehat’s father was a systems engineer who was often transferred, so her family moved frequently during her childhood, including stops in South Korea— where both her parents were born — and cities around the southern United States.

While completing a degree in arthistory, Sehat did internships in computer science. She then worked as a software engineer for NASA, designing applications for the International Space Station and Mission Control. “It was fascinating and frustrating,” she says of the job. “I got the chance to see some of the smartest minds at work.”

Sehat left NASA for graduate school at Rice University. “I love art, but I’m actually more interested in culture and society,” she says, explaining her Ph.D. in German history. “The moral questions surrounding the Holocaust have always intrigued me.”

She lived in Germany for a while, adding German to her language repertoire, which also includes the ability to read French and understand spoken Korean. “The strangeness and familiarity of living in a different culture makes you see your own culture differently,” Sehat says. Her dissertation looked at ways that science museums in East and West Germany express ideas about freedom and technology.

The next stop for Sehat was George Mason University in Washington D.C. where she served as associate director of research projects for the Center for History and New Media. One well-known project of the CHNM is a digital archive of oral histories and images from the 9/11 terrorism attacks: http://911digitalarchive.org/.

In August, Sehat joined Emory, which she says is positioned to become a leader in the emerging trend of digital scholarship. Rick Lucio, vice provost and director of libraries, is known as an IT innovator who is committed to digital library development.

“Emory is a broad research institution with a lot of faculty members who are open to exploring digital media,” Sehat says. “At its heart, digital scholarship is interdisciplinary, investigative and creative.”

A major challenge to researchers in the information age is the overabundance of data. “The Bush Administration is expected to generate something like 100 million e-mails,” Sehat says. “How is any one scholar supposed to read all that? You can’t.”

But the Internet era also provides opportunities to mine data more efficiently, enrich research and expand the reach of academia.

A good example of digital scholarship at Emory is ‘Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database,’ a free and interactive Web-based resource which recently launched. “You can literally see how many people got on the boat in Africa and how many got off,” Sehat says. “It provides amazing evidence that allows people to comprehend things quickly.”

A new commons for teaching, research

Over this spring and summer, Emory Libraries’ Connie Moon Sehat will be launching the “Digital Scholarship Commons,” or DiSC, to help train, inspire and connect faculty members throughout the University who want to use computer science in creative ways to enhance their teaching and/or research.

“We chose the term ‘commons’ because we want to use the library space to bridge the humanities and sciences, and also the professional schools,” Sehat says.

The first goal of DiSC will be to train a group of consultants within the library system who can help introduce faculty members to resources such as Zotero, an open-source bibliographic manager that is being further refined and developed through a partnership between Emory and the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University.

A series of workshops will introduce the basics of digital scholarships, including ways to approach grant writing. Successful digital scholarship projects from around the country will be discussed, such as the idea of a Harvard professor to teach a course via Second Life.

A conference hosted by Emory Libraries and the Council on Library and Information Resources April 17–18 will bring digital scholars from the U.S., Canada and Europe to campus to discuss their projects.

“This is an emerging field,” Sehat says. “There are lots of small start-up projects, and people are searching for models to go by. We want to develop a more lasting infrastructure as a base for people to build on.”

For more information about DiSC, visit the new Web site: http://disc.library.emory.edu.
Cardiac Toolbox helps its creator

By MONICA SALAMA

Radiology professor Ernest Garcia, whose team developed the Emory Cardiac Toolbox, was recently recognized by The Better World Report for his leadership role in academic research that has changed the world. And the cardiac diagnostic software recently changed his life.

With a family history of cancer, Garcia never expected to be concerned with heart disease. This August, the Emory Cardiac Toolbox diagnosed its own developer with heart disease. Garcia’s diagnosis led to open heart surgery and with the expertise available at Emory, he recovered quickly.

As an expert in the field of cardiac diagnosis, Garcia has realized how easy it is to attribute the signs of a failing heart to other illnesses that the body may suffer. From this experience, he says he has found a new appreciation for the importance of being well-informed and having a positive attitude.

The Emory Cardiac Toolbox relies on a bank of normal and abnormal scans to cross-reference and identify inconsistencies with a patient’s scan. Though Garcia and his team developed the program, he attributes his life-saving diagnosis to the patients and volunteers that supplied the images for the “normal” database.

Developments from Garcia’s lab at Emory continue to be commercialized through Syntermed Inc., established in 1999 as a spin-off of research and technology from Emory and Georgia Tech. The Emory Cardiac Toolbox used by more than 20,000 clinicians worldwide continues to grow, with the most recent addition implemented by Assistant Professor of Radiology Ji Chen.

The SyncTool uses multimodal image analysis to quickly and accurately determine which heart failure patients will benefit from cardiac resynchronization therapy.

Learn more

Radiology professor Garcia discusses the Emory Cardiac Toolbox on the latest edition of “Sound Science,” a podcast series from the Woodruff Health Sciences Center.

Alyssa Lederer

Alyssa Lederer’s interest in health education was sparked when she was a child, after a close family friend died of AIDS. “As I got older, I would hear people say things about AIDS that didn’t make sense to me,” she says. “I realized that what a lot of people knew was based on misconceptions.”

She became involved in health awareness projects while still in high school. Last spring, she urged her mother to help create the Rollins School of Public Health and in June she was hired by Emory to pursue a new position: a health educator for the University overall, bridging the services of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program and Student Health and Counseling Services.

“I was brought in to unite the efforts of the two offices and to help create a University-wide, people-based approach for a healthy campus,” Lederer explains. “We really all want the well-being of everyone in the local community.”

This October Lederer coordinated the National College Health Assessment at Emory, a comprehensive survey that assessed the physical and mental health concerns in addition to the health issues that affected their academic performance. In the previous iteration of the survey in 2006, stress was the number one health concern cited by the respondents, followed by issues with sleep. The findings are in line with the national trend among college students, Lederer says, based on a standardized questionnaire created by the American College Health Association.

“Emory students work hard, both academically and in extra-curricular activities,” Lederer says. “They have a lot on their plate. It’s hard not to feel stressed, you want to excel in every area.”

Lederer is now working on developing a survey to assess the health of faculty and staff, which will likely be conducted in the spring. Once the results have been tabulated, along with the most recent student survey results, a “healthy campus coalition” will be formed to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan to make Emory a healthier place to live, work, teach and study.

“By finding out more about the needs of the entire community, and gathering baseline data, we’re laying a foundation to build on,” Lederer says. “It’s an amazing opportunity, to be working for a university that is committed to taking an evidence-based approach to health promotion and that supports innovative strategies for health education.”

Health education programs will be tailored to meet the specific needs of the Emory community, she says. Meanwhile, she wants to help students, faculty and staff understand and appreciate their interdependence.

“People who feel like they are part of a community generally have a better sense of well-being,” Lederer says. “We want people to look out for each other, and to feel that others are looking out for them. Emory is a caring community, and we want everyone to know that it’s okay to talk to your professor, your student or your colleague when something doesn’t seem quite right or you notice a dramatic change in behavior.”

TRIBUTE: John T. Doby

Sociologist relished roles of scholar, friend

By ALVIN BOSKOFF

John T. Doby, emeritus professor of sociology, died on Nov. 1 in Coraline, Ky. After a distinguished career in the Air Force during World War II, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin and began his career at Wofford College in South Carolina. In 1958 he came to Emory where, over 27 years, he curated a highly successful graduate program in sociology.

In those productive years, he published books on social psychology and methodology, several articles and book reviews, and received several research and training grants for a rapidly growing program. He was one of the founders of the Georgia Sociological Society and served as president of the Southern Sociological Society. He was a frequent consultant to Georgia’s mental health program.

Many of John’s close associates and long-term friends saw him relish his role as scholar, administrator, mentor, debater and confidante. He combined small-town common sense and humor with the accelerating diversity of metropolitan Atlanta, but returned to Kentucky in retirement. John had a love for sociology at its core and a critical, Veblenian view of American higher education. He greeted stories and puns with reverberating laughter, even over the phone. As an educator, John’s students and colleagues profited from his concern and knowledge.

He will be remembered as a leader, a scholar, a debater and a pragmatist, but above all, friend.

Alvin Boskoff is professor emeritus of sociology, Department Chair Bob Agnew and Maggie Stephens, academic department administrator and close friend, contributed to this article.
Economy is opportunity for thrift

Savings: Economy is opportunity for thrift

By ALISSON SHIRREFFS

As President-Elect Barack Obama continued to assemble his White House team, a group of lobbyists, lawyers, accountants, business leaders and academics gathered at the School of Law to discuss an Obama presidency's effect on tax policy. During the half-day symposium, "Great Expectations: The Outlook for U.S. Tax Policy," experts touched on the Obama campaign promise of middle class tax cuts and tax increases for the wealthy, but noted that Obama's immediate effects on tax policy will be to stem the "unsound" U.S. economy.

"Sponsored by Emory Law, the Center for Transactional Law and Practice, Goizueta Business School, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP and the Georgia Society of CPAs, the symposium featured keynote speaker Edward D. Kleinbard, chief of staff for the Senate Finance Committee on Taxation, who provided a behind-the-scenes look at the data and analysis professionals use to make tax policy decisions. Congress staffers Mark Prater, chief tax counsel for the Senate Finance Committee on Finance, and John Buckley, chief tax counsel for the House Ways and Means Committee, offered a view of tax policy direct from Capitol Hill — via video conferencing.

Joe Dowley, a partner in the Washington office of McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP and former chief counsel of the House Ways and Means Committee, offered a sober presentation, "The Perfect Storm," in which he explained the co-existence of an economic meltdown, the rising cost of U.S. debt, entitlement demographics, a health care system in crisis, engagement in two wars and energy imperatives highlights a need for tax reform.

The symposium ended with a roundtable that included Emory professors Dorothy Brown and Connie Kertz. The panel reviewed significant domestic and international tax policy reform, as well as the implications of a second stimulus package and the possible effects of Obama's tax proposals on the business sector.

While the panelists could not predict what the Obama administration will tackle first, they did articulate the symposium's prevailing sentiment: "The [tax] system simply isn't paying for the government we have. It has to be dealt with. We can't kick this can down the road any further."
Engagement theme of University Senate topics

University Senate members heard from two new directors of offices on campus and learned about ways to get involved in community outreach and problem-solving. Senate president Steven Culler said the panelists did a good job of explaining “how we work and what we do.”

President Steven Culler said that a new Center for Faculty Development and Excellence, presented her ideas for a portfolio of faculty development processes.

The energetic CPOE implementation team is working round-the-clock to analyze the systems and will provide ample, timely training and direction for all affected staff and physicians. To accommodate busy schedules, the training programs will be extremely flexible, with 24/7 online courses and convenient certification classes. After go-live, a robust on-site team will be available to offer support. CPOE will be a challenging transition, as it will change clinical workflows, roles and responsibilities for both providers and non-providers alike. Our motto is: CPOE works for me,” as the system fulfills a basic functional need and benefits the user. Find out how CPOE works for you. We ask you to learn your role as a provider, recipient or supporter to help make CPOE at Emory Healthcare a success.

NEWSMAKERS

“Health care facilities can create safer conditions within the existing 80-hour limit by providing residents regular opportunities for sleep and limiting extended periods of work without rest.”

— Michael M.E. Johns, chancellor of Emory and chairman of the Institute of Medicine committee that released a report Dec. 2 on medical residents, proposing revisions to decrease chances of fatigue-related medical errors, reported in numerous major media outlets.
Researchers find clues to vaccine effectiveness

By EMILY RIOS

Researchers at the Yorkes National Primate Research Center and Emory Vaccine Center have developed a new approach to predict the effectiveness of vaccines without exposing individuals to infection. The discovery addresses a long-standing challenge of only being able to determine immunity long after vaccination, and often only after exposure to infection.

The study, which used the yellow fever vaccine (YF-17D) as a model, was published in Nature Immunology.

“Despite the great success of the yellow fever vaccine, little has been known about the immunological mechanisms that make it effective,” says lead researcher Bali Pulendran, Yorkes researcher and a professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

Pulendran’s team sought to determine what makes such a vaccine effective as researchers can use the model in designing new and better vaccines against global pandemics and emerging infections.

Researchers vaccinated 15 healthy individuals with YF-17D and studied the T cell and antibody responses in their blood.

“Using a bioinformatics approach, we were able to identify distinct gene signatures that correlated with the T cell response and the antibody response induced by the vaccine,” says Pulendran.

“To determine whether these gene signatures could predict immune response, we vaccinated a second group of individuals and were able to predict with up to 90 percent accuracy which of the vaccinated individuals would develop a strong T or B cell immunity to yellow fever.”

The team is now working to determine whether this approach can be used to predict the effectiveness and immunity of other vaccines, including flu vaccines.

By LESLIE KING

“What do Afghans want?” Ashraf Haidari asked Marion Creekmore’s South Asian policy class Dec. 2. “Basic security and basic rule of law and government.”

Haidari has a front-row seat to the struggles of the strife-torn nation, he is the political counselor at the Afghanistan Embassy in Washington.

Seven years after the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan is beset by the Taliban trying to reclaim its brutal political dominance, violence from Al Qaeda, drug traffickers, and criminals, particularly kidnappers.

“The reality on the ground in Afghanistan is that ‘the international community has not sent enough forces to stabilize the country.’ Haidari said. “2008 has been the bloodiest year so far.”

The international forces put restrictions on military operations. For example, Germany won’t send troops to the south and east where the Taliban is strongest. “First we don’t have enough forces, and second, the forces we do have are in areas where they’re not really needed,” Haidari said.

The Afghan people firmly stand against the forces of terrorism,” Haidari said, such incidents will continue. “Our hope is the international community should step up and help.”

“’One way (to prevent civilian casualties in Afghanistan) is to coordinate with the Afghan government in advance and I think some of these situations would be prevented,’” he said.

If civilian casualties occur, “a quick apologetic response would be powerful,” he advised. “It helps if the apology is upfront and you help the victims.”

Haidari also noted: “We need more international special forces. They can engage enemy so there’s really no need to call for airstrikes.”

Diplomat: Afghanistan needs more help from international community

Class members are reading “A Thousand Splendid Suns,” by Afghan-American novelist Khaled Hosseini, described as an “epic of Afghanistan in turmoil.”

They asked about the recent violence in Mumbai, India. “Unless we truly shut down terror,” Haidari said, such incidents will continue. “Our hope is the international community should step up and help.”

Following the class, Haidari spoke at a Halle Institute event. “Our allies have so far faltered on three key accounts,” he said. They have failed to provide the necessary level of aid for reconstruction; to coordinate aid efforts with each other; and to engage the Afghan people and deliver on expectations.

Address these, Haidari said, and “when we exit Afghanistan, the Afghan people firmly stand on our own feet.”

Fetal life linked to future well-being

According to physician and researcher David Barker, early development — including fetal development — is intimately related to humans’ long-term health.

Speaking as part of the Predictive Health and Society lecture series, Barker reviewed evidence of how early growth and development can predict adult disease.

Barker is internationally renowned for the groundbreaking discovery identifying size at birth as a risk factor for coronary heart disease and diabetes in adulthood, an observation with profound health implications. This led to the recognition that a range of chronic diseases can have their origins during fetal life. His “Barker Hypothesis” has increasingly influenced the way in which medicine and public health care approach the prevention of disease.

“Dr. Barker is interesting in that his work focuses on areas of science and medicine that seem to sometimes be forgotten — that our early development has very real and significant impact on our adult physical well-being,” says Lynn Cunningham, administrative director of the Emory/Georgia Tech Predictive Health Institute.

“How often do we consider what our mother’s diet and behavior, even pre-conception, has to do with our health today?” The lecture was an inspiration to rediscover and reframe the connection between early development and adult disease.

The seminar was sponsored by the Emory Predictive Health and Society Initiative, part of the University’s systems approach.

By ROBERT W. SANFILIPPO

Sanfilippo will lead the symposium along with President Jim Thomson, Kenneth Brickman, director of the Emory/Georgia Tech Predictive Health Institute; Chancellor Michael M.E. Johns, and Don Giddens, dean of the Georgia Tech College of Engineering.

Predictive Health and Society is a University-wide initiative within Emory’s strategic plan that includes Emory’s health sciences professional schools and centers, Emory College and Emory Graduate School and the College of Engineering at Georgia Tech. The Emory Georgia Tech Predictive Health Institute includes more than 200 researchers and translational research projects linked to a Center for Health Discovery and Wellbeing. The Center is a new approach to health and healing, located at Emory’s midtown campus at Crawford Long, enrolling individuals in a unique program to define and measure health, invent and discover optimal biomarkers of health, identify interventions and determine how to apply this new knowledge to make people healthier.

Continued from the cover

University, and Jeffrey Gulcher, Ralph Snyderman, founder, of Emory University, and National Primate Research Center and Emory Vaccine Research Center to vaccine effectiveness roster includes speakers from founder, deCODE Genetics. The Emory Conference Center. The full agenda and registration is available at http://predictivewellhealth.emory.edu/symposium2008.cfm.

Keynote speakers include Ralph Snyderman, founder, Preventivs, and chancellor for health affairs emeritus, Duke University, and Jeffrey Gulcher, chief scientific officer and co-founder, deCODE Genetics. The roster includes speakers from the Genetic Alliance, the Ohio State University, Vanderbilt University, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and the University of Texas Health Science Center, in addition to scientists from Emory and Georgia Tech.

Predictive health is a new paradigm that defines the unique characteristics that predict disease risk for individuals and populations and uses new discoveries in biomedicine to emphasize health maintenance and health recovery rather than treatment of disease.

“Emory University is committed to national leadership in transforming health and healing through new ways of defining health, predicting disease risk, personalizing treatment and maintaining long-term well-being.”

“Human Health: Molecules to Mankind” on Dec. 15–16 will discuss new ways of defining health, predicting disease risk, personalizing treatment and maintaining long-term well-being.

EMORY REPORT DECEMBER 8, 2008
Emory University Summary Annual Report for the 2007 plan year

The plan has contracts with AETNA and Comhealth Insurance Company to cover medical claims incurred under the terms of the plan. The total value of these claims for the plan year ending December 31, 2007, was $198,831.

3. information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled securities accounts, master trusts or 12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

2. insurance information, including sales commissions.

You also have the right to receive a copy of any or all of the financial statement and accompanying notes, or a statement of investment income of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or any part thereof, written or printed in the annual report at the main office of the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

1. insurance information, including sales commissions.

You do not have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, written or printed in the annual report at the main office of the plan administrator, on request and at no charge.

2. information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled securities accounts, master trusts or 12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

3. information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled securities accounts, master trusts or 12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

2. insurance information, including sales commissions.

You also have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, written or printed in the annual report at the main office of the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

1. an accountant’s report;

1. an accountant’s report;

2. financial information and information on pay- ments to service providers.

3. assets held for investment;

4. insurance information, including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers; and

5. information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled securities accounts, master trusts or 12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

The plan has contracts with UNUM LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, ReliaStar Life Insurance Company and RELIASTAR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY to pay life insurance benefits to beneficiaries of the plan. LOOMIS Sayles & Co. LLC has custody of the plan’s assets. The plan’s assets, which include the value of the plan’s assets at the beginning of the year and the value of the assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had total income of $8,711,068, including employer contributions of $101,851,040, employee contributions of $3,789,762, and earnings from investments of $3,719,902 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

The plan had total income of $8,711,068, including employer contributions of $101,851,040, employee contributions of $3,789,762, and earnings from investments of $3,719,902 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.
Join faculty authors at ‘Feast of Words’

The Academic Exchange and the Druid Hills Bookstore are hosting a celebration of Emory faculty authors and editors of books published in 2008. The annual “Feast of Words” will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 9, from 4:15–6:15 p.m. at Druid Hills Bookstore in Emory Village, and will include remarks and a toast from President Jim Wagner and Provost Earl Lewis.

Pick up a brochure listing all known Emory faculty books of 2008, or purchase a book by an Emory author for a daily-standing discount of 10 percent.

**Bust holiday nutrition myths**

With so many tempting treats, how do you eat healthy this holiday season? Get tips at the Emory Heartwise Lecture Series “Nutrition Myths” on Wednesday, Dec. 17, from noon to 12:45 p.m. in the Emory Clinic’s 6th Floor Conference Room, 1525 Clifton Rd.

“People tend to eat more and move less this time of year, and it’s also a time of Emory faculty author books published 2008,” says Cheryl Williams, the clinical dietician who will pres- ent the seminar. “We will focus on maintaining and achieving a healthy weight.” Fresh vs. frozen vegetables, and eating organic are among the topics to be covered.

Free and open to the public; registration is recommended at 404-712-7777 or healthconnection.emory.org.

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**Events**

**Advance Notice**

**MARIAL forum on memory, family**

Experts on memory, family history and culture are from Denmark, Germany and the United States will gather at Emory for a two-day conference Dec. 11–12 on “Culture, Family and Communicative Memory.”

The conference, free and open to the public, is sp onsored by the Center for Myth and Ritual in American Life (MARIAL) and the Emory Cognition Project.

“Researchers from around the world will come together to consider how memory develops in childhood and throughout adulthood through family stories and cultural myths,” says conference co-orga nizer Robyn Fivush, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Psychology and department chair. “Information shared at this conference will help us better understand the complex processes by which individuals come to define themselves in relation to the social groups in which they live.”

For the conference schedule, visit www.marial.emory.edu.

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**Celtic concert a holiday tradition**

Grammy-winning banjoist Alison Brown, with members of the Alison Brown Quartet (above), will light up the “Sixteenth Annual Atlanta Celtic Christmas Concert,” hosted and directed by James W. Flannery, Winship Professor of Arts and Humanities in the School of Arts and Sciences, and director of the W. W. Yeats Foundation.

The popular event highlights Celtic and Appalachian music, dance, poetry, song and story featuring Rising Appalachian and The Elders, The Buddy O’Reilly Band, Scottish pipers, Irish and Southern clog dancers, and more.

With performances on Dec. 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 14 at 2:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center’s Emerson Hall, tickets are $25 for the general public; $20 for discount category members; and $10 for students. For tickets: 404-727-0050 or www.arts.emory.edu/tickets.