By Holly Korschun

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Such were the questions considered last week by a diverse group of faculty, staff and students gathered at Goizueta Business School for the first in a series of seminars devoted to six scholarly initiatives of Emory’s strategic plan. Deliberation on the “Predictive Health and Society” initiative ranged from practical aspects of health care delivery and accessibility to philosophical questions about the meaning of life and the meaning of health.

Ask 10 people what “predictive health” means, and one is likely to receive 10 different answers, and the elusiveness of a commonly accepted definition was evident during the discussion. Though it yielded perhaps more questions than answers,

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Emory team working to save N.O. music memories

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The future of liberal arts education

Patrick Allitt
Professor of History and Director of the Center for Teaching and Curriculum

As part of Founders' Week, Emory held a debate on the future of the liberal arts. The subject was a controversial topic, but the discussion was lively and engaging. The debate was held in the Busch Hall, and the audience was highly interested in the topic. The event was attended by many students, faculty, and administrative staff. The debate was facilitated by Dr. Noel Erskine, who moderated the discussion and ensured that all views were heard.

Correction

The name of the Goizueta Business School was misspelled in a photo caption in Emory Report's Feb. 13 issue. ER regrets the error.

Thank you, Mrs. King

On Tuesday, Feb. 7, our community witnessed two events that marked the passing of an era—one of Mrs. Coretta Scott King's homegoing and celebration of life, and the Founders' Week panel of speakers on "Experiencing Race at Emory: The Desegregation Era." At both events, speakers shared their experiences of massacres of courageous leaders who shaped the civil rights movement, and their participation in promoting race relations both across the country and here at Emory.

For those who were unable to attend these events, and on behalf of the President's Commission on Race and Ethnicity, we would like to share some of the messages that affirmed and called for leadership among us: our cohort of students, alumni, staff, faculty, and administrators.

Thank you, Mrs. King, for your unwavering commitment to community service and social justice. At this University, she made many contributions directly to Emory through her presence, speeches and remarks at many programs relating to community service, peace and ending racism. Moreover, Emory was privileged to have Mrs. King as a "distinguished faculty" member who co-taught a class with the Candler School of Theology's Dr. Noel Erskine on "The Theology of Martin Luther King Jr. in the 1990s."

Mrs. King is a role model for all of us, and her words will be remembered for years to come. She is a woman of great courage and determination, and her legacy will inspire generations to come.

We extend our deepest condolences to the King family and to all who were touched by Mrs. King's life and work. Her contributions to Emory and to the broader community will be remembered for generations to come.

The Dark Tower, a monthly colloquium, is published and distributed free of charge. The Dark Tower is supported by the Department of African American Studies and sponsored by the Office of Community Service, the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships, and the Candler School of Theology.

All persons may be made to encounter when working your own field. Greg Boyce

Chemistry

No. The idea of a liberal arts education is that you get a well-rounded education. Learning aspects of other disciplines help you relate to issues you may encounter when working your own field.
Friends and collaborators Teresa Hopkin and Deborah Thoreson have been performing together since meeting in 1992, when Hopkin first joined the University’s music faculty as a vocal instructor. Thoreson, a pianist and director of undergraduate and performance studies, had been at Emory since 1978. “The rest is history,” said Hopkin, now director of vocal studies. “Our friendship is based on great love and respect for each other—as people first and musicians second—so we seem to just think the same after so much time together.”

The pair, who have recorded Messiaen’s Poèmes pour mi, Book I on the ACA Digital label, will give a free joint recital in the Schwartz Center on Feb. 25 at 8 p.m.

Teresa Hopkin: Soprano

After leaving in 1996 to join the voice faculty at Columbus State University, Hopkin returned to the Emory last year. “Emory brought me back to Emory,” she said. “I loved before, and love once again, the liberal arts approach to the college years. I love the intelligence and curiosity of the students. I love the intellectual and creative stimulation by my colleagues, both in the music department and in other areas of study. “I also must mention my great friendship with Deborah Thoreson, who is a music professor, a sister and with whom I work with much joy,” Hopkin continued. “How could I ask for more?”

Known throughout the South for her operatic performances, Hopkin cites another genre as an early influence. “I grew up listening more to big band singers, like Frank Sinatra, and really felt more at home in that genre,” she said. “But I studied music education as an undergraduate, where I was exposed to art song and opera.”

Hopkin’s critically acclaimed Atlanta Opera performances have included Mimi in La Bohème, the title role in The Merry Widow, the Countess in Le Nozze di Figaro and Liu in Turandot.

But the motivation for Hopkin’s upcoming recital with Thoreson is her students. “They came to me in September with amazing trust, and I want them to see me holding myself to the same high standards I have for them,” she said.

As director of vocal studies, Hopkin is responsible for the non-choral singing aspects of undergraduate and graduate vocal music majors. “That’s a big job,” she said. “I’m fortunate to have two affiliate artists who shoulder a good bit of the work and are really terrific colleagues.”

Primarily responsible for studio work with the students, Hopkin also directs the vocal curriculum, making logistical decisions and guest artist recommendations, and advising vocal music majors. Hopkin has been singing since she was very young and also studied piano for 10 years. “Much of my musicianship came from that,” she said. “I still dream of cabaret singing at some point.”

She may not have sung cabaret, but Hopkin’s career highlights include singing with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra under the late Robert Shaw and former associate conductor (now Atlanta Opera director) William Fred Scott. “That was an enormous thrill,” says Hopkin, “and then Fred cast me in four leading roles with Atlanta Opera, offering me a wonderful opportunity.”

In addition, fellow music faculty member Steve Everett composed a group of songs for her, which she has performed several times, “all to very grateful audiences.”

“(That) pushed me in the direction of really contemporary music, presenting contemporary vocal works with the Emory Chamber Music Society has been both challenging and satisfying,” she said. “I’m really lucky to have had opportunities to work with great musicians in such a variety of styles, and to have been given so much support by people whom I really respect.”

Deborah Thoreson: Pianist

As director of undergraduate and performance studies, Thoreson also has a full schedule. In addition to advising undergraduate music majors and minors, she works with other faculty to determine course offerings and submission of new courses, and serves as honors coordinator for the music department.

Unlike other non-artistic disciplines, the music department includes performance study, and Thoreson meets with performance faculty to address related issues, supervising the applied music program (which includes 120 undergraduate music majors and 40 artist affiliates) and coordinating undergraduate student-performance requirements.

“As accompanists tend to be among the most organized musicians in the field,” Thoreson said of handling her busy schedule. “However, even though one schedules time for practice and rehearsal, performing music requires a mental focus that is difficult to achieve in our busy lives.”

As for working with Hopkin, Thoreson said she does not know if their friendship makes it easier or harder to collaborate. “But it is definitely more fun,” she said.

“Rehearsals are a bit of work and a bit of play,” Thoreson said. As an accompanist, Thoreson said it is important to enjoy responding to words. “The world of solo piano repertoire and other chamber music does not include text,” she said. “When playing for a singer, the words determine all the musical choices one makes. The pianist’s role is often one of sound imagery; the pianist is responsible for ‘ringing as a bell,’ ‘jumping as a fish,’ ‘rocking the cradle’ and ‘surfing as the ocean’—to name a few examples.”

Thoreson found her way to the piano at an early age, starting lessons at age 6. “My parents and grandparents were amateur musicians,” she said. “We regularly played music together as a family when I was growing up.”

Indeed, Thoreson even married into music—her husband, Thomas Thoreson, is a bassist with the Atlanta Symphony.

An active performer in a variety of musical settings, including chamber music performances, choral presentations, instrumental and vocal recitals, Thoreson’s duets with cellist Carl Hall have been broadcast on National Public Radio. She has performed in England and throughout the United States with the Emory Concert Choir and toured as pianist with The Atlanta Boy Choir to England, Wales and Russia.

Two performers, several languages

Hopkin and Thoreson’s joint recital includes arias by Handel, Samuel Barber’s “Hermit Songs,” Hugo Wolf songs from the “Italischen Liederbuch” and a group of songs by Duport, Debussy, Poulenc and Liszt, with selections in English, Italian, French and German.

“The repertoire is almost all music I’ve performed before and just can’t seem to let go,” Hopkin said. “It’s my favorite stuff, and the few new songs are ones I’ve been wanting to sing. It’s such a joy to be able to go back to old material and find something new—that’s the mark of a great composer, in my mind—there’s always more to learn, more to discover, more to communicate.”

The two will have the opportunity to perform the first group of this recital (the Handel arias) a second time on March 4 for the Ancient Song Conference, hosted by Department of Classics at the Carlos Museum. Other future performances include Hopkin’s turn next fall with colleague William Ransom, Mary Emerson Professor of Piano and director of piano studies, and a premier of an Everett composition with the Emory Symphony Orchestra. On March 5 at 4 p.m., Thoreson will perform two of the “Goldberg Variations” at the Schwartz Center (a concert presented by the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta that features the entire Emory piano, organ and harpsichord faculty, the Emory Concert Choir, and a string trio dividing up the “Variations”).

For more information about Hopkin and Thoreson’s joint recital, or any other upcoming performance, call 404-727-5050 or visit www.arts.emory.edu.

By Nancy Condon
FOCUS: INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Partnership yields rare look at Hungarian film

A group of Emory College students have the opportunity this semester to participate in a unique collaboration between a top American film historian and one of Hungary’s leading poets.

Hungarian films, novels, poetry and history are on the menu for students enrolled in “20th Century Hungarian Film and Literature,” a course taught by film studies Professor David Cook and Hungarian poet and former politician Gyula Kodolányi, now visiting Emory for the second time through an agreement with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Both professors are passionate about the subject, and their collaboration is a result of personal and professional affiliations. Cook has been an admiral of Hungarian cinema since the 1980s, when he decided to add a chapter on Eastern Europe to his book History of Narrative Film, considered by many to be a definitive text on film history. Eastern European countries, Cook said, experienced a new wave in cinema in the 1960s and ’70s, but in those days of the Soviet Iron Curtain, it was difficult for Western audiences to see most of the films. Cook was able to find these films through American distributors for the films of Hungarian director Miklós Jancsó and began showing them in his courses at Emory as early as 1978.

“Hungarian film I saw was Jancsó’s Red Psalm, made in 1971, and it simply blew me away,” Cook said. “I had never seen anything like it in my life, and I still consider it one of the most poetic of all films ever made.”

“I began to research Hungarian cinema in depth and found one of the world’s richest film cultures in a nation of 10 million people, a simply astonishing fact,” he said. “The more I examined Hungarian cinema, the more I discovered that this richness extended to all areas of life, both intellectual and material.”

“I had a very high opinion of David’s knowledge of Hun- garian cinema,” said Kodolányi. “It was then that he met Cook two years ago during his first visit to Emory. I was actually stunned that he had never been to Hungary, because there was such an understanding and appreciation of the culture apparent in his writing about Hungarian film.”

After returning home in 2004, Kodolányi invited Cook to visit Hungary. Through his connections to the Hungarian Motion Picture Foundation (on whose board he sat), Kodolányi helped Cook organize interviews with some of Hungary’s leading directors, including Jánosó, Béla Tarr and István Szabó.

“Be able to meet these filmmakers whose films I admired so greatly for so long was a transcendental experience,” Cook said.

Out of Cook’s trip abroad grew the idea of a jointly taught course, which would mix his expertise on film history with Kodolányi’s knowledge of Hungarian literature and deep personal connection to 20th century Hungarian history (he was active in the Hungarian opposition movement of the 1970s and ’80s) and to Hungarian filmmakers, many of whom he knows personally.

“After the general upheaval of the two World Wars, the 1956 Hungarian uprising and other broadly defined topics (such as “the Human condition” and “land, Nation and History”), the course includes weekly readings in Hungarian literature and history, and a focus on film making.”

Some of the films are being shipped from the Hungarian Film Archive—in an unprecedented exchange agreement with Emory—for what may be their first viewing in the United States (outside of small festivals when they were initially released). Such an exchange agreement is something the Hungarian archive has with no other U.S. university, and the films will subsequently become part of the University’s collection.

“One of the reasons we are using literature in the course is that the two cultures communicate among filmmakers, writers and poets was very intense in those seminal 30 years between 1965–95,” Kodolányi said. “In Budapest there was a very lively and active art subculture, where all kinds of ideas were circulating.”

Kodolányi said much of the power of his nation’s films stemmed from their unique ability to subvert the oppression of the Communist era. “Art was the most vital area of communica- tion,” he said. “On the one hand, the communists appreciated, subsidized and censored art, because of its strong communica- tions appeal and a (fortunate) cultural snobbery built into communist dogma.”

“On the other hand, films sent coded messages to their audiences while also constantly testing the frontiers of what was possible to be said,” Kodolányi continued. “Through this rich and deep medium, therefore, we could daily cost our individual and communal freedom.”

“The imagination is hard to expropriate by power.”

SUMMER SCHOOL

Courtesy scholarship provides options for summer study

BY ALFRED CHARLES

D enis Brubaker has worked at Emory since 1982, and in that time two of his children have en- rolled here to earn degrees and a third is on the way this fall. Not all of this would have been possible, the said, if the University had not provided courtesy scholarships to de- fray the tuition costs for their children, who used the award for regular and summer school classes.

“I am very grateful and my kids are, too,” said Bru- baker, academic department administrator in the political science department. “It has enabled them to get a substan- tially better education.”

University officials want more faculty and staff mem- bers to be aware that the cour- tesy scholarship can be used not only during the regular academic year but for summer school as well. Students who are enrolled at other schools can use the benefit to attend summer classes at Emory, and employees who are interested in using the benefit for them- selves should consider how they could use the courtesy scholarship during the summer, such as working an alter- native campus work-study leave.

Because the summer season tends to be a slow time on campus, administra- tors say that could be an ideal time for employees—or their children—to enroll in courses.

“We hope more faculty and staff will consider using the courtesy scholarship in the future,” said Sally Wolff King, associate dean of Emory Col- lege. “They should also keep in mind that it is available in the summer.”

With about three months to go until the summer aca- demic season, this might be an ideal time for those think- ing about using the courtesy scholarship for the summer program because there is a slightly expanded list of course offerings over previous years.

“There are more than 100 courses available in a wide variety of disciplines,” Wolff King said. “And it’s a six-week commitment versus a 15-week commitment.”

Larraine Forrester, pro- gram and administrative assistant to Wolf King, is also using the courtesy scholarship.

“I think it’s a great opportunity for employees to continue their education,” she said.

The courtesy scholarship program probably doesn’t have a booster bigger than Brubaker.

She speaks fondly about the program, which, being used to educate son, Nick, a sophomore with a major in political science and a minor in religion, and daughter Natalie, a senior and a double major in environmental studies and biology.

“Not having to consider tuition costs has allowed my children to go much farther,” said Brubaker, whose third child, son Daniel, is expected to enroll in Emory this fall on a courtesy scholarship. The tuition for Brubaker’s depend- ents is completely waived because of her length of em- ployment.

She said both of her chil- dren have used the courtesy scholarship to attend summer school and courses through- out the year. The perk has literally opened up a world of possibilities for Brubaker’s children. Nick traveled to the United Kingdom one summer to study abroad and Natalie has spent time in Costa Rica for her studies.

“They know how fortu- nate they have to be able to access this caliber of education,” Brubaker said.

For online resources about the Emory courtesy scholarship program, visit: http://emory.hr.emory. edu/benefits. For infor- mation about the summer school, visit: www.college.emory. edu/summer
Students must be educated in what is meant by ‘liberal arts’ and guided to take courses that help them develop flexibility, or multilayered, interpretive and decision-formulating skills—that cannot be achieved through the exclusive study of one discipline only,” she said. “I cannot help but wonder what frame of mind students are in when they apply to a declared ‘liberal arts college’ and then object to the idea of training in the liberal arts. History Professor Patrick Allitt, who was raised in England and educated at Oxford University, argued in favor of more specialization (see First Person, page 2). He said that, in Britain, college graduates are much more learned in their particular disciplines due to the highly specialized nature of British undergraduate curriculums. “The nation will benefit more from specialists,” Allitt said. “If a student hates math and has been forced to study it for 12 years, is there any gain for [him or her] to study it for a lifetime?”

Allitt, who is also director of the Center for Teaching and Curriculum Reform, proposed that undergraduates be given the option of receiving either a broad, liberal arts education or a more specialized one. Another approach, suggested by senior Devin Murray, is to ‘revise the undergraduate curriculum to produce more well-rounded practitioners of various fields. ‘Greater efforts should be made,’ Murphy said, “not only to incorporate practical experience into the curriculum, but also to revise the curriculum such that it views practitioners holistically and not through a disciplinary lens.”

“A student pursuing biological and health care research needs to have the flexibility to move back and forth between, say, biology and public health, or the arts and humanities,” said Weintraub, director of the Center for the Study of World Affairs. “We should not minimize these factors. We should be careful to really think about what kind of students our students need to be to be flexible.”

### Health

Health care is the primary concern of people over the age of 50. The fear that people might profit from heredity and that the cost of health care is too expensive is becoming a concern. The health care system is broken and needs to be fixed. Many people are concerned about the quality of health care and the cost of health care. The government needs to do more to ensure that health care is affordable and available to everyone.

### Liberal Arts

The liberal arts are becoming more important in the job market. Many employers are looking for employees who have a broad education. The liberal arts provide a well-rounded education that helps students develop critical thinking skills and problem-solving skills. The liberal arts also help students develop communication skills and learn to work effectively in a team.

### Education

The current system of education is flawed. The focus on standardized testing and the preparation for college entrance exams are not enough. We need to think about how we can improve the education system to better prepare students for the workforce.

### Conclusion

The future of liberal arts is uncertain. Some believe that the liberal arts are becoming more important, while others believe that they are becoming less important. The key is to ensure that students have the opportunity to experience a well-rounded education that prepares them for the workforce and for life.

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### Notes

Confederate ship sailed through Sea of Gray

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

T housands of miles from the green forests of the Confederacy, within an afternoon’s sail of the Russian empire—and more than two months after Appomattox—the icy waters of the Bering Sea played host to some of the most brazen naval activity of the Civil War.

On six days in June 1865, the CSS Shenandoah, a 222-foot-long auxiliary steamer captained by a brooding man named Waddell, captured 24 New England whaling vessels, striking a blow for the Confederacy against Yankee commerce—in support of a war that had already been lost.

It was the Civil War’s final act of aggression and the military apex of a yearlong mission that distinguished the Shenandoah as the only Confederate ship to circumnavigate the globe, and it is the subject of Tom Chaffin’s Sea of Gray: The Around-the-World Odyssey of the Confederate Raider Shenandoah (Hill and Wang, 2006).

Chaffin, a visiting scholar in history, said initially he planned to write a book about how the war played out in the American West, perhaps touching on the modest “naval theater of sorts” in the Pacific. Then one day his editor suggested focusing on this curious black three-masted ship that had gained infamy by continuing its raids on the U.S. merchant marine weeks after Lee surrendered, its officers refusing to believe such news when it reached them.

Sea of Gray follows the tale from the ship’s covert acquisition by Confederate agents in England, to its subsequent arming and rechristening as a man-of-war, to the far-flung journey that took it south around the Cape of Good Hope and the southern coast of Australia, north to the Arctic Circle, south again to Cape Horn and finally back to its home port of Liverpool, crossing the equator four times and covering 58,000 nautical miles.

Like the CSS Alabama (its more-famous predecessor), the Shenandoah was a commerce raider, charged with destroying or capturing Northern commercial ships, the goal being to disrupt the U.S. economy and legitimate arguments on both sides that distinguished the mission that distinguished the Shenandoah as the Around-the-World Odyssey of the Confederate Raider Shenandoah (Hill and Wang, 2006). Like the CSS Alabama (its more-famous predecessor), the Shenandoah was a commerce raider, charged with destroying or capturing Northern commercial ships, the goal being to disrupt the U.S. economy and legitimate arguments on both sides that distinguished the mission that distinguished the Shenandoah as the Around-the-World Odyssey of the Confederate Raider Shenandoah (Hill and Wang, 2006).

“One of the things I hope to do is to recover a quite lively debate in that era on the legitimacy of commerce raiding,” Chaffin said. “There was enough precedent and hypocrisy going back and forth to compel these arguments on both sides.”

In doing his research, Chaffin sifted through what he described as an “embarrassment of riches” in primary source material. Not only did the Shenandoah’s captain, James Waddell, order each of his officers to keep individual ship’s logs, but still extant are four personal diaries, including those of Waddell and his first officer. Finally, after the war was over, the United States sued supposedly neutral Britain for turning a blind eye to Confederate commerce raiding, demanding monetary compensation for the value of ships lost. The ensuing international arbitration yielded a historian’s treasure trove: pages and pages of depositions taken from sailors who’d been aboard the many ships captured by the Shenandoah and its fellow raiders.

But Sea of Gray’s real story is that of Shenandoah’s officers, who, in many of the latter recruited from among the captured sailors who could be persuaded more readily, to “ship” with the Confederacy—and who constituted a veritable United Nations of citizenships.

The book’s title captures the moral dilemma of the ship’s officers, who, even the very start, grappled with the legal implications of their mission. In every era, most of the world’s nations—including the U.S. during the American Revolution and the War of 1812—had routinely dispatched ships to prey on their enemies’ merchant fleets. By the mid-19th century, however, much of the world viewed commerce raiding as little more than piracy. “One of the things I hope to do is to recover a quite lively debate in that era on the legitimacy of commerce raiding,” Chaffin said. “There was enough precedent and hypocrisy going back and forth to compel these arguments on both sides.”

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MR also enables diverse investigations without harming research subjects. “The beauty of MRI is that it is safe for all ages and allows one to do all of this non-invasively,” said Xiaoping Hu, director of the Biomedical Imaging Technology Center and a professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering, came to Emory in 2004 in part because of the 9.4T scanner. “If people want to know what their questions,” Hu said. “We can see what those drugs do to the brain or the heart.”

Now that the 9.4T MRI, manufac...
Tibetan monk Lakhdor talks of balancing science, spirituality

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

G eshe Lakhdor, one of the Dalai Lama's closest personal assistants, got a warm welcome from Emory College Dean Bobby Paul during Lakhdor’s visit as a Halle Distinguished Fellow.

Lakhdor used his appearance to stress how important scientific research and learning is to the Dalai Lama, both as a human endeavor and in his own personal life.

“Even as a little child, His Holiness had an interest in what was going on in the world. He asked questions about things in a natural, inborn nature within the minds of all children to explore their reality and [try to] understand it.”

The Dalai Lama's interests in scientific and medical gained some notoriety last November when hundreds of scientists attending the Society of Neuroscience’s annual meeting signed a petition protesting his selection as the event’s keynote speaker. The spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism addressed the comparative strengths of Eastern and Western traditions—but spoke of the need for a spirituality that is distinct from religion.

“While science may light the path to truth, it is religion ("spirituality") that will guide the path. It's a very important repository.”

She said. “We are building a very important repository.”

In praising the part of the initiative, he said, “It’s kind of intimidating,” adding, “But to adopt a way of thinking that can light the path to truth, it is religion ("spirituality") that will guide the path. It’s a very important repository.”

Emory and its partner groups have a significant and cultural heritage of this program will be available to music scholars,” she said. “We are building a very important repository.”

Meanwhile, some assistance the tapes might provide to study—and doing it more energetically than ever before.

Onchocerciasis, commonly called river blindness, is a parasitic disease spread by the bite of black fly. The small, thread-like parasites cause an infected person to suffer intense itching, skin thickening and rashes. Once inside the body, the male parasite can damage eyesight and cause blindness, leaving sufferers unable to work, invest or care for their children.

Fortunately, there is reason to hope that the Dalai Lama’s grandchildren—and perhaps 500,000 other people at risk for the disease in Brazil, Peru, Colombia and eight other Latin American countries—will never suffer from it. The Carter Center, working with the ministries of health through the Onchocerciasis Elimination Program for the Americas (OEP), is trying to stem the spread of river blindness in the region. This goal is being achieved through health education and semianual Mebectizan drug treatments donated by Merck & Co. Inc. and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In 2003, the Carter Center’s river blindness program estimated it would take approximately $15 million to eliminate the disease in the Western Hemisphere by the end of this decade. In 2005, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation made an initial $5 million contribution and challenged other donors to provide up to an additional $5 million, which the Gates Foundation would match. With support from the Lions Clubs International Foundation, Merck and more than 70 other donors, the matching funds were raised four years ahead of the challenge grant deadline.

Since 1996, the Carter Center has partnered with the national ministries of health, Lions Clubs International, Merck, the Pan American Health Organization and the CDC to treat more than 70 million treatments of Mebectizan in 11 countries in Africa and Latin America.

With the completion of the center’s challenge grant and OEP’s continued focus on health education programs and increased drug treatment, it is likely the Dalai Lama could be among the last people in the Western Hemisphere to be blinded by the disease.

Emily Staub and Meryl Bailey comprise the health team in The Carter Center Office of Public Information.

Ridding the New World of river blindness

I n her one-room house in Brazil, Mexico, Pitiasa Gonzalez weeps into her hands as she recounts how onchocerciasis left her blind, unable to do anything for herself.

“My daughters must cook my meals, clean the house and help me dress,” said Gonzalez, 78. Once a capable provider for her family, she now must depend on her two daughters to manage her daily affairs. In addition to caring for their mother, she has a strong hope that her grandchildren will be spared the same fate.

Onchocerciasis, commonly called river blindness, is a parasitic disease spread by the bite of small black flies. The small, thread-like parasites cause an infected person to suffer intense itching, skin thickening and rashes. Once inside the body, the male parasite can damage eyesight and cause blindness, leaving sufferers unable to work, invest or care for their children.

Fortunately, there is reason to hope that the Dalai Lama’s grandchildren—and perhaps 500,000 other people at risk for the disease in Brazil, Peru, Colombia and eight other Latin American countries—will never suffer from it. The Carter Center, working with the ministries of health through the Onchocerciasis Elimination Program for the Americas (OEP), is trying to stem the spread of river blindness in the region. This goal is being achieved through health education and semianual Mebectizan drug treatments donated by Merck & Co. Inc. and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In 2003, the center’s river blindness program estimated it would take approximately $15 million to eliminate the disease in the Western Hemisphere by the end of this decade. In 2005, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation made an initial $5 million contribution and challenged other donors to provide up to an additional $5 million, which the Gates Foundation would match. With support from the Lions Clubs International Foundation, Merck and more than 70 other donors, the matching funds were raised four years ahead of the challenge grant deadline.

Since 1996, the Carter Center has partnered with the national ministries of health, Lions Clubs International, Merck, the Pan American Health Organization and the CDC to treat more than 70 million treatments of Mebectizan in 11 countries in Africa and Latin America.

With the completion of the center’s challenge grant and OEP’s continued focus on health education programs and increased drug treatment, it is likely the Dalai Lama could be among the last people in the Western Hemisphere to be blinded by the disease.

Emily Staub and Meryl Bailey comprise the health team in The Carter Center Office of Public Information.

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that American students are slipping behind their counterparts in other nations. As instant remedy lies ready. Let college students study solely the subjects they are good at. Let the physics wizard dedicate herself wholly to physics. Let the philosopher philosophize, and give the single-minded geologist nothing but rocks.

More to the point, let the aspiring businessman be a business student right from the outset. At the same time, we can still sit together. Let the physics wizard dedicate herself wholly to physics. Let the philosopher philosophize, and give the single-minded geologist nothing but rocks.

The advantages of this revolution will be immense. Suddenly we will all be full of motivated students studying what they want to study and doing it more energetically than ever before.
**PERFORMING ARTS**

**MONDAY, FEB. 20**
Concert

**TUESDAY, FEB. 21**
Film
Confidences trop Intimes (Intimate Strangers). Patrice Lecont, director. 8 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-712-6431.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**
Concert

**THURSDAY, FEB. 23**
Theater
She Stoops to Conquer. Michael Evenden, director. 7 p.m. Munroe Theater, Dobbs Center. $15; $6 students. 404-712-9118.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 24**
Concert

**SATURDAY, FEB. 25**
Theater
She Stoops to Conquer. Michael Evenden, director. 7 p.m. Munroe Theater, Dobbs Center. $15; $6 students. 404-712-9118.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 26**
Theater
She Stoops to Conquer. Michael Evenden, director. 7 p.m. Munroe Theater, Dobbs Center. $15; $6 students. 404-712-9118.

**VISUAL ARTS**

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**
Schatten Gallery Exhibit

**THROUGH FEB. 28**
Schatten Gallery Exhibit

**THROUGH MARCH 15**
Visual Arts Gallery Exhibit

**THROUGH MARCH 11**
MARBL Exhibit

**THROUGH MARCH 20**
Carlos Museum Exhibit

**THROUGH APRIL 2**
Carlos Museum Exhibit
“Greek and Roman Art.” Carlos Museum. Free, students, faculty, staff & members, $7 suggested donation. 404-727-4282.

**LECTURES**

**TUESDAY, FEB. 21**
Physiology Lecture
“The Double-Edged Sword: Mitochondria/Caspases in Synaptic Plasticity.” Zheng Li, Picower Institute, presenting. 9 a.m. 600 Whitehead Building. Free. 404-727-7401.

**PHARMACOLOGY LECTURE**
“Metabotropic Glutamate Receptor-Dependent Regulation of Fragile X Mental Retardation Protein in the Hippocampus.” Eric Kiani, Baylor College of Medicine, presenting. Noon. 5052 Rollins Research Center. Free. 404-727-5982.

**CARLOS MUSEUM LECTURE**

**RELIGION LECTURE**

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**
History Lecture
“Invisible Hands: Nuns and Wage Work in Renaissance Florence.” Sharon Stroxic, history, presenting. 11:30 a.m. 323 Bowden Hall. Free. 404-727-6555.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**
History Lecture
“Greek and Roman Art.” Carlos Museum, presenting. 4 p.m. 404-727-4291.

**SUNDAY, FEB. 26**
University Worship
Herbert Marbury, Clark Atlanta University, presenting. 11 a.m. Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**
**A Conversation with Carol Newsom**

**SPECIAL WEDNESDAYS**
Toastsmasters
8 a.m. 231 Dental School Building. Free. 404-727-4192.

**MONDAY, FEB. 20**
Google Workshop
2:30 p.m. Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-0178.

**Financial Planning Workshop**
“Blueprint for Financial Success.” 6:30 p.m. Briarcliff Campus. $80.75. 404-712-4352.

**Financial Planning Workshop**
“Protect Your Retirement Plan Assets From The IRS.” 6:30 p.m. Briarcliff Campus. $80.75. 404-712-4352.

**Poetry Writing Workshop**
7 p.m. Anthropology Building. $89.25. 404-712-4352.

**GRE Math Preparation**
7 p.m. Candler Library. $114.75. 404-712-4352.

**PRAXIS I Math Review**
7:35 p.m. Briarcliff Campus. $140.25. 404-712-4352.

**PRAXIS I Math Review**
7:35 p.m. Briarcliff Campus. $140.25. 404-712-4352.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22**
Psychological and Educational Tests Workshop
10 a.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-712-2833.

**Latin American Studies Research Workshop**
“Primary Sources and Other Specialized Materials.” 5:30 p.m. 312 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-712-2577.

**2006 Unsung Heroes Awards**
5:30 p.m. Governor’s Hall, Miller-Ward Alumni House. $35. 404-727-2001.

**MONDAY, FEB. 27**
**Body Acceptance Week**