# EMORY report

YOUR SOURCE FOR UNIVERSITY NEWS

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#### **PROFILE**

"Being a clinicianscientist gave me a chance to make an impact," says Dennis Choi.



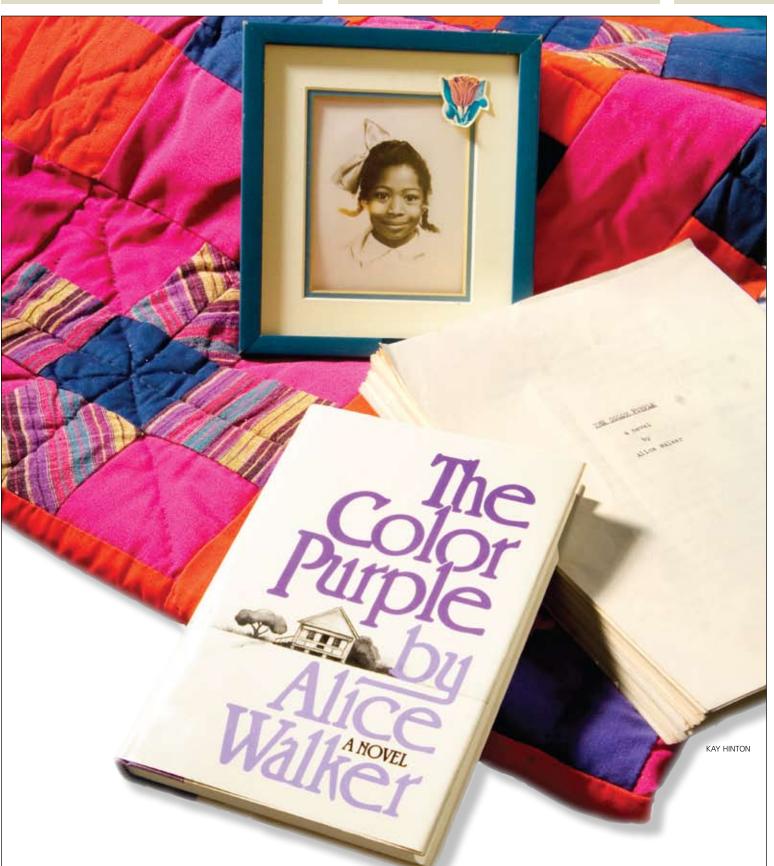


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# Author's archives come home

Even as Emory archivist Elizabeth Russey was packing up documents and letters from the file cabinets in Alice Walker's Berkeley, Calif. home, the Georgia-born novelist and poet was bringing out more items, including a quilt that she hand-stitched as she was completing her most famous novel, "The Color Purple."

"She came downstairs where I was working and said, 'You can have this, too," recalled Russey, manuscript processing archivist with the Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library. "It's a beautiful quilt, full of reds and purples."

Please see ARCHIVE on page 4

# Can offsets help state go green?

By CAROL CLARK

Emory is taking the lead in developing models for the first carbonoffset projects in Georgia, working with the R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Foundation and a team of experts drawn from state agencies, environmental groups and local corporations.

"The Southeast, and particularly Georgia, is one of the areas most in need of investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects," says Ciannat Howett, director of the Office of Sustainability Initiatives. "Georgia has one of the highest rates of per-capita energy use in the country, and we don't have major programs for energy efficiency and renewable energy sponsored by our utility or the kind of incentives provided by many other states."

Last July, the Office of Sustainability Initiatives recruited Susan Kidd as the first R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Sustainability Scholar-in-Residence at Emory, and assigned

Please see CARBON on page 5

# King Week continues dream

By KIM URQUHART

Emory's King Week, an annual celebration of the life, work and interests of Martin Luther King Jr., features a range of education, entertainment and memorial activities Jan. 21-27.

"The week-long celebration is an indicator of the value that the University places on understanding the life and legacy of this extraordinary human being," said Cynthia Shaw, who for the past 17 years has chaired Emory's Martin Luther King Holiday Observance Committee. Forty-five years ago, King inspired the nation with his "I Have A Dream" speech, and this year marks the 40th anniversary of the legendary civil rights leader's assassination in Memphis.

King's spirit of activism and social justice will be highlighted in a Jan. 25 keynote address, "There Goes the Neighborhood: Race, Ethnic and Class Tensions in Four

Please see KING WEEK on page 8

# People

# A NOTE TO OUR READERS

Emory Report is starting the new year with a new look and revitalized content, all designed to give voice to your accomplishments, endeavors and aspirations.

We wanted to create a design that would best present your story, Emory's story.

During the process of redesigning the print issue, we brainstormed with colleagues, researched peer publications and conducted a readership survey. We took to heart your suggestions. The result? A streamlined format, enhanced content and more news you can use.

With renewed vigor, we will continue to serve as an informative, lively and comprehensive resource for news and events of vital interest to you and your colleagues. Each story begins with you. Whether you want to share news from your department or express yourself through a First Person essay, we welcome your voice.

Our evolution is ongoing. Stay tuned for the next phase of Emory Report's redesign: to serve you better online. We hope you'll tell us what you'd like to see next. Please send your feedback and suggestions to kim.urquhart@emory.edu.

Thanks for reading.

Sincerely, Kim Urquhart, editor

# EMORY report

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# **EMORY PROFILE:** Dennis Choi



Dennis Choi directs Emory's Neuroscience, Human Nature and Society Initiative and leads Woodruff Health Sciences Center's new Comprehensive Neuroscience Center.

BRYAN MELTZ

# Electrical impulses

# Second thoughts engineer a career in neuroscience

By ROBIN TRICOLES

When Dennis Choi was a boy living in Massachusetts he often visited the junkyard where he came across troves of scrap material, lugged them home, and spirited them to a workshop in the basement of his parents' home

"The nearby junkyard would sell me electrical parts from old military equipment by the pound at scrap-metal prices. I could buy a crate full of vacuum tubes for \$1, and I could walk away with all this high-quality, military electrical equipment for not much more. Then I would cannibalize it and build things like radios or amplifiers," says Choi.

Choi, now a neuroscientist renowned for his groundbreaking research on brain and spinal cord injury, had originally set his sights on becoming an electrical engineer, a subject that came naturally to him.

But he changed his mind about electrical engineering while an undergraduate at Harvard University. "I began thinking about biology. The trigger was having a roommate who was a biologist and was clearly doing more interesting stuff than I was, so I changed my major to biochemistry," says Choi. "I began to see that neurobiology was a field that would allow me to still be an electrician and a biologist, an electrical biologist."

Last summer, Choi joined Em-

ory as director of the Neuroscience, Human Nature and Society strategic initiative as well as the new Comprehensive Neurosciences Center in Woodruff Health Sciences Center.

Choi received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees in 1978 from Harvard and the Harvard-Massachusetts Institute of Technology Program in Health Sciences and Technology. After completing residency and fellowship training in neurology at Harvard, he joined the faculty at Stanford University, where he began his renowned research into the mechanisms of neuronal cell death underlying brain and spinal cord injury.

More than electrical engineering, clinical medicine allowed Choi to spend time with people, especially patients. "Seeing patients was a major part of the appeal to entering medicine. Being a clinician-scientist gave me a chance to make an impact through research while working closely with the people I was trying to help," he says.

However, for the time being, Choi is focused on overseeing the development of Emory's diverse neuroscience effort that currently encompasses the work of more than 250 faculty across multiple schools. And as director of the Comprehensive Neuroscience Center, Choi will lead a clinical and translational hub that integrates the robust clinical care, research and education activities of several departments

# Can the brain solve problems during sleep?

**Choi:** I believe the answer is yes, although despite spending a third of our adult lives asleep, sleep remains poorly understood.

The sleeping brain appears to be quite active, processing information received during wakefulness.

One recent study demonstrated that a period of sleep doubled the likelihood that subjects would gain insight into solving a challenging puzzle and break through to an "aha!" moment. We do know that inadequate sleep — a problem faced by many people at least from time to time — has adverse consequences for the function of the brain as well as other bodily systems.

Several Emory faculty have made important contributions to sleep medicine, including David Rye, David Schulman and Kathy Parker. within WHSC. "It is my hope to get back to some of my own work in due course, but my top priority has to be facilitating and strengthening neuroscience at Emory," he notes.

Not long ago, while living in Philadelphia and serving as executive vice president for neuroscience at Merck Research Labs, Choi took on a different kind of challenge: learning to play a musical instrument. "I did a little experimentation, and I learned very guickly that on a talent scale of one — horrible — to 10 — virtuoso — I was definitely a one. I could more easily aspire to running a four-minute mile than playing most melodic instruments," he laughs. He decided on drums. "I ended up joining a surf band with a bunch of other old guys who got together from time to time. We never got approached by a record label, but it was fun. And whatever I lacked in skill I made up in volume!"

Although leisure time is now in short supply, reading is Choi's activity of choice. "I read everything from light novels to books on scientific history," he says. "But I tend to read several books concurrently. To me, serious books are better read in little pieces — gives you time to digest and reflect. However, I tend to read mystery novels cover-to-cover, sometimes in a single sitting, because I can't wait to find out what happens next."



BRYAN MELTZ

A former tax lawyer, postdoctoral fellow Simon Lacey is investigating how vision and touch integrate information about objects in the brain.

# Taxing job brought scientist to his senses

By PEARL YOUNG

Making the jump from tax lawyer to research scientist is not an everyday occurrence. But neither is Simon Lacey, a postdoctoral fellow in Krish Sathian's neurology laboratory.

Lacey hails from the outskirts of London. Upon completion of his secondary education, he became a tax lawyer. He worked first for the UK equivalent of the IRS, and then for a group of accountants. Realizing "tax wasn't going to hold my interest forever," Lacey earned an undergraduate degree in psychology in 2001 and then a Ph.D. in an aspect of cross-modal object recognition. Lacey became increasingly interested in this issue while conducting original

research for his honors project to complete his psychology degree.

"I'm interested in how you can see an object and then later on recognize it by touch just by using the visual information, and vice versa, even though the objects may be totally unfamiliar," he says.

In 2005, Sathian offered Lacey a postdoctoral posi-

tion in Emory's Department of Neurology. This allowed Lacey who was then completing his Ph.D. at Southampton Solent University in the UK - to continue to pursue his research interests while bringing him to the United States.

Research is compelling because it allows you "to find out stuff you don't know and hopefully to put it to use," Lacey says. While he recognizes the importance of uncovering information, Lacey prefers "the possibility that the outcome of that information could be used to help other people."

At Emory, the Sathian lab is actively investigating how vision and touch integrate information about objects in the brain. "We do that both from a behavioral perspective — getting people to try to recognize objects by vision and touch under various task conditions, especially swapping between the two senses and also from a neuroimaging perspective," Lacey explains. "Among other things, we're interested in using fMRI [functional magnetic resonance imaging] to image which parts of the brain are carrying out different parts of these tasks. It turns out that many parts of the brain previously thought to be exclusively visual also respond to tactile input."

"Given that vision and touch are such wildly different ways of perceiving an object, the fact that we can perform these crossmodal tasks is amazing," he says. "How does the brain take the visual or tactile information and then either translate it or compare it to information gained from the other sensory modality? How does this ability develop? How did it evolve in the first place? We have exciting new evidence that visual imagery is involved in touch. That opens up many new research questions in this fascinating area."

## **ACCLAIM**

Betty Willis, senior associate vice president for governmental and

community affairs, will serve as the incoming vice chair of the Regional **Business** Coalition. The RBC is a multi-county



partnership of chambers of commerce and business organizations that advocates for solutions that improve metro Atlanta's quality of life and economic vitality.

Separately, Willis was recognized as a "Notable Georgian" in the January 2008 issue of GeorgiaTrend Magazine.

Eric Goldstein, associate professor of history and Jewish

studies, is a finalist for the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. Goldstein was selected for this honor on the basis



of his first book, "The Price of Whiteness: Jews, Race and American Identity.

Administered by the Jewish Book Council, the \$100,000 prize honors an emerging author in the field of Jewish literature who has written a book of exceptional literary merit.

Jason Schneider, assistant professor at Emory School of

Medicine, was recently inaugurated as national president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. Schneider is



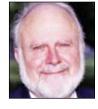
associate medical director of the Primary Care Center at Grady Memorial Hospital.

The GLMA works to ensure equality in health care for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and health care professionals.

Ronald Schuchard earned the ninth Morton N. Cohen Award for a Distinguished Edition of Letters for "The Collected Letters of W. B. Yeats," volume four.

The award is presented biennially by the Modern

Language Association of America. Schuchard. Goodrich C. White Professor of English, and co-editor John Kelly of



Oxford University received a cash award at the association's annual convention in Chicago.

"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: kim. urquhart@emory.edu.

# Orloff's site named best cancer resource

By KIM URQUHART

When Gregg Orloff's wife was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998, the senior lecturer in biology turned to the Internet to learn more about breast cancer and its treatment. "I found a lot of information on support groups and general information on therapies," says Orloff, "but very little on how cancer works — the biology of cancer."

With funding through a Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant, Orloff spearheaded the creation of www.CancerQuest.

stand information for cancer pa- Web sites that have had a posi- through work with international tients and their loved ones. The Emory-based Web site has since grown into an award-winning educational resource.

CancerQuest was recently recognized by the European School of Oncology as one of the best Internet cancer resources in the world. Orloff, assistant professor of hematology and oncology at the Winship Cancer Institute, accepted the award at the ESO's "Cancer on the Internet" meeting in Barcelona, Spain. The award recognizes excellence

org that provided easy-to-under- in the development of innovative available in several languages tive impact on the cancer patient community.

> "This recognition from a European school of oncology is important and helps validate all the work that our group has put into this Web site," says Orloff. "It illustrates the international nature of communication and the importance of providing information in a clear and easily understandable way to patients and their loved ones."

> To reach the broadest possible audience, CancerQuest is

collaborators.

Three-dimensional graphics, videos, animations and patient interviews tackle topics such as the biology of cancer, information on cancer treatments and the history of cancer.

Interactive quizzes and online games allow users to test their knowledge. It's also a teaching tool: classroom materials for schools and cancer education videos are available free of charge

## NEWSMAKERS



"The sinking of one of the 'best-run vessels with the most experienced crew' is a 'cautionary tale' about the safety and environmental impact of Antarctic tourism."

David Bederman, Emory law professor and counsel for the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition, on the November sinking of the Explorer — the first passenger ship designed for polar water — while cruising off Antartica, as quoted in the Dallas Morning News, Dec. 31, 2007.

# Campus

## TAKE NOTE

### **Library Level 6** reopens Jan. 16

After eight months of renovation, Level 6 of the Woodruff Library will re-open to the public on Wednesday, Jan. 16, nearly two weeks ahead of schedule. This is the third floor of the library stack tower to be renovated with compact shelving, improved lighting, lounge seating, and increased electrical outlets. New features include three group study rooms and larger consultation spaces for the art materials shelved there. Although the books have been returned from storage and are available for use, there are outstanding items still in process such as furniture installation and signage.

## **Nominate next** Jefferson recipient

The Thomas Jefferson Award is provided each Commencement to recognize an outstanding member of the faculty or administration for significant service through personal activities, influence and leadership. The original donor of this award. the Robert Earl McConnell Foundation, specified that its recipients should be those whom Jefferson might have considered essential to the intellectual, social and political advancement of society.

Melissa Wade, 2007 recipient and chair of the selection committee, is seeking nominations for the 2008 recipient. Nominees must be members of the Emory community for at least 10 years, as well as have made substantial contributions to Emory and the larger community through outstanding service.

Letters of nominations are due by Jan. 28; a CV and three letters of recommendation are due by Feb. 26. Send nominations to Claire Sterk at 313 Administration Building. or by e-mail to csterk@emory.

## **Preferred vendors** for gifts named

Vice presidents, deans, directors and business managers should note new practices for purchasing promotional products. To provide competitive pricing, fasteer ordering processes and immediate access to high-quality products with pre-approved usage of University and Emory Healthcare graphics, Emory has chosen three superior promotional and gift item vendors. Effective immediately, all divisions of Emory University and Emory Healthcare should use these preferred promotional suppliers.

A listing of the vendors and instructions for the University process can be found at www. finance.emory.edu on the Buying in the Marketplace tab. For Emory Healthcare instructions, contact Porcia Jones at 404-686-7460 or Heather Cavender at 404-778-



Alice Walker's scrapbook

# **ARCHIVE:** Walker 'at ease' here

Continued from the cover

The archive that Walker entrusted to Emory in December took up 122 boxes. "It's one of the best archives I've ever seen," said Russey, a specialist in African-American history. "It documents all parts of her life — the professional as well as the personal, and how each informed the other."

In 1983 Walker became the first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, which honored "The Color Purple." Walker has written most frequently about the struggle for survival among Southern blacks, particularly black women.

She also has given literary voice to the struggle for human rights, environmental issues. social movements and spirituality, as well as the quest for inner and world peace. Often considered controversial for her portrayals of racial, gender and sexual issues, Walker is widely recognized for her thoughtful weaving of realism with love for humanity and human potential.

"I chose Emory to receive my archive because I myself feel at ease and comfortable at Emory," said Walker, a native of Eatonton, Ga. and Spelman College alumna. "I can imagine in years to come that my papers, my journals and letters will find themselves always in the company of people who care about many of the things I do: culture, community, spirituality, scholarship and the blessings of ancestors who want each of us to find joy and happiness in this life by doing the very best we can to be worthy of it."

Walker said that when she first began considering where to place her archive, Emory was not on her list. "However, having visited several libraries at different universities, I realized the importance to me of a lively, diverse, committed-to-human-growth atmosphere, that when I visited Emory, I found."

The completeness of Walker's archive makes it truly exceptional, said Rudolph Byrd, professor of American studies and a founding member of the Alice Walker Literary Society.

"The archive contains journals that she has been keeping since she was 14 or 15 years old, said Byrd, a friend and colleague of Walker's. "There also are drafts of many of her early works of fiction, as well as the back and forth between Alice and the editors for each book. Her papers give you a sense of the process for creating fiction, and for creating poetry."

"The Alice Walker Archive will provide a major bridge in the University's collections on African American literature, history and culture," said MARBL Director Steve Enniss. "Walker is one of Georgia's most beloved writers, and it is particularly gratifying that she has chosen to return her archive to the state where she was born, to the city where she attended college as an undergraduate, and to Emory which has, in the intervening years, become a major research center in literary studies."

Walker's literary archive at Emory joins a world-class repository of some of the finest collections of modern literature; 20th century American, British and Irish poetry; and an extensive collection on the American South.

# Nursing dean to go West for new job

By ASHANTE DOBBS

Marla Salmon, who during the last nine years has guided the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing into the top tier of U.S. schools of nursing, has accepted the deanship at the University of Washington School of Nursing. She also will be professor of global health in the UW schools

of medicine and public health.

Salmon will continue to serve as dean of nursing at Emory through June, and at that time an interim dean will be appointed. She will start her new position in

Salmon is founding director of the school's Lillian Carter Center for International Nursing, and holds a joint appointment in the Rollins School of Public Health as

a professor of health policy and management.

"Dr. Salmon is an international leader in health care," said President Jim Wagner. "While at Emory, she has contributed tremendously to the quality of the nursing work force worldwide, particularly in addressing nursing shortages in developing countries. At the same time, she also made serving those most needy

in the local community a priority for Emory's nursing students and faculty. We will miss her and wish her well as she takes the helm of one of the highest ranked nursing schools in the U.S."

In her new role, Salmon said she hopes to create opportunities for collaboration between Emory and UW.

# Campus

**REPORT FROM:** Emory Bariatric Center

# Achieve your weight loss resolution

Does your New Year's resolution include a commitment to lose weight and improve your health? The team of weight management specialists at Emory can show you how to lose weight quickly, safely and conveniently.

Emory offers a program that is dedicated to improving the health of overweight and obese patients with a collaborative and compassionate approach to weight loss, offering excellence in treatment, ranging from developing a healthy weight loss plan to performing bariatric surgery

As a health problem with far-reaching implications, obesity can contribute to diabetes, heart disease, depression, cancer and musculoskeletal disorders. The Emory Bariatric Center recognizes the complex interaction of environmental, biological and psychological influences in the development of obesity. Its core treatment philosophy is behavior modification – all treatments and interventions are designed to help patients develop the skills and behavior changes

necessary to manage their weight for a lifetime.

Offering the best treatment options currently available in achieving and maintaining weight loss, the Emory Bariatric Center partners with each patient to develop a healthy weight loss plan that addresses his or her individual needs. In addition, the center's status as an academic research program allows it to offer levels of expertise, treatment, medication and technology that community health programs can't match. While weight loss is its primary focus, the center also incorporates the skills of numerous experts to treat the various medical problems that can accompany obesity.

"Losing weight is about improving health and creating and sustaining healthy lifestyle changes," notes Melinda Kane, Emory Bariatric Center manager. "We stress the importance of physical activity and good nutrition, as well as address psychological triggers."

The center tailors each patient's treatment using a continuum of meth-

ods and treatment options that respond to the rising risks that accompany increasing levels of obesity. These methods include nutrition and exercise therapy, lifestyle education, pharmacotherapy, liquid meal replacement and bariatric surgery. The center's multi-specialty team includes a bariatrician, a psychologist, dietitians, surgeons, exercise specialists and administrative and managerial personnel.

For those patients who remain severely obese even after attempting non-surgical weight-loss or who have an obesity-related disease, surgery may be appropriate

"Our surgeons perform between 200 to 250 bariatric surgeries a year and our complication rate is extremely low," says Edward Lin, surgical director. "We see the resolution of diabetes and other comorbidities after weight loss surgery in the overwhelming majority of our patients." Surgical procedures performed include the Lap-Band System, Roux-en-Y gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy.

"Our staff has been trained to care for the bariatric patient in an environment of compassion, and our facilities and equipment enable us to take care of patients of size," says Kane. "We also have one of the largest national experiences with revisions following surgeries performed elsewhere and, as a quaternary care facility, have all the resources to deal with complications that, although rare, may arise. Our program stands out because of its comprehensive nature and our excellent outcomes. Our multispecialty team is one of the many advantages of having surgery at Emory.

The Emory Bariatric Center is currently offering Emory University and Healthcare employees a discount when enrolling in comprehensive weight management program using Optifast. For more information, call the Emory HealthConnection at 404-778-7777.

Melissa Forster-Green is senior marketing manager for Emory Healthcare Marketing.

# Class shows students how to find life balance

By ELIZABETH ELKINS

For many students, the hardest part of college is managing stress. Learning to balance classes, relationships, parents and emotional ups and downs are a key component of a new Evening at Emory course called "Art of Living's YES (Youth Empowerment and Life Skills)." Taught by Mona Shah-Joshi, the course focuses on the Sudarshan Kriya rhythmic breathing technique, which leads to clarity and peace of mind — which in turn leads to better academic performance and enhanced leadership

"The course is a complete stress management and self-development program," Shah-Joshi explains. "We often learn to deal with negative emotions, but not how to get rid of them. This course shows you what holds you back, and how you react to different situations. It gives you practical knowledge and skills you will actually retain and implement later."

Art of Living combines emotional, mental, physical and social skill training designed to enhance overall wellness and focus. It's a course that participants often describe as lifechanging. The blend of yoga, breathing exercises, interpersonal games and nutritional coaching was just that for Goizueta Business School junior Avani Gupta.

"Afterward, I felt so much more prepared to handle college," says Gupta, who took the course last year at Georgia Tech. "I learned how to help myself, and how to prevent the downward spirals caused by stress and negative situations. It left me as a much more positive person



The first Evening at Emory course to target students covers mind, body and spirit.

completely in charge of my own mental health."

This is the first time that Evening at Emory has offered a course specifically for students. It's an idea that began when Shah-Joshi, Gupta and two professors — Peter Ash, chief of child and adolescent psychiatry in the School of Medicine, and Krishnamurthy Subramanian, assistant professor of finance at Goizueta — approached Dean of Campus Life John Ford about

How to enroll
Art of Living's YES

Jan. 29–Feb. 1; 6-10 p.m. Feb. 2- 3; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$185 (\$245 after Jan. 27). 404-727-6000; www.cll. emory.edu/eate/artforliving. htm. their positive experience with Art of Living. Developed by the Art of Living Foundation, a volunteer-based nonprofit organization in, the course has been a popular student choice at universities including Harvard, Duke and Stanford. Campus Life readily agreed to sponsor the course.

"We all get time management training in the real world, but in many ways we already have our habits, both good and bad," explains Evening at Emory Director Lisa Kozicki. "This course is a chance to develop ways to take care of mind, body and spirit before then. The best time to learn these things is in college." Kozicki hopes the course will soon be offered for staff and faculty.

"Everyone who comes says they receive so much more than they expected," Shah-Joshi says. "You will learn how to keep your smile no matter what is going on"

# **CARBON:** Ga. ripe for energy alternatives

Continued from the cover

her to research the feasibility of carbon offsets in the state. A former senior vice president of the Georgia Conservancy, Kidd has 25 years experience managing advocacy and education programs. Her study concluded that Georgia has a unique combination of elements that make it an ideal place to establish and manage carbon-offset programs.

"Now that we have answered the question that it can be done in Georgia, we are looking into the question of how we can influence the creation of the highest standard of carbonoffset projects that could benefit local communities both economically and environmentally," Kidd says.

Carbon offsets strive to counterbalance greenhouse-gas emissions in one place by reducing emissions somewhere else.

As Emory investigates ways to shrink its carbon footprint, its first priority is energy efficiency. Emory already leads all other universities in the nation in its total square footage of green building space certified by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design system, and it is conducting an energy audit of existing building space to identify additional energy savings. Even with strong energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy, many organizations — including Emory -

would need to purchase carbon offsets in order to be "carbon neutral." The current carbon offsets market is controversial, with many people questioning the validity of the offset claims. Emory hopes its research will advance the national conversation

Georgia's multiple ecosystems, temperate climate and nutrient-poor soils make it an especially good environment for sequestration of carbon by plants and trees, Kidd says.

Some Georgia corporations have invested in carbon-offset projects operating in other states and countries, due to the lack of local alternatives. If high-quality projects were available in their own backyard, local organizations would be more likely to invest in them, since local projects would allow for more oversight and accountability, Kidd says.

"Georgia is ripe for 'homegrown' solutions to the challenge of carbon offsets," she says.

In the coming months, Kidd will work on recommendations for specific pilot projects. She will continue to get input from the team of experts assisting Emory, including representatives from the R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Foundation, Clean Air-Cool Planet, the University of Georgia, Southface Energy Institute, Interface Inc., the World Resources Institute and various state agencies.

# Discovery

## RECENT FINDINGS

# Derby players get game at higher hormone levels



Cindy Fontana, Emory's assistant swimming and diving coach, is one of the Atlanta Rollergirls who is participating in professor David Edwards' research on hormones associated with stress and competition.

Robin Henson Photographs

## By ANDY BENNETT

When David Edwards wanted to study the effects of competition on the hormone levels of roller derby players, he didn't have far to go. The assistant varsity coach for Emory's women's swimming and diving team, Cindy Fontana, happens to moonlight as "InSINerator," co-captain of the Toxic Shocks, one of four teams from Atlanta's roller derby league, the Atlanta Rollergirls.

For Edwards, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Behavioral Neuroscience who is celebrating his 40th year at Emory, this is the latest of several research projects involving the relationships between hormones and behavior. Together with his collaborator Sarah Brown, an undergraduate from Princeton University, Edwards is measuring the effect team athletic competition has on women's blood

levels of testosterone and cortisol, two hormones associated with

stress and competition.

During an Atlanta Rollergirls bout last July between the Toxic Shocks and 2006 league champions, the Sake Tuyas, Fontana and each of her 16 teammates were asked to provide saliva samples before and after their pre-game warm-up, and at various times throughout the bout. "It was a real treat to be rink-side with the

Shocks," Edwards recalls. "This is a bruising, contact sport and the skaters are amazing athletes."

Cortisol, a well-known stress hormone, is secreted in the blood in response to stress or moderate exercise and plays a role in maintaining blood glucose and blood pressure.

Testosterone levels, on the other hand, increase in response to competition. Women who are not competing, but watching a

game from the sidelines, show no elevation in testosterone levels. The precise physiological benefits this increase in testosterone levels has on competition are not fully understood, but links between high testosterone levels and dominance-related behaviors have long been speculated, and laboratory tests have indicated raised testosterone levels can improve women's visuospatial performance.

Edwards has previously found cortisol and testosterone levels increase as a result of competitive play in Emory's women's soccer, volleyball and softball teams.

In studying roller derby, Edwards can see if the same trends he finds in college-aged women athletes in traditional sports hold true in a less traditional, competitive arena. As roller derby players tend to be in their 20s and 30s, he can now compare the results in older women as well.

In a summary of their findings, Edwards and Brown show cortisol levels climb steadily and peak toward the end of the three 20-minute periods, nearly tripling pre-game levels, and testosterone similarly raised an average of 60 percent, which is in accordance with previous findings of college-aged women in more traditional sports.

"The warm-up itself causes a significant increase in testosterone. So even before the start of competition, testosterone is going up in ways that perhaps are competitively beneficial," Edwards reports.

Testosterone levels do not rise during ordinary workouts and practices. How non-athletic competition affects a woman's testosterone levels is a question Edwards hopes to examine, as well as the effects of individual competition rather than as a member of team.

"From an evolutionary perspective, it seems likely that competitive team sports share elements with other group activities in which an increase in testosterone level may be important for reproductive survival," he says. When was this selection likely to have occurred? "Long before the establishment of formal sporting contests."

# Entrepreneur shares secret to success

### By MYRA THOMAS

With more than 50 percent of all new businesses failing, there's got to be a better way. Building a successful business is fraught with problems over sales, capitalization and poor management, says Charles F. Goetz, adjunct professor of organization and management and a distinguished lecturer in entrepreneurship at Goizueta Business School. Goetz is a serial entrepreneur, and he, along with Michael Axelrod, a small business investor and

guest lecturer at Goizueta, have penned "The Great Entrepreneurial Divide: The Winning Tactics of Successful Entrepreneurs & Why Everyone Else Fails."

Business owners will learn what it is that successful entrepreneurs do that their less successful siblings don't. "You don't have to change the world to be very successful. Often, you just have to do it a little bit better," Goetz says. To learn more, visit www.knowledge.emory.edu.

# Gold nanoparticles detect cancer

## By QUINN EASTMAN

Using tiny gold particles embedded with dyes, researchers at Emory and Georgia Tech can identify tumors under the skin of a living animal. The tools may allow doctors to detect and diagnose cancer earlier and less invasively.

"With these probes, it will be possible to detect cancer much earlier, at the microscopic level," said Dong Moon Shin, associate director of Emory's Winship Cancer Institute.

Studded with antibody fragments that bind cancer cells, the gold particles grab onto tumors after their injection into a mouse. When illuminated with a laser beam, the particles send back a signal that is specific to the dve.

Biomedical engineering professor Shuming Nie calls them "a new class of nanotechnology agents for tumor targeting and

## "With these probes, it will be possible to detect cancer much earlier, at the microscopic level."

— Dong Moon Shin, Winship Cancer Institute imaging."

The gold "nanoparticles" are about 150 times smaller than a typical human cell. Nie and his colleagues describe the particles' properties in the Jan. 1 issue of Nature Biotechnology.

The laser can detect tumors under the skin at a depth of 1 cm to 2 cm. In addition, a dye's unique signal means several probes could be used at once to profile a tumor, Nie said.

Eventually, the gold particles could also be used to selectively deliver drugs to cancer cells, he said.

For more cancer discoveries from Emory scientists, visit www.whsc.emory.edu.

# Forum

## FIRST PERSON

# Why I chose Emory

By ALICE WALKER

I chose Emory to receive my archive because I myself feel at ease and comfortable at Emory. That being so I can imagine in years to come that my papers and memorabilia, my journals and letters, will find themselves always in the company of people who care about many of the things I do: culture, community, spirituality, scholarship and the blessings of ancestors who want each of us to find joy and happiness in this life, by doing the very best we can to be worthy of it.

When I began considering where to place my archive Emory was not on my list. However, having visited several libraries at different universities I realized the importance to me of a lively, diverse, committed to humangrowth atmosphere, that, when I visited Emory, I found.

I also realized my deep love of my native South, and of Georgia in particular. I knew that though I might never live in Georgia again, my first 17 years growing up Georgian made a powerful imprint on my spirit and that it was the beauty of the rural community into which I was born that accounts for much of my passion, optimism and faith in the goodness of others. Emory struck me, on visiting it, to have light, a compassionate and thoughtful light, that made even the buildings seem softer and more inviting

Emory struck me, on visiting it, to have light, a compassionate and thoughtful light, that made even the buildings seem softer.

than those I encountered in other places.

I also found friends, a necessity for the Aquarian-born! Beverly Guy-Sheftall, Rudolph Byrd, Randall Burkett, a magic trio who introduced me to the fabulous exhibits the Woodruff Library has mounted of events and people of the past whose work is essential to our national and international understanding.

I was delighted to learn of the recent addition of the Dalai Lama to the Emory faculty. In a statement he made he said the presence of Martin Luther King Jr. in Atlanta had drawn him South. Both of these great teachers are a blessing to us all, and confirmation, if any more were needed, that Emory, as a place that has embraced one of the most enlightened leaders of the planet, and invited his wisdom into Emory's student and faculty life, is a place where my archive can rest with joy in the company it keeps.



JIMMY ZHOU

Alice Walker is a poet, short story writer, novelist, essayist, anthologist, teacher, editor, publisher, feminist and activist. See story, page 1.

# N.H. primary defies polls

### **Election economics**

Candidates who win the New Hampshire primary historically have a 60 percent chance of winning the nomination, "which is very high, given that there is still a large number of candidates and primaries to go in the race," says Tilman Klumpp, assistant professor of economics.

Presidential candidates tend to spend up to 75 percent of their campaign budgets in the lead-up to the primaries in lowa and New Hampshire, as they seek to gain this early advantage of momentum, notes Klumpp, who uses economic tools to study political science questions.

Several states have sought to move their 2008 primaries to earlier dates, to try to dilute the New Hampshire effect. So why not hold all the primaries simultaneously, to eliminate the chance of the momentum?

Cost is likely one key reason, Klumpp says. Together with a colleague, Klumpp developed a mathematical model to study the impact of holding all the primaries on one day. "The primary campaign expenditures, according to our model, would rise significantly," he says.

— Carol Clark

A record turnout of voters in the New Hampshire primary delivered a surprise comeback for Hillary Clinton and boosted John McCain's bid. Emory experts weigh in on what remain lively and fluid races for the presidential nominations of both parties.

"Hillary really improved among women voters. She went from 30 percent of the women's vote in lowa to 46 percent in New Hampshire. Among men, Barack Obama beat her by 11 points. What Hillary has to do is expand her base of support to men, and also do well among minorities, as the contest moves into more diverse electorates."

Merle Black, Asa G. Candler Professor of Politics and Government







"The New Hampshire primary confirmed that, for both parties, the race for the presidential nomination is still up in the air. The high level of competition bodes well for increased voter turnout as the primaries continue. However, [the New Hampshire] contest taught the leading Democratic candidates a valuable lesson: one must play to the base. If a candidate fails to capture the imagination of the base, he or she will lose a partisan caucus or primary."

Andra Gillespie, assistant professor of political science

"The South Carolina primary is going to be a crucial test for both parties. For the Democrats, it's the first test of a large black vote. For the Republicans, it will be a real test to see whether John McCain can build on New Hampshire and win in a state with a more conservative Republican electorate. The Republican race could go on beyond Super Tuesday. For the first time in decades, we could see a Republican convention where the outcome is not preordained."

Alan Abramowitz, Alben W. Barkley Professor of Political Science

## **SOUNDBITES**

# Predicting the future of medicine

What are the goals of personalized, predictive health care? According to Fred Sanfilippo, CEO of Emory's Woodruff Health Sciences Center, the answer is multifaceted.

Addressing participants at the 2007 Predictive Health Symposium Dec. 17-18, Sanfilippo said, "The word 'predictive' is particularly important because what we want to do with a significant degree of precision is to predict the risk of onset of disease, predict the host response when disease or illness occurs, and predict what that host response would be to different treatment modalities."

— Robin Tricoles

# Russian activist describes Gulag

When I was in the prison camp, the prosecutor came to visit us," said Russian human rights activist Sergey Adamovic Kovalev. "He told the prisoners, 'I forbid you, in your complaints, to mention the constitution. I will not read any complaint that mentions the constitution. The constitution,' he said, 'is not written for you. It is written for the dark-skinned Americans, so that they will know what wonderful conditions and absolute well-being is guaranteed to the Russian people."

Kovalev gave a talk at Emory in December in conjunction with the exhibit "GULAG: Soviet Forced Labor Camps and the Struggle for Freedom," continuing through Feb. 20 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site.

— Carol Clark

## Lecture honors Grady connections

Ira Ferguson Sr. '23M pickled cadavers to help pay his way through medical school. Harvard Medical School's Charles Ferguson shared this and other stories about his grandfather — who later became chief of surgery at Grady Memorial Hospital — at the inaugural Ira A. Ferguson lecture, a special Surgical Grand Rounds on Jan. 3.

To allow African Americans to complete medical degrees in the segregated South, Ferguson helped doctor Asa G. Yancey start a surgical residency at Tuskegee Veterans Administration Hospital. Later, Ferguson helped bring Yancey to Grady to be the first director of the Hughes Spalding Pavilion, with African American doctors on staff.

"He had worked hard to overcome obstacles himself, and was compelled to make things easier for others," said Charles Ferguson of his grandfather's motivation.

— Kim Urquhart

# Events

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 www.events.emory.edu or christi.gray@emory.edu. Listings in print are subject to space limitations.

# ADVANCE NOTICE

# What happened to humanism?

Attempts to define humanism reveal as much about its would-be definers and their respective eras as illuminate the subject itself, says Thomas Flynn, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Philosophy and a specialist in contemporary continental philosophy.

In Flynn's Life of the Mind lecture on Jan. 16 at 12:30 in the Woodruff Library's Jones Room, the "humanisms" of Jean-Paul Sartre will be among the topics of discussion.

Is humanism on the verge of disappearance? "The issue has ramified as the discussion is augmented by theories and discoveries in the natural and social sciences, not to mention their reverberation in the humanities themselves. Despite claiming right of ownership on the term, the humanities strike some as doing their best merely to keep afloat," Flynn said. "At stake is more than the term."

# Dance duo in concert

Choreographers Gregory Catellier and George Staib present "In and Through," a dance concert marking their third collaborative union. The Emory dance faculty members endeavor to delve more deeply into contemplative themes such as interdependence, love and disintegration. Featuring professional dancers from the Atlanta area, the concert will include new, repertory and multi-media work.

Performances are Jan. 24 and Jan. 26 at 8 p.m. at Emory Performing Arts Studio. Tickets are \$12 for the general public; \$6 for students, professional artists and patrons over 65 and under 12. For details, visit www.arts.emory.edu.

# Tree planting honors King

Looking for a way to observe the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday? Join a team of Emory volunteers to plant trees in the Martin Luther King Jr. historic district on Monday, Jan. 21.

The project, held in conjunction with Trees Atlanta, begins at 8:45 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m. with an opportunity to reflect on the day of service over lunch. Sponsored by the Association of Emory Alumni, the Caucus of Emory Black Alumni and Volunteer Emory, pre-registration is required. Contact Melody Porter at 404-727-6268 or melody.porter@emory.edu.

For more events during Emory's King Week celebration, visit www.emory.edu/ MLK/.

# **Athletics**

#### Saturday, Jan. 19

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving vs. Wingate University. 1 p.m. Woodruff P.E. Center. Free. 404-727-6547

#### Friday, Jan. 25

Men's and Women's Basketball v.s. University of Rochester. 6 p.m. Woodruff P.E. Center. Free. 404-727-6547

# Film

## Friday, Jan. 25

"The Lives of Others." 7:30 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-727-5886.

# Performing Arts

#### Friday, Jan. 18

Vega String Quartet. Noon. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-5050; www.arts. emory.edu.

#### Saturday, Jan. 19

Deborah Voigt, soprano and Brian Zeger, piano. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. 8 p.m. \$56, public; \$42, over 65 and under 18; \$5, students. 404-727-5050. www.arts.emory.edu.

#### Tuesday, Jan. 22

"Rainbow Timbres: Recital by Emory Faculty Percussionist Michael Cebulski." 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050. www.arts. emory.edu.

### Thursday, Jan. 24

"Faculty Dance Concert." Gregory Catellier and George Staib, directing. 8 p.m. Performing Arts Studio. \$12; \$6, over 65 and under 12, professional artists and students. 404-727-5050; box office@emory.edu. Also Jan. 25-26.

### Friday, Jan. 25

"Mika Yoshida, marimba, and Emory Chamber Music Concert." 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. \$20; \$15 under 18 and over 65 and other discount category members; Free, students. 404-727-5050; box office@emory.edu.

# Religion

## Sunday, Jan. 20

**University Worship.** 11 a.m., Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225.

# Seminars

### Tuesday, Jan. 15

"Chemical Approaches to Sorting Out Histone Modifications." Noon. 5052 Rollins Research Center. Free 404-727-5983; orivera@pharm.emory.edu.

### Thursday, Jan. 17

"Influences on the Shaping of Quality and the Future of Our Specialty." T. Bruce Ferguson, East Carolina University, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-778-1903.

#### "Developmental principles reveal organization of motor circuits ago." Kamal Sharma, University of Chicago, presenting. 9 a.m. 600 Whitehead Research

Building. Free. 404-727-7401.

"Signaling to Engulfment of Apoptotic Cells: the Beginnings of a Good
Mod." Kakodi Rayichandran

**Beginnings of a Good Meal."** KaKodi Ravichandran,
University of Virginia, presenting. 12:15 p.m. Ground Floor
Auditorium, Whitehead Research
Building. Free. 404-727-5960.

#### Tuesday, Jan. 22

AntiquiTEA: "Recent acquisition, an acrolithic head of the Greek goddess Demeter."

Jasper Gaunt, Carlos Museum Curator of Greek and Roman, presenting. 4 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. www.carlos.emory.edu.

# Special

#### Tuesday, Jan. 15

**MBA Program Open House,** 7 p.m. 130 Goizueta Business School. Free. 404-727-0497

#### Wednesday, Jan. 16

**Toastmasters.** 8 a.m. 231 Dental School Building, 1462 Clifton Road. Free. 770-317-6285; carol. tucker-burden@emoryhealthcare. org. *Every Wednesday*.

# Wednesday, Jan. 23

Goizueta Business School Evening MBA Rankings Celebration. 7 p.m. Anthony's Restaurant, 310 Peachtree Road. 404-727-9968. RSVP by Jan. 19.

#### Sunday, Jan. 27

Curries and Kabobs: Indian Cooking Class for Kids. 2 p.m. Carlos Museum. \$15; \$12 members. 404-727-0519. Preregistration required.

# Visual Arts

### Now Showing

"Images of Reconciliation:
Visual Reflections of the 2006
Journeys of Reconciliation
trips to South Africa and
India." Dobbs Center Main
Gallery. Free. 404-727-6225;
bridgette.young@emory.edu.
Through Jan. 31.

#### "New Work by Sang-Wook Lee." 5:30 p.m. Visual Arts Gallery. Free. 404-727-5050.

"Robert Rauschenberg's Currents: Features and Surface Series." Carlos Museum. 404-727-4282. Through Feb. 17.

Through Jan. 26.

"Democratic Vistas: Exploring the Danowski Poetry Collection." Schatten Gallery, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-5050; www.arts.emory.edu. Through April 23.

"From the Poet's Desk: An Exhibition of Poems in Process from MARBL's Literary Collections." Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Woodruff Library. Free. marbl. library.emory.edu. Through May

# Workshops

#### Saturday, Jan. 19

**GMAT Strategy Two-Day Session,** 9 a.m. 208 Goizueta Business School. \$330, 404-727-0497.



JON ROL

# King Week: Events honor spirit of justice

Continued from the cover

Chicago Neighborhoods," by William Julius Wilson, Harvard University's Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor and director of the Joblessness and Urban Poverty Research Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Other popular events taking place during King Week include a jazz vesper service Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. in Cannon Chapel and the presentation of Community Service Awards sponsored by the Rollins School of Public Health and Goizueta Business School. The event, on Jan. 24 at 4 p.m., will feature a talk by speaker Isaac Farris Jr., president and CEO of The King Center, on

# More King Week highlights

**Tuesday, Jan. 22** Ecumenical Celebration at Oxford College

Wednesday, Jan. 23 Forums: "Women Talking With Women" and "Boys to Men."

Concert and Birthday Cake Celebration **Sunday, Jan. 27**Worship Service: Bishop L.
Bevel Jones discussing
"The Ministers' Manifesto."

View the full King Week schedule at www.emory. edu/MLK/.

"Balancing the Scales: Social Justice on the Forefront."

New this year is "Words That Changed The World," on Jan. 23. Students, staff and faculty will gather in the Dobbs University Center to read from speeches and letters of prominent civil rights leaders from around the world.