

PEOPLE

Patricia Whitten studies hidden emotions of wild primates. **Page 2**



TRIBUTE

Remembering Nancy Eiesland's 'graceful gifts' **Page 3**

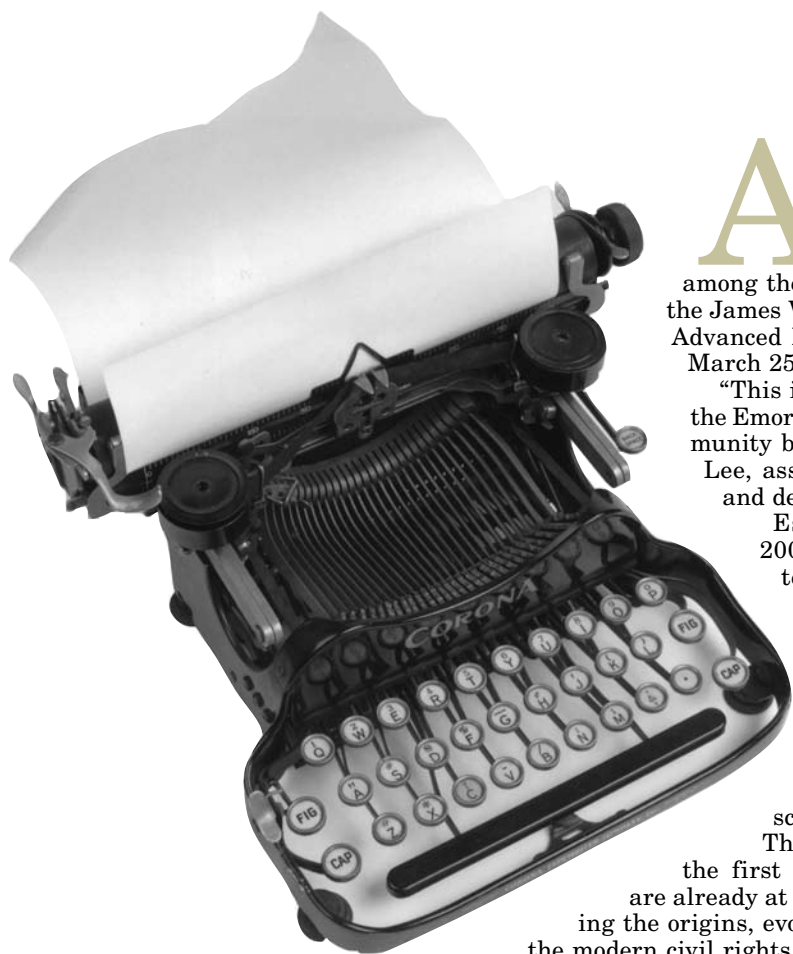


CAMPUS: Buoyed by Beckett	4
DISCOVERY: Life after prison	6
FORUM: A daring road to triumph	7
EVENTS: Quad is classroom April 1	8

SPECIAL "NEWS YOU CAN USE" INSERT

Civil rights legacy in institute's launch

By KIM URQUHART



A commemorative poem by an Emory Pulitzer Prize-winning poet honoring civil rights pioneer James Weldon Johnson is among the highlights of the launch of the James Weldon Johnson Institute for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies on March 25.

"This is our formal introduction to the Emory community and to the community beyond Emory," says Calinda Lee, assistant director for research and development.

Established at Emory in 2007 to foster new scholarship, teaching and public dialogue focused on the legacy of the modern civil rights movement, the Johnson Institute has spent its first year staking its infrastructure, hiring staff, and welcoming its first cohort of visiting scholars.

The launch serves to introduce the first four resident scholars, who are already at work teaching and researching the origins, evolution, impact and legacy of the modern civil rights movement and its influence on other social movements.

Please see JWJI on page 4



James Weldon Johnson was an author, composer, educator, lawyer, diplomat and civil rights leader whose spirit is reflected in the programming planned for the March 25 launch of the James Weldon Johnson Institute.

Tibet Week marks 50 years of struggle

By CAROL CLARK

Tibet Week, which begins on campus Monday, March 23, holds special significance this year. It was 50 years ago in March when an anti-China rebellion erupted in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, and His Holiness the Dalai Lama XIV left to take up asylum in India. More than 100,000 Tibetans followed the Dalai Lama into exile.

While the annual event will mark a somber anniversary, it will also be filled with the optimism and exuberant cultural displays inherent to the Tibetan way of life.

In these difficult economic times, Tibet Week offers the wider Emory community both a respite, and a chance to put things in perspective, says Geshe Lobsang Tenzin Negi, senior lecturer of religion and director of the Emory-Tibet Partnership. "We will be holding chanting and prayer sessions dedicated

to relieving the suffering of the Tibetan people," Negi says.

"These prayers will also be dedicated to alleviating the great stress and uncertainty caused worldwide by the global economic crisis."

This year's Tibet Week features master painter Tenzin Norbu from the renowned Norbulingka Institute of Tibetan art, and Dolmakyap Zorgey, director of the institute. Norbu will give demonstrations of the painting of sacred Tibetan thangkas — the ornate silk scrolls that depict deities using distinctive colors and techniques. A panel of experts will discuss the significance of the thangkas.

Lobsang Nyandak, the Dalai Lama's representative in the Americas, will speak during a presentation by the

Please see TIBET WEEK on page 7

How will you pledge to 'green' your routine?

By KELLY GRAY

Have you been wondering what you can do at home or at Emory to become more sustainable? Pledge to make a difference by committing to at least three changes in your daily habits or routine through Emory's online personal sustainability pledge.

From conserving water to promoting alternative transportation to encouraging the production and consumption of locally or sustainably grown foods on campus, Emory has committed to achieving greater sustainability.

Emory's sustainability vision will only be achieved if the entire community is engaged, so employees, students and faculty are being asked to do their part to help by completing the online sustainability pledge and then sending an e-mail encouraging three friends to complete the pledge.

The pledge can be found on the Office

of Sustainability Initiatives Web site (www.sustainability.emory.edu/pledge) and the Emory community is invited to commit their efforts to address energy, sustainable food, water conservation, protecting green space, recycling and other sustainable issues.

Users are asked to select and commit to three new sustainable activities from a list of options. If you are currently participating in sustainable endeavors on campus, OSI wants to know about those as well.

"The University has identified sustainability as one of its top priorities, and appreciates the thoughtful commitment we currently receive from the Emory community," says Ciannat Howett, director of sustainability initiatives. "The online pledge is another way

Please see PLEDGE on page 4

NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU

carlos.emory.edu/podcasts

Two new educational podcasts have been added to the Carlos Museum's collection Carlos Conversations.

Emory professors of religion Laurie Patton and Joyce Flueckiger discuss two objects from the Carlos Museum's permanent collection depicting Vishnu, preserver of the universe in Hinduism and Indian mythology. In one, Vishnu reclines on the Cosmic Ocean, resting between the cycles of time. In another, the god appears in his vishvarupa, or ultimate form, representing all his avatars at once.

Innovative and accessible, the Carlos Museum podcasts serve as an educational tool for those interested in learning about the permanent collections while on the go.

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EMORY PROFILE Patricia Whitten



BRYAN MELTZ

Patricia Whitten is a professor of anthropology.

The secret lives of wild primates

Anthropologist eyes behaviors of our earliest ancestors

By CAROL CLARK

Ask any new dad, and he'll tell you — having a new baby in the house is no picnic.

Anthropology Professor Patricia Whitten recently uncovered evidence that, in communities of the earliest primates, newborns stress out the males. "I'm looking at different aspects of hormones and behavior in wild primates to understand humans better," says Whitten, who specializes in the links between behavior, biology and reproduction.

Whitten began her career studying wild vervet monkeys in 1977, while she was a Harvard graduate student. She had grown up in a suburb of Chicago and had never even been camping when she headed to a remote reserve in northern Kenya for her solitary fieldwork.

"Months before I left, my mother would send me newspaper clippings with headlines like, 'Africa Aflame!' She was so worried," Whitten recalls.

Whitten, however, enjoyed the adventure. "The reserve was full of lions, wild dogs, elephants and buffalo," she says. "In the morning on my way to work, I'd pass all these wonderful beasts."

The vervet monkey troops

she observed were spread over varying habitats, from the thick forests along a riverbank to a seasonably drier area where vegetation was sparse. Giving birth right after the rains allowed a mother to indulge in handy meals of acacia seeds. If an infant was born just a few weeks later, however, the mother had to feed on the tiny, clover-like flowers of the acacia — a more labor-intensive task which required her to push away her clinging newborn so she could leap from limb to limb. After three years in the field, Whitten published groundbreaking data that showed the link between ecological factors, social status and reproductive rates in the vervets.

"Timing was important for these females," she says. "Low-ranking females conceived late and gave birth late."

In 1989, Whitten joined Emory, where she established a lab that has gained an international reputation for the analysis of steroid levels in fecal samples of wild primates. The data can help reveal all sorts of complex social dramas, from the emotional impact on baboons after a relative is killed by a lion, to the secrets of monkey mating strategies.

In 1998, she began collaborating with Diane

Brockman of the University of North Carolina in a study of sifaka lemurs in Madagascar. Lemurs are prosimian primates — believed to be the forerunners of more advanced primates like apes and monkeys.

The sifaka particularly intrigued Whitten, since the females dominate the males. "A female will leap right behind a male while he's feeding, reach over his shoulder and grab some leaves and start eating them, almost as if she is daring him to move," Whitten says.

In addition to fieldwork, Whitten was responsible for the lab analysis in the sifaka study, along with Emory graduate student Amy Cobden. The study results, published February 25 by the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, found that male sifaka become more anxious during the annual birthing season. Whitten initially thought that the rise in glucocorticoid levels in males could be tied to an environmental factor. She was surprised that the data pointed instead to the presence of a new infant.

Field observations revealed another surprise: male sifaka play a nurturing role with infants, grooming and caring for them. But the correlation

between higher stress in males and the birthing season remains a mystery.

One hypothesis is that the males are worried about aggression by males from neighboring groups: Sifaka males roam and visit other groups of sifaka during the birthing season. Sometimes the visitors challenge the dominant male of a group. Occasionally, they will even kill infants.

For Whitten, the complex dramas revealed by the initial study raise more questions. For instance, why do the female sifaka sometimes allow visiting males to hold their newborns? "The females are dominant, so they are choosing which males are trustworthy — but sometimes they don't seem to be choosing that well," Whitten says.

While she is continuing to study vervets, the prosimian primates — believed to have originated 65 million years ago — offer her a glimpse further back. "In anthropology, we commonly talk about 1 million years of evolution, or 5 million," Whitten says. "If we start looking at behavior going back 65 million years, think how much more deeply ingrained that may be."

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EMORY REPORT (USPS 705-780) is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing weekly September through May and bi-weekly June through August and distributed free to faculty and staff of Emory University. Periodicals postage is paid at Atlanta, Georgia. Postmaster: Send off-campus address changes to Emory Report, 1762 Clifton Rd., Plaza 1000, Atlanta, Georgia, 30322. Send e-mail to emory.report@emory.edu.

People

TRIBUTE

Courageous inquiry: Remembering Eiesland

By LAUREL HANNA,
for CANDLER SCHOOL
of THEOLOGY

Across three decades Nancy L. Eiesland gave the Candler School of Theology community "graceful gifts beyond measure." As a Candler MDiv student, a Ph.D. student in Emory's Graduate Division of Religion, and as a deeply valued Candler faculty member, she shared with students and colleagues a luminous love of learning and teaching and a radiant smile and humor. She exemplified Emory's commitment to courageous inquiry and inspired those around her with her astounding resilience.

Eiesland, associate professor of sociology of religion and disability studies at Candler, died March 10, four months after being diagnosed with lung cancer. She is survived by her husband, Terry, associate director of international programs at Emory, and a daughter, Marie.

"In the brief two years that I knew Nancy, she touched me deeply, particularly in her gracious spirit and her determination to live well and fully. She and her family also taught me a lot about how to die well. Their ability to love and uphold each other through very tender and tough experiences provides a model for us all," says Jan Love, dean of Candler.

Eiesland made groundbreaking contributions in two distinct fields of scholarship. Born with a congenital defect that led to

years of debilitating surgery, braces and joint replacements, Eiesland did pioneering work in disability studies, articulating the first liberatory theology of disability in her book, "The Disabled God." This book, which began as an honors thesis at Candler, has become a classic in the field.

In "A Particular Place," Eiesland studied congregations in a rapidly growing exurban area of Atlanta. By following church members' everyday patterns, she explored the ecology of social institutions and networks, showing how the role of congregations in people's lives changes in new social conditions. This book established Eiesland as a leader in sociology of religion and congregational studies.

Eiesland taught classes in the social and cultural study of religion, gender and disability; urban change and religious organization; and methods of qualitative research. She prepared a generation of students to enter the ministry and the academy with a deep awareness of the intricate social world embodied in each congregation.

Students embarking on their own academic careers remember Eiesland as "refreshingly pragmatic" and "remarkably broad-minded" as she provided a role model of an engaged teacher and scholar.

"Nancy Eiesland was the best kind of mentor: Rather than seeking to make her students into protégés, she understood



Nancy Eiesland

KAY HINTON

herself to be on a journey with us, and she provided the tools we needed to develop as independent scholars," says Marie Marquardt '04G, a former student of Eiesland's.

Candler colleagues point to Eiesland's passion for the life of the church, her noted scholarship, and her remarkable spirit. "Nancy touched and taught us all through the wisdom of her life's work, and the courage and caring she lived out every day," says Steve Tipton, C.H. Candler Professor of Sociology of Religion. A collective faculty tribute to Eiesland published

on the Candler Web site states, "Her great courage, compassion, and honesty and her trust in the goodness of creation and the promise of its redemption were hallmarks of her presence among us Nancy Eiesland has given us all an enduring example of Candler's own commitment to the church and the world. We will miss her dearly."

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Nancy L. Eiesland Fund to Support Students with Disabilities, Candler School of Theology, 1531 Dickey Drive, Atlanta, GA 30322.

ACCLAIM

Rashidul Haque, pharmacology instructor in the School of Medicine, won the "Best Scientific Paper Award" at the International Conference on research in Vision and Ophthalmology held in Hyderabad, India, in January.



Using a novel microRNA technique, Haque, along with other scientists, demonstrated how the Aanat (arylalkylamine N-acetyltransferase) gene is regulated by circadian clock proteins in the retinal photoreceptor cells. This gene encodes an enzyme that regulates circadian rhythms in the synthesis of melatonin, a neurohormone that plays important roles in physiological and pathological processes in the retina.

Salman Rushdie has received the annual St. Louis Literary Award.

Conferred by the St. Louis University Library Associates and patrons, the award is given for the writer's body of work.



Rushdie, Distinguished Writer in Residence at Emory, is best known for his 10 novels, including "Midnight's Children" and "The Satanic Verses."

The **Office of Development Communications** brought home eight awards from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District III 2008 Conference.

These included the Grand Award for Total Educational Fundraising Programs; Awards of Excellence in the categories of Fundraising; Educational Fundraising Projects; World Wide Web Home Page Design and Implementation; and Special Merit awards in the categories of publications; Educational Fundraising Projects; Paid Advertisements; and Low Budget Publications.

Development communications includes Executive Director **Jason Peavy**, Associate Director of Publications **Terri McIntosh**, Senior Editor **Maria Lameiras**, Senior Designers **Heather Putnam** and **Rick Fiala**, Marketing Specialist **Renata Janssen-Decker** and Communications Manager **Carie Paine**.

SNAPSHOT



SPECIAL

Alternative spring break builds homes and bonds

Freshman Jacqueline Jiwon Choi was among the 10 volunteers who represented Emory on an alternative spring break trip to Leland, Miss. The Volunteer Emory team helped finish two Habitat for Humanity homes, installing sheetrock and more.

Bonds were also built through visits to local churches, eateries and the Kermit Museum (Leland is the birthplace of Muppets creator Jim Henson).

'My Home Is Beautiful'

— Dallin Randolph, MD • Decatur

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"Acclaim" recognizes the accomplishments of faculty and staff. Listings may include awards and prizes; election to boards and societies; and similarly notable accomplishments at Emory or in the wider community. Emory Report relies on submissions for this column. Contact: ltking@emory.edu.

TAKE NOTE

Entrance to Matheson closed

A cost-cutting measure has closed the entrances to the Matheson Reading Room and the rest of the Robert W. Woodruff Library building from the Candler Library lobby.

"Matheson Reading Room hours of operation are unaffected," said Charles Forrest, Emory Libraries' director of facilities management and planning. "The reading room remains open and accessible via the bridge entrance."

The closure is until further notice and may extend into the next fiscal year.

Emergency exits remain accessible at each end of the Matheson Reading Room, in addition to the bridge entrance/exit option, Forrest said. The outside door to the Candler Library that faces the Quad remains open, where the building's stairs and elevator are also still accessible.

Innovation and tech celebrated

Jerry Thursby, Georgia Tech professor of innovation, entrepreneurship and commercialization, will be the keynote speaker for the Third Annual Celebration of Technology and Innovation. The event will be Tuesday, March 31, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Emory Conference Center.

Mark Goodman, professor of radiology, will receive Innovation of the Year for his development of unique PET imaging agents to detect various cancers.

Start-up of the Year goes to Pennsylvania-based Neuronetics Inc. and Charles Epstein.

Other awards are Deal of the Year to Idenix Pharmaceuticals and pediatrics professor Raymond Schinazi; and Significant Event to Pharmasset Inc., Schinazi and chemistry professor Dennis Liotta.

To RSVP, call 404-727-1785 or e-mail ott-web@emory.edu.

New green bins recycle more, all

Emory Recycles is switching to a single stream recycling program. Outdoor pitch-in containers on campus are being converted from holding one commodity and now will collect white and mixed papers, magazines, newspapers, plastics and aluminum.

The exterior containers will be placed primarily in central campus locations and near buildings along Asbury Circle. They will be painted green and marked with the recycling tri-arrow to increase their visibility.

These containers will complement a new style of green outdoor single-stream containers that are gradually making their way onto campus and can be seen in Campus Services and at the new Few and Evans Residence Halls.

Channeling the voice of a literary lion



Salman Rushdie, Brenda Bynum, Edward Albee, and Robert Shaw-Smith dramatized Samuel Beckett's words.

RANDY FULLERTON

By ELAINE JUSTICE

A capacity crowd flooded into Glenn Memorial Auditorium on St. Patrick's Day to hear Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Edward Albee and Emory Distinguished Writer in Residence Salman Rushdie read from the early letters of Samuel Beckett.

The evening, titled "Fundamental Sounds," was one of several Emory events held as part of the worldwide celebration of the recent publication of "The Letters of Samuel Beckett,

Volume One 1929-1940."

Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of the University, introduced Lois More Overbeck and Martha Dow Fehsenfeld, editors of the Papers of Samuel Beckett, each of whom provided context for the evening. Overbeck detailed Emory's connection to the project since 1990, and recognized members of the audience, some former graduate students, who had been involved with the project over the years.

Fehsenfeld introduced towering literary figures Albee

and Rushdie, and the two Atlantans who joined them on stage: Brenda Bynum, professor of theater studies emerita and director/producer of the evening's program, and Robert Shaw-Smith, an Atlanta actor and teacher at Atlanta International School.

Bynum, who served as narrator for the evening, introduced the readings by asking Albee and Rushdie if they would like to say anything about Beckett. Albee, who knew Beckett as both friend and mentor, plunged ahead.

"If you happen to be a writer and you run into somebody or the work of somebody as extraordinary as Beckett, there are all sorts of reactions that are impossible," said Albee. "Envy is impossible. The only word that is possible to use in the face of such extraordinary talent is gratitude."

After telling an anecdote about his friend — as only a friend can — Albee concluded that "Sam Beckett was a sweet and gentle and kind man who also happened to be a great writer. That combination does not happen all the time."

Having never met Beckett, Rushdie said he felt "deprived of

the opportunity to thank him for that genius." As a young man at Cambridge, Rushdie admitted that one of the first things he did was to steal Beckett's first novel, "Murphy." From the first sentence, he said, "I knew it would be a long relationship."

When Rushdie recalled that he had once had a heated quarrel with a friend over the quality of Beckett's work, Albee was quick with advice: "There's a very straightforward rule to apply to any of your friends and acquaintances. If they do not admire and deeply love the work of Samuel Beckett — get new friends."

Albee, Rushdie, Bynum and Shaw-Smith then deftly led the audience through the early life and budding career of Samuel Beckett as told through his letters; they did not disappoint. The audience heard Beckett's voice — and gave it a standing ovation.

Multimedia

Tune into a Creativity Conversation with playwright Edward Albee and Emory's Rosemary Magee on iTunes U.

JWJI: Framing civil rights in scholarship

Continued from the cover

It's also an opportunity to introduce to the community the public programming and sponsored research the institute offers as a framework for understanding the history and legacy of civil rights.

"Our work is to provide a context to explain the ways in which the civil rights movement continues to have relevance," says Rudolph P. Byrd, Goodrich C. White Professor of American Studies and the Johnson Institute's founding director. As a recent example, Byrd notes the inauguration of the nation's first African American president as a key outcome of the modern civil rights movement.

Among the highlights of the launch event:

Pulitzer Prize-winner and Phillis Wheatley Distinguished Chair in Poetry Natasha Trethewey will read for the first time a poem commissioned especially for the occasion. Her tribute to Johnson will be sold as a broadside, likely available by fall. Each guest attending the launch will receive a copy of Byrd's "The Essential Writings of James Weldon Johnson," courtesy of the event's corporate sponsor, Georgia-Pacific Foundation.

Provost Earl Lewis will introduce leaders in the academy, the arts, commerce and civil rights who will deliver solidarity statements on behalf of the many communities the institute connects. The launch commemorates the centenary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored

People, through which Johnson led many significant achievements. As home of the Alice Walker Literary Society, the acclaimed novelist and activist is also sending her support.

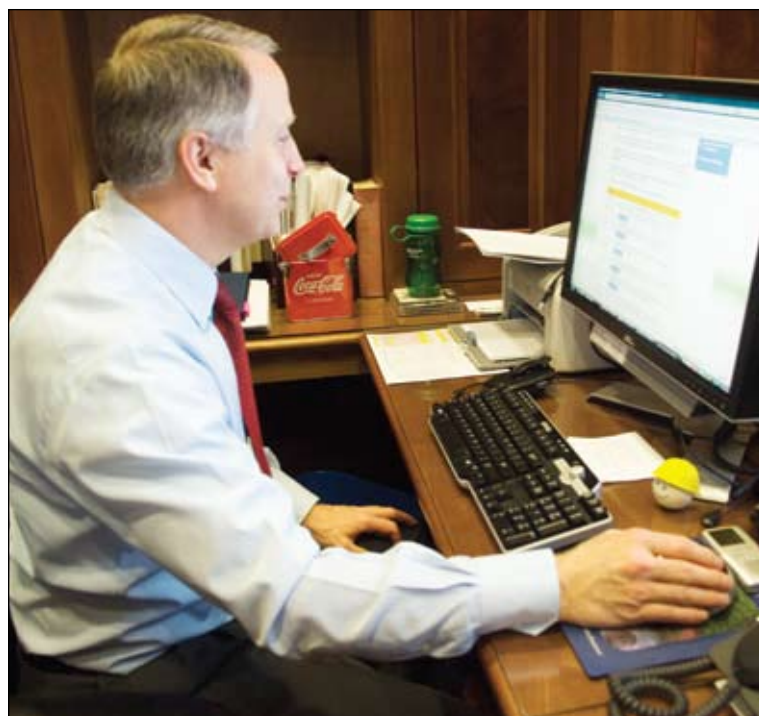
The talent of Emory alumni will be showcased throughout the program, like guest soloist Delesslyn Kennebrew '06T. The Candler singer will perform music written by Johnson and his brother and fellow composer J. Rosamond Johnson. Other musical guests include Emory's Vega String Quartet and Atlanta composer Alvin Singleton.

The launch is an opportunity to thank the friends and partners who share the institute's commitment to scholarship and social advocacy: the Department of African American Studies, Emory College, the Graduate School and the Office of the Provost; its steering committee and corporate sponsors; and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which supports the visiting scholars program. The Johnson Institute is a key component of Emory's Race and Difference strategic initiative.

Ceremony

The official launch of the James Weldon Johnson Institute will take place on Wednesday, March 25 at 4 p.m. in Cannon Chapel, followed by a reception in Brooks Common. The event is free and open to the community. Visit www.jamesweldonjohnson.emory.edu to learn more.

PLEDGE: Online vow to do good for cause



BRYAN MELTZ

President Jim Wagner takes the online personal sustainability pledge. Have you?

Continued from the cover

for employees, students and faculty to visibly demonstrate their support of sustainability and promote one of the University's essential objectives that affects everyone on campus and in the community."

Think the sustainability pledge is similar to a New Year's resolution and is only thought about once a year? Think again. Once a commitment is made, you can renew the pledge each semester by updating your promise as needed. You can also spread the word about the

pledge by identifying friends, colleagues or acquaintances that would "follow the leader" and commit to three actions to help Emory become a more sustainable campus.

"It's going to take the active participation of the entire Emory community to pitch in, turn off, conserve and re-evaluate daily habits for Emory to realize its vision," says Howett.

With the help of its faculty, staff and students, Emory can help restore the global ecosystem, foster healthy living and reduce the University's impact on the local environment. Pledge to do your part.

Campus

5

REPORT FROM: Emory Alumni Association

EAAvesdropping you can feel good about

How exactly do you write about a blog? Wouldn't the easiest thing be to just blog about what the blog is? But if I blogged about the blog, would my computer simply implode? Maybe the straightforward approach is best. Let's try that.

EAAvesdropping (<http://eaavesdropping.blogspot.com>) is the new staff-written blog of the Emory Alumni Association (EAA) that invites all members of the Emory community to listen in to what's going on in the alumni world.

EAAvesdropping presents the work of the EAA in a new way. In alumni relations, we pride ourselves on our personal touch, and through EAAvesdropping we hope to add that

personal feeling to our electronic communications.

In its first three weeks, EAAvesdropping visited Oxford College, New York, Houston and even Mexico (not necessarily in that order) in search of interesting alumni stories, which weren't hard to find.

Because there is so much to talk about alumni-wise, EAAvesdropping will be updated several times a week with content from all over the Emory alumni community. Each EAA staff person (there are more than 20 of us) will contribute content, ensuring EAAvesdropping's dynamic voice.

The majority of EAAvesdropping's content will be original, but it also will frequently link to content from all

over the Emory Web site and beyond. Our newest post, for instance, sends readers to iTunes U, where the EAA has recently uploaded content from Celebration Emory: New York and our J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award recipient.

We're particularly proud of the Turman content. We've always highlighted the Turman in print and online publications (including Emory Report last week), but the University's new technologies have given the EAA some additional opportunities to highlight our 2009 recipient, Sally Lehr '65N-'76MN.

We already have a personal interview with Lehr on iTunes U, and soon we will have an audio file of the

Turman ceremony (complete with addresses by President Jim Wagner and Board of Trustees Chair Ben Johnson '65C). Direct links to the audio files can be found on EAAvesdropping. The April issue of EmoryWire, the EAA's electronic publication, will link to an event slide show, making our Turman content a true feast for the senses — well, almost all of the senses. We can't do much about taste, although the chicken dinner from the Turman ceremony was pretty good. Hope you'll take my word for that.

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



Project Compass Learning Forums

You are invited to participate in this three-part series of learning sessions providing Emory staff with more details about the new PeopleSoft Financials system.

Topics include:

- PS Financials Basics
- Transacting in PS Financials
- PS Financials & Grants Impacts on the University



Visit www.compass.emory.edu for the Learning Forum schedule and registration information.

PeopleSoft Financials - Coming in September 2009

QUESTIONS FOR ... Kerry Peluso

PeopleSoft will make grants easier to manage

When it goes live this September, Emory's enterprise-wide Project Compass initiative will replace the separate University and Emory Health-care accounting systems with the new PeopleSoft Financials system. The PeopleSoft Financials system will standardize and automate the financial management process for Emory, adding value to the way you work.

Helping the Project Compass team develop the initiative's grants module are the staff of the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) and the Office of Grants and Contracts Accounting (OGCA), who are responsible for the pre- and post-award central administration of all of Emory's research and sponsored projects.

The PeopleSoft system will integrate all sponsored research data into one system. Emory Report asked Associate Vice President for Research Administration Kerry Peluso to talk about what Project Compass means for University grants.

Emory Report: How will PeopleSoft Financials impact grants and sponsored research?

Kerry Peluso: Other than for accessing historical data, the information systems currently used for capturing and processing research and sponsored programs data will not be utilized after Sept. 1. From that date forward, the functions handled by OSP and OGCA will be processed within the PeopleSoft system. This includes everything from the entry of proposals to the production of invoices and financial reports. Emory faculty and staff will need to access the PeopleSoft system to obtain information and data regarding sponsored programs.

ER: How will this implementation change the way your offices do business on a daily basis?

Peluso: Almost every task that OSP and OGCA staff are responsible for will be done differently after Sept. 1. This provides us with a wonderful opportunity to improve the administration of sponsored projects at Emory. Preparation and tracking of financial invoices and reports and many more functions will be handled and expedited within the PeopleSoft system.

ER: What advice do you have for other managers as they consider what to do to help their organizations prepare for the transition to PeopleSoft?

Peluso: I encourage managers throughout the University to become familiar with the changes that will be occurring as a part of Project Compass. Managers should encourage their staff to visit the Project Compass Web site (www.compass.emory.edu), a great resource, and attend the upcoming learning opportunities. This will allow them to become familiar with the new system and begin to prepare for the transition. Above all, I recommend that managers and staff keep in mind that while this is a big change for Emory, it is a very positive change.

ER: Are you looking forward to go-live in September?

Peluso: Very much. We still have a lot of work left and there may be some bumps in the road, as is common with these implementations, but I am confident that this system and the new processes we are developing will allow us to function much more efficiently and provide a higher level of service and information to the Emory community. The University's investment in our future through the implementation of PeopleSoft is something that Emory will benefit from for many years to come.

— Kim Urquhart

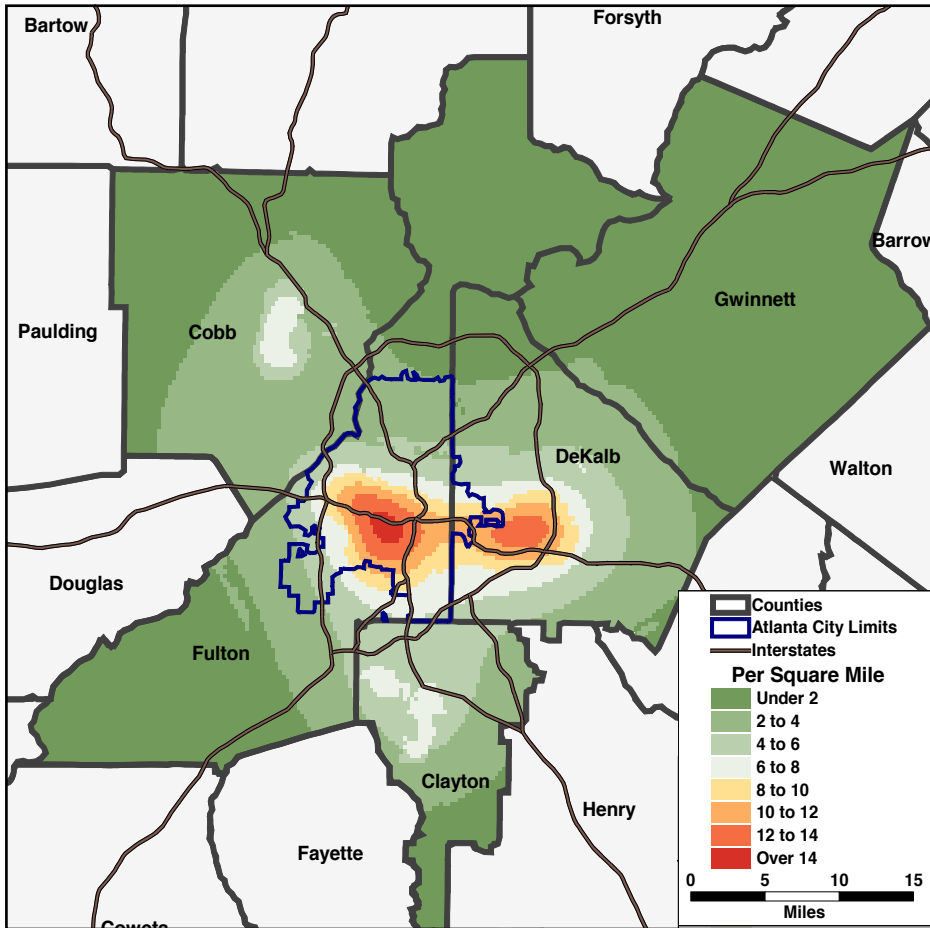
NEWSMAKERS

"I love being a priest. I've never been unhappy being a priest. I have never been unhappy being a teacher either. I love being a teacher-priest."

— Thomas Flynn, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Philosophy, in "Morehouse, Emory students find professor is priest," the Georgia Bulletin March 13.



Study tracks barriers to prisoner re-entry



Density map of prisoners released in 2004-05 in core Georgia counties.

By BEVERLY CLARK

One in 13 adults in Georgia is either in jail or on probation and parole, and the state holds the fifth largest prison population in the nation. Hundreds of prisoners are released and return to metro Atlanta neighborhoods every month.

For Emory's Office of University-Community Partnerships, which has worked with dozens of community groups, service organizations, policymakers and government leaders for nearly a decade, issues around incarceration are a big piece of the puzzle in developing strategies to build strong communities.

"In many ways, the success or recidivism of former inmates has a tremendous impact on the communities where they settle, but given the stigma attached, it hasn't exactly been a cause championed by many. But, positive reentry is a necessity, not an option, when it comes to public safety, preserving families and the development and stability of neighborhoods," says assistant professor of political science Michael Leo Owens, coauthor of the study "Prisoner Reentry in Atlanta: Understanding the Challenges of Transition from Prison to Community."

The report was recently completed by OUCP, and its authors hope the findings spark conversation and action among government leaders, service providers and community organizations to address the challenges of facilitating the positive integration of former prisoners back into communities. In addition to Owens, an OUCP senior faculty fellow, the study was compiled by Michael Rich, OUCP executive director and associate professor of political science; Sam Marie Engle, OUCP senior director; and Moshe Haspel, OUCP's director of research and evaluation.

The immensely detailed and comprehensive reentry report analyzes data showing where people go in metro Atlanta when they get out of prison, what support services are there for them, and the availability of affordable housing and jobs. OUCP's study is part of the Urban Institute's national Reentry Mapping Network, which covers a dozen metropolitan areas around the country.

The study tracked nearly 5,000 people released from state prisons into probation and parole in 2004 and 2005 (as provided by the Georgia Department of Corrections and Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles) who took up residence in five core metro Atlanta counties. About a fifth settled in the city of Atlanta. While the greatest concentration was in and around Atlanta neighborhoods, prisoner reentry affects the entire metro area. More than 80 percent of the former prisoners were non-violent offenders.

Focus groups with former prisoners, service providers and faith-based and government organizations filled in the picture of what issues former prisoners and communities face. Surveys also provided insight on public attitudes toward former prisoners.

Outside of access to services, securing jobs and affordable housing posed the biggest challenges to successful reentry for ex-offenders.

Gaining employment was hindered by multiple obstacles: In addition to low levels of education and work experience, and the reluctance of employers to hire someone who has served time in prison, they also lacked the personal networks to help them identify and secure jobs.

However, "housing was identified as the most central issue and need people faced immediately upon their return or move to Atlanta," says Owens. "For those released from prison without obtaining a guaranteed bed at a transitional house or shelter, and possessing only their \$25 in 'gate money,' finding a place to stay that was secure, decent and accessible was often impossible."

The study also found differences in the types of programs offered by secular agencies and faith-based groups, but overall they were often not in the geographic area where they are needed most.

"One thing we heard again and again from service providers was: 'I wish I knew what everyone else was doing,'" says Engle. "We hope that an outcome of this study will be a stronger network and coordination to provide the services that are needed."

Researchers close on vaccines to slay viruses

By QUINN EASTMAN

Effective vaccines against some of the world's deadliest viruses are within reach, top virologists reported at the Emory Conference Center March 16.

The Emory Vaccine Center organized a day-long symposium featuring research on "viral hemorrhagic fevers," illnesses caused by viruses such as Ebola, Marburg, hantavirus, lassa, dengue and yellow fever.

Ebola and Marburg are swift-acting and deadly enough to have inspired science fiction movies and best-selling thrillers (see: Richard Preston's "The Hot Zone"). Less deadly but still fearsome mosquito-borne dengue infects millions of people every year and is a major public health threat in developing countries, according to the World Health Organization. A troubling feature of dengue is "antibody-dependent enhancement," where previous exposure to one strain of dengue can make infection by a related strain worse.

"Viral hemorrhagic fever" describes a severe syndrome affecting multiple organs. Symptoms commonly include fever, fatigue, dizziness, muscle pain and weakness. Sometimes blood vessels break down, causing internal bleeding leading to shock.

Most of the viruses naturally are found in animals which are transmitted to humans via insects notably mosquitoes and are geographically restricted to the areas where their host species live. However, their true reservoir remains to be defined. For example, the natural host of Marburg virus appears to be bats, although one of the ways humans usually get infected is from contact with monkeys.

At the conference, researchers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention described their recent investigation of a gold mine in Uganda where several miners had been infected with Marburg. Inspection of the mine demonstrated that bats infected with Marburg lived inside these gold mines.

In addition, scientists from the CDC, the National Institutes of Health and several universities reported on animal models for studying viral hemorrhagic fevers, experimental vaccines, and new viruses isolated from field research and how they are related to previously known viruses.

The symposium was the first convened on the subject of hemorrhagic fever viruses by the Emory Vaccine Center, with support from a grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the NIH.

Vitamin A signals offer clues to treating autoimmunity

By QUINN EASTMAN

Researchers have discovered that dendritic cells, the microbe-sensing alarms of the immune system, can respond to a single compound by sending out both stimulatory and calming messages at once.

The results were published in the March issue of *Nature Medicine*.

This "gas and brake together" feature can be viewed as the result of an evolutionary struggle between microbes and the regulatory controls embedded in the immune system, says immunologist Bali Pulendran.

The compound Pulendran and colleagues examined for its ability to act through two different receptors is zymosan, a component of yeast cell walls. However, the finding could guide scientists in designing vaccines against

many infectious agents since dendritic cells are known to respond to bacteria and viruses as well as yeast through the same receptors. In addition, silencing the messages from the calming receptor might boost the immune system's ability to fight a chronic infection.

The calming receptor, known as TLR2 (Toll-like receptor 2), uses vitamin A to transmit its signals. This provides an explanation for the connection between vitamin A deficiency and autoimmune diseases, where the body's own tissues are attacked indiscriminately. Vitamin A deficiency has been linked to diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, lupus and type I diabetes.

The effects of zymosan and TLR2 can deter white blood cells from attacking nerve tissue in a mouse model of multiple sclerosis, the researchers found.



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Forum

FIRST PERSON

A courageous tale from another's lips

By PORTIA ALLEN

The story I am about to tell is not my own; I write on behalf of an Emory colleague who desired to share her story with the Emory community but did not wish, for many reasons, to tell it herself. She asked that I withhold her name and some of places referenced, but all dates, personalized accounts and historical events are factual. Her story symbolizes possibilities and pain; it is draped with love, injustice, migration, freedom, activism and solidarity. It begins in the oil-rich Niger Delta region of Nigeria and connects to the academic halls of Emory University.

This is her story, as she told it to me:

"When I was an adolescent, hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars surrounded me in the Niger Delta; this was 'crude oil' wealth, unevenly distributed to the Nigerian people. Consequently, I encountered quite a few challenges: public health barriers, economic strife and crushing poverty.

However, these challenges did not discourage me; rather I was driven and inspired to obtain a university education. I yearned for this higher degree because my favorite uncle used to say: an educated man will never get lost for he can read. In other words, learning was my freedom card.

It was ironic then that soon after graduating from high school, I chose to work as an office assistant at a popular Nigerian university instead of studying there. This was a necessary decision made for my family.

Working in a university environment opened many doors. One such occasion arose when I was given the opportunity to coordinate countrywide university games with a well-known and respected professor in the theater department.

Professor Ola ended up being

Portia Allen is program administrative assistant in the School of Medicine.

an excellent mentor; he motivated me to revisit my scholastic dream. Also, he shared the importance of reaching out to others in my community. For example, when he paid for part of my undergraduate tuition in 1991 (I was pursuing a bachelor of science degree in public administration at the time), he said: 'I am giving you this money because I want you to help humanity.' His gift was life-changing yet also very overwhelming, especially since I was struggling financially to support my siblings and parents as well as myself.

As I continued to work toward obtaining my degree, I reflected about the past steps that led me to this point: working tirelessly to obtain my secretarial certificate in 1988 and then successfully receiving my associate's degree in secretarial administration in 1990. Indeed, I was looking forward to graduation day in 1996. Then, at its doorstep, I was forced to flee Nigeria for the safety of my child's life and my own.

I left behind everyone and everything that I had loved, known and cherished. It all happened so fast.

What I remember vividly was the historical Ogoni Day 1993, when 300,000 Ogonis protested peacefully about the recurring socio-economic injustices in the oil-rich Niger Delta. This nonviolent demonstration bore huge consequences, many of which we did not fathom.

For instance, Ken Saro-Wiwa (a principal Ogoni leader and world-renowned environmentalist) was accused by the Nigerian government of inciting riots. A warrant was later issued for his arrest. The next domino effect was that any persons affiliated with events like Ogoni Day faced

detention, harassment, intimidation, and even death.

Homes and lives ended up being destroyed and Nigerian soldiers, not police, were all over my community. The academic climate was tense too, with community conversations held about the political changes facing us.

I was deeply concerned. A warrant had been issued for my husband's arrest because of his ties to Saro-Wiwa and the Ogoni movement. For his personal safety, we agreed that he had to leave the Niger Delta.

I was so distraught during this time, I prayed for courage and strength to continue. Separated for more than 18 months, my husband and I, who were still newlyweds, managed to meet thrice before he left the country. One memorable get-together occurred in late 1994 when we produced an offspring.

With a baby on the way, it was very important for me to finish university, so I continued with work and school. Then in early 1996, a few months before I was to graduate, Nigerian soldiers started detaining some of the wives of Ogoni leaders. My family and I decided it was time for me to leave. The plan was for me to seek asylum at a United Nations refugee camp in the Republic of Benin and later meet my husband in the U.S., in Atlanta.

It was really tough getting to the camp; travelling by local buses with no documentation, never knowing who I could really trust, resting in random homes, having access to minimal food and water and walking many miles with a baby on my back. There was also the constant threat that any Nigerian found crossing the border between Nigeria and the Republic of Benin could be shot on site. What kept me going were my newborn baby, beloved husband and family back in the Niger Delta.

When my baby and I finally



Portia Allen

BILLY HOWARD

arrived in Atlanta, after being in the refugee camp for seven months, I was so relieved. Safely, we could begin again.

For the many years that followed, there were a lot of ups and downs in addition to the heavy, survivor-guilt of having left my family and community behind. Plus, there were a lot of my friends who had lost their lives.

During these difficult times, I reminded myself of the priceless joys and gifts I had received. I was most thankful for unique treasures like knowing freedom again, feeling secure and being introduced to Emory University.

A perfect place for me, Emory reminded me that a commitment toward transformation in the world through courageous leadership is the essence of academia, perseverance and possibilities. Also, it was symbolic of a great academic environment I once knew and loved, where a zeal for education was common as the rain and when a young lady inspired by her favorite uncle could dare to follow her dream."

SOUNDBITES

Cotler: Hold Iran responsible

Iran's highest officials should be held legally accountable by the international community for their language of "genocidal incitement" toward Israel, said Canadian Parliamentarian and former Minister of Justice Irwin Cotler, at a March 16 "When Law and Religion Meet" lecture.

"These hateful messages emerging from Tehran are not benign, are not mere rhetoric, and are anything but harmless," said Cotler, also a legal scholar and international human rights lawyer, who was invited to give the inaugural Harold J. Berman lecture through Emory's Center for the Study of Law and Religion. "And, instead of abating, this language has been intensifying."

—Mary Loftus

Epigeneticist looks beyond genetics

"Our DNA is around 6 feet long. The diameter of a cell's nucleus is around 50 microns, so the DNA has to be packed tightly to fit in the nucleus," explained Victor Corces in his recent "Life of the Mind" lecture. "It's wrapped around groups of proteins called histones, to form chromatin."

The chair of biology and distinguished professor is working at the leading edge of epigenetics. He explained that acetylation and methylation of histones and the arrangement of chromatin affect human health, aging and behaviors.

The overflow audience included students from RISE, the program that Corces founded to bring inner-city teens into his lab, where they work alongside Emory students. "It's satisfying to see the next generation of students becoming interested in this."

—Carol Clark

Poet dissects science tales

In 2001, Marilyn Nelson was asked to write a poem to honor a slave named Fortune, who died of a broken neck in 18th-century Connecticut. His owner was a bone-setter named Doctor Porter, said the former poet-laureate of Connecticut, during her recent talk as the visiting Nat C. Robertson Distinguished Professor in Science and Society.

Porter dissected Fortune, boiled his bones and reassembled them. "He hung them in a room to be used as a little home-grown medical school — which was science," Nelson said. "But Fortune's family was still living in the house."

Nelson's poem imagined the thoughts of Fortune's widow, who as a slave of the family was likely consigned to dust the remains of her husband. Nelson also wrote a poem from Porter's view. "I believe this doctor was in pursuit of knowledge," she said.

—Carol Clark

TIBET WEEK: Ornate arts, practical science

Continued from the cover

Emory Tibet Science Initiative at. on Wednesday, March 25. Faculty involved in the ETSI — which is teaching modern science to Tibetan monastics in India — will describe the challenges and rewards of the initiative since it was launched last year.

One of the biggest challenges of the ETSI is translating modern scientific terms into the Tibetan language. The first International Conference on Translating Modern Science into Tibetan will be held on campus during Tibet Week, drawing translators from both inside Tibet and the exile community.

The success of the ETSI inspired the Emory-Tibet Partnership to launch a summer study abroad program on Tibetan mind/body sciences.

In May, students from Emory and other universities will

depart for Dharamsala — the heart of the Tibetan exile community in India — to study Tibetan traditions of mental and physical well-being.

The Western students will have a chance to meet with the monastics who are studying modern science in the ETSI program. The itinerary will involve several field trips, including one into the Doladar mountains, to learn firsthand from traditional Tibetan doctors about medicinal plants. Tibet Week will offer students a taste of what they could experience during the summer.

Tibet Week events

For a full schedule of the March 23–28 Tibet Week events, visit tibet.emory.edu/news/Tibet-Week-2009.html.



Buddhist monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery perform traditional music during Tibet Week 2008.

BRYAN MELTZ

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

ADVANCE NOTICE

Class on Quad on military service

"The Status and Future of Military Service" is the topic of this year's Classroom on the Quad, sponsored by the Student Government Association.

The event, April 1 from 2 to 6:30 p.m., will feature a panel of faculty members on the "after-effects" of war; a student-led debate on the topic of national service; a panel of Emory staff and faculty who have served; speeches from military officials and experts in the field; and other interactive activities for students.

Speakers include Lt. General David Poythress on his own experience as a graduate of Emory's ROTC program and P.W. Singer of the Brookings Institution on the future of warfare and how it will impact the definition of "service." Poythress is contending for the Democratic nomination for governor and Singer's book, "Wired for War," has received some prominent media coverage.

A book and media drive for troops serving overseas and a dinner are planned before the event.

All are welcome to attend. Contact Jeremy Barr at jmbarr@emory.edu for more information.

Rescue effort is lecture topic

"The Future of Humanitarian and Disaster Aid: A Practitioner's Perspective" is the topic of this year's Hugh P. Davis Lecture co-sponsored by the School of Nursing.

Gerald Marton, director of humanitarian affairs for the International Rescue Committee, will give the talk Tuesday, March 31, at 4 p.m. in the Alumni Auditorium of the School of Nursing.

Marton, who has a master's degree in nursing, has overseen emergency assessments and operations in numerous developing nations afflicted by war and natural disasters.

The event is free and open to the public. RSVP to Abigail Joslin at ajoslin@emory.edu.

TCP sponsors panel on race and sports

A panel on "Changing the Game: Race and Sports at Emory" will be Wednesday, March 25, at 4 p.m. in Cox Hall Ballroom.

Co-sponsored by Emory's Transforming Community Project, the panel will be moderated by Amri Johnson, alumnus and member of the Alumni Board and Community and Diversity Board. Emory alumnus and former NFL defensive lineman Pellom McDaniels III will give introductory remarks.

Panelists include student athletes Jason Campbell and Amelia McCall; women's head basketball coach Christy Thomaskutty; and Lloyd Winston, Emory's first African American coach.

Athletics

Tuesday, March 24

Men's Tennis v. Kalamazoo College. 2:30 p.m. Woodruff P.E. Center.

Men's Baseball v. Centre College. 3 p.m. Chappell Park.

Sunday, March 29

Women's Softball v. Spelman College. 1 p.m. Cooper Field.

*All sports events are free. Visit www.go.emory.edu to see more events.

Film

Tuesday, March 24

"Taking Chance." 4 and 8 p.m. 208 Math and Science Building. Free. thee.smith@emory.edu.

DOOLEY'S WEEK: "Boondock Saints." 8 p.m. McDonough Field. Free. rnorber@learnlink.emory.edu. (Rain location: 208 White Hall.)

Wednesday, March 25

"Lasky Jedne Plavovlasky." (Loves of a Blonde) 8 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-727-6761.

Performing Arts

Wednesday, March 25

DOOLEY'S WEEK: Daniel Tosh, comedian. 7 p.m. Glenn Memorial Auditorium. Free. achris5@learnlink.emory.edu. Faculty and staff can request tickets from matt.garrett@emory.edu.

Emory Jazz Combos and Big Band with Gary Motley. 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 40-727-5050.

Thursday, March 26

DOOLEY'S WEEK: N.E.R.D. 7 p.m. McDonough Field. Free. jzurawi@emory.edu.

Poetry Reading. Carrie Olivia Adams, Matthew Shindell and Megan Volpert, reading. 8 p.m. Theater Lab, Schwartz Center. Free. aqhorow@emory.edu.

Friday, March 27

NEW AND TRADITIONAL ARGENTINE TANGO MUSIC: Emory Tango Ensemble with Osvaldo Barrios, bandoneón. 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 40-727-5050.

Seminars

Monday, March 23

SUSTAINABLE FOOD LECTURE: "Traditions, Tastes and Buttermilk Biscuits." Scott Peacock, "Watershed" chef, presenting. 7:30 p.m. Cox Hall Ballroom. \$25. 404-727-9916.

Tuesday, March 24

"Targeting Inflammatory Pathways Naturally for Prevention and Treatment of Cancer." Bharat Aggarwal, University of Texas, presenting. Noon. Free. orivera@pharm.emory.edu.

"Out of the Shadows: From Migrant Repression to Enlightened Reform." Erik Camayd-Freixas, Florida International University, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. zjohnst@emory.edu.

"Fallen Giant: The Amazing Story of AIG." 6:30 p.m. Ron Shelp, author, presenting. 130 Goizueta Business School. patricia_chebat@bus.emory.edu. Book signing to follow.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

KEYNOTE: Angela Davis. 7 p.m. Ebenezer Baptist Church. Free. womenscenter.emory.edu.

Wednesday, March 25

"Ritual and Its Consequences." Adam Seligman and Robert Weller, Boston University, presenting. 4 p.m. MARIAL Center (Briarcliff Campus). Free. dmday@emory.edu.

"The Economic Crisis and President Obama's Policies." Jeff Rosensweig, business, presenting. 6 p.m. Boynton Auditorium, Goizueta Business School. Free. lerone.martin@emory.edu.

Thursday, March 26

"Surgeons as Communicators: An Oxymoron?" Christopher Dente, surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. Free. sean.moore@emory.edu.

"Regulation of the ENaC Recycling Compartment." John P. Johnson, University of Pittsburgh, presenting. 9 a.m. 600 Whitehead Building. Free. kathy.cobb@emory.edu.

LIFE OF MIND LECTURE: "The Future of Political Islam." Carrie Wickham, political science, presenting. 4 p.m. Jones Room, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-4632.

"Periodizing Contemporary Art." Alexander Alberro, Barnard College, presenting. 5:30 p.m. 207 White Hall. Free. 404-727-6282.

"Orchestrated Violence: The Role of Music in the Roman Amphitheatre." Kathleen Coleman, presenting, Harvard University. 5:30 p.m. 122 Candler Library. Free. jblack2@emory.edu.

Special

Tuesday, March 24

"Iraq 6 Years" Commemoration. Noon. Asbury Traffic Circle. Free. thee.smith@emory.edu.

Farmers Market. 2 p.m. Cox Hall Bridge. Free. Julie.Shafer@emory.edu. Every Tuesday.

DOOLEY'S WEEK: "Taste of Emory." 5 p.m. Goizueta Business School. Free. www.students.emory.edu/SPC/.

Nonprofit Networking Night. 7 p.m. Winship Ballroom. Free. pbredde@emory.edu.

Thursday, March 26

Delores P. Aldridge Excellence Awards. 5 p.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. mnsween@emory.edu.

Friday, March 27

Research Job Fair. 9 a.m. SAAC (Clairmont Campus). Free. mbaylis@emory.edu.

DOOLEY'S WEEK: Dooley's Ball. 10 p.m. McDonough Field. Free. mbwill2@learnlink.emory.edu.

Visual Arts

Now Showing

"Divine Chaos: Art of Diane Solomon Kempler." 5:30 p.m. Visual Arts Gallery. Free. 404-727-6315. Through April 24.

Workshops

Wednesday, March 25

Welcoming Diversity Workshop. 7 p.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. hornbe@emory.edu.

SNAPSHOT



KAY HINTON

PlaceFest connects Emory

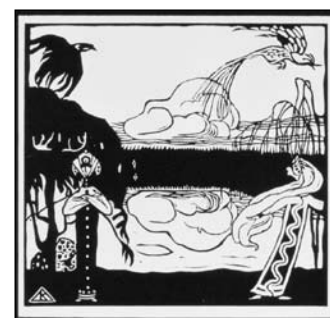
Students help plant native species in the ravine outside Cox Hall as part of the 2nd Annual PlaceFest during Wonderful Wednesday. Organized by the Emory as Place program and the Office of Sustainability Initiatives, PlaceFest is a celebration of Emory's histories, cultures and ecologies designed to help the Emory community connect to the places we inhabit.

Get more information on the Sustainability album within Emory's iTunes U.

Fragile works on view at Carlos



Paul Strand. Miss Thompson seated in a doorway. Taos, New Mexico. 1932.



Vasily Kandinsky. The Birds From Xylographies. 1909.

A working drawing for an unrealized project by eminent land artist Robert Smithson is on display for the first time at the Carlos Museum's "Works on Paper Highlights."

This latest addition to the museum's collection joins a drawing by Eugène Delacroix; a photograph by the 19th-century pioneers David Octavius Hill and Robert Adams; and images by 20th-century photographers such as Eugène Atget, Paul Strand, and the recently re-discovered rural Arkansas portraitist, Mike Disfarmer.

On display in the John Howett gallery through May 17, these works — described by Carlos director Bonnie Speed as a "hidden jewel of our permanent collection" — are fragile and cannot remain on long-term view.

—Leslie King