

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

“Start giving back today,” philanthropist Bernie Marcus urged graduates.
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Class of 2008 urged to use legacy to build a better world



BRYAN MELTZ

“You have been a class committed to legacy,” President Jim Wagner told the 3,595 graduates gathered on the Quad for Emory’s 163rd Commencement ceremony.

By CAROL CLARK

A brisk wind stirred the oaks as the ancient sound of bagpipes filled the Quad for Emory’s 163rd Commencement on May 12. The gusts shook the last of the pollen from the trees as members of the class of 2008 prepared to sow their dreams in the wider world. “You have been a class committed to legacy,” President Jim Wagner told the 3,595 graduates. He thanked them for creating a book of Emory lore to give to

freshmen, for reviving the tradition of Wonderful Wednesdays and for starting new ones: Synergy, to encourage acts of random kindness; Health Students Taking Action Together, to tackle health reform; and the Global Access Partnership, linking medical discoveries to the developing world. “The goodness of this community is here because you have invested yourselves in it,” Wagner said. “Take with you the moral blueprints of what you have

helped to build here. The world needs you to continue to exercise and grow the compassion, the knowledge, the wisdom that you have gained in this community.” Keynote speaker Bernie Marcus, the king of do-it-yourself, spoke about the power of building anew whenever the graduates faced setbacks in their lives. The climb up the career ladder began beneath the bottom rung for Marcus, co-founder of The Home Depot chain. “I am a first generation Amer-

ican who started my life in a fourth-floor, walk-up tenement in Newark, New Jersey,” he said. When a quota system and lack of money shattered his dream of becoming a doctor, Marcus earned a pharmacy degree instead. He later moved into retailing, becoming CEO of a major chain of stores in California. “Then, at the age of 49, pow! I was fired,” Marcus said. He rebuilt his life again, partnering

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Oxford celebrates golden day

By MARY LOFTUS

A “golden morning” awaited the graduates of Oxford College on May 10, noted Dean Stephen Bowen, as they and their professors gathered under the Temple of the Trees at Emory’s home campus in Covington to take part in the college’s 163rd Commencement. The ceremony recognized 324 Oxford graduates who received their Associate of Arts degrees on this fair, slightly breezy Saturday morning. The hymn “For the Beauty of the Earth” seemed especially appropriate, as Oxford Chaplain Judy Shema told the Oxford Class of 2008 that they would honor the degree they received today by how they choose to live their lives. The Commencement speaker, Emory College Dean Bobby Paul, asked the class to consider what it means to be a liberal arts scholar in America in the 21st century. Paul, a cultural anthropologist and psychoanalyst by training who maintains a private practice, said the idea of the research university — imported from Europe — took root and flourished in America toward the end of the 19th century.

“Our system — the one in which you have been educated here at Oxford — is based on the premise that higher education serves not only to train future professionals, but also to produce the future informed citizenry upon whom the essence and hope of democracy depends,” he said. However, Paul added, we face a future in which America “may well no longer occupy the

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Tradition-filled Emory Weekend continues to grow

By ERIC RANGUS

Each of the last five years, at the conclusion of Emory Commencement Weekend, the Emory Alumni Association, as well as many of the alumni, parents and students taking part, has branded it as the “best ever.” The aftermath of the 2008 celebration is

no different. But before anyone tears a rator cuff patting themselves on the back, there really are a lot of reasons to feel great about the recently concluded weekend. “We’re better at getting the word out, and traditions are being established,” said Gloria Grevas, the EAA’s assistant director

for reunions and Emory Commencement Weekend. “We’ve had Corpus Cordis Aureum and the Candlelight Crossover for five years, and they have become meaningful components of the Emory experience for both our older and newer alumni.” Numbers-wise, Emory Commencement Weekend, which runs

from May 8–12 with events stretching from Oxford College to every corner of the Atlanta campus, continues to grow. This year drew an estimated 2,000 people to the weekend’s many events. Some of them, like a May 8 reception for Oxford continues at the Miller-Ward Alumni House, doubled in size from 2007.

The Candlelight Crossover was significantly larger than previous years, as well. Intermittent showers delayed its start until after 8:30 p.m., but one positive effect was that darkness had fully arrived, and the glow of

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Commencement by the Numbers

Total number of 2008 graduates: **3,595**

Total number of degrees awarded: **3,647**

Undergraduate degrees: **1,858**

Graduate degrees: **1,291**

Professional degrees: **487**

Percent of male graduates: **41.6**

Percent of female graduates: **58.4**

States represented: **47**

Countries represented: **77**

Age of youngest graduate: **20**

Age of oldest undergraduate: **59**

Oldest degree recipient: **70 (Master of Laws degree)**

Military service veterans graduated: **17**

Average GPA of Emory College graduates: **3.35**

Percent of Emory College graduates with GPA of 3.5 or higher: **45.2**

Time of Bernie Marcus' commencement address: **24 minutes 39 seconds**

Number of chairs on the Quad: **15,000**

Total number of mum flowerpots used for stage decorations: **450**

Number of Commencement guest relations volunteers: **210**

Number of frames shot by University Photography: **3,007**

Number of mini quiches served by Emory Catering: **5,000**

Registrar figures correct as of May 8. Other figures may be estimates.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Marcus: Don't give up; do give back



KAY HINTON

Home Depot co-founder and philanthropist Bernie Marcus used to dream about becoming a doctor. "Little did I know it was going to happen today," he told graduates after accepting an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

By **BERNIE MARCUS**

For a 79-year-old man whose claim to fame is that I am a marketer of hammers, I am humbled to have the responsibility of speaking to you.

They call me a philanthropist, but the truth is, I am just really giving back. Giving back to this great country for the opportunity it gave me to achieve success.

Giving away money is a long way from how I began my life. Mine is truly the story of America, and the reality of living the American dream.

I am a first generation American who started my life in a fourth-floor, walk-up tenement in Newark, N.J. My mother and father were Russian immigrants.

My mother believed that America was the golden land, and whatever you put your mind to, you could achieve. She told me there were four things you had to do to be successful: work hard; believe in yourself; get an education; and don't let disappointments discourage you.

Just like many of you, I decided at a very early age what I was going to be when I grew up. We were poor, and no one else in the family had a college education. But at the age of 12, I knew I was going to be a doctor. That was my dream.

After high school I started my pre-med studies and was a pretty good student. In fact, I was so good that I qualified and was accepted to Harvard Medical School but because of quotas — and in those days the quota for Jewish students was 10 percent for the medical school — I could not get in unless I donated \$10,000 to the school. If you took my entire family and hung them upside down, you couldn't raise \$10,000!

So, medical school was out. My

dreams were shattered.

Frankly, for a time I gave up. But with the urging of my mother and my family I realized it was time to get back on "the train to success" and take advantage of the great things this country offered. I enrolled in pharmacy school and earned my pharmacy degree. It was as close to being a doctor as I was ever going to get.

So how did I go from pharmacy school — from selling drugs — to selling hammers? Just when you think you know where your career will take you, it can turn out totally different.

Many of you are going to excel, I'm sure of it, and many of you will succeed in a field far from where your studies have taken you.

While you may be convinced there is only one way to fulfill a dream, you are going to find out that there are many roads that lead you to your dreams, and those dreams may find you when and where you least expect it.

My advice to you is keep your eyes, ears and minds open. Opportunity pops up at the most unexpected times and places. Will you recognize it?

On the road I took from pharmacy to hammers I learned a number of things that I want to share with you: The first is the importance of being happy. The second is recognizing opportunities. The next is the benefit of the free enterprise system. And finally, personal desires and dedication and the role they play in success.

Working as a pharmacist soon led me to people who gave me an opportunity in retailing. It was then that I realized that marketing and selling and dealing with customers was what I truly loved. From that day forward, I woke up and went to work every day doing something I loved. And because I loved what I did, I was good at it.

And because I was good at it, I was successful.

Not long after I found my niche in retailing, I became CEO of a major chain of home improvement stores in California and it grew to become one of the largest and most successful chains in the U.S. at that time.

Then, at the age of 49, pow!, I was fired.

That had never happened to me before — I had a family and obligations and all of a sudden my world came to a shocking end. I was caught up in one of those corporate intrigues and it ended up with me being the "out" guy.

So here I was, for the second time in my life, with what was a career ending experience. I had two choices: sit around and feel sorry for myself and complain that once again I got a raw deal. Or I could move forward.

Every single one of you will, in your life, be disappointed in something or someone. How you handle difficulties, setbacks and disappointments will form the basis of your own personal inner strength and character.

Many of the people I've met in my life, who've been successful, have had at least one major setback that could have been career ending and career changing. The ones who've succeeded are those who are able to overcome.

So here I was, ready to get on with my life. I had to come to some conclusions: Do I have the talent, strength, courage, foresight, and business acumen to keep going?

Deep in my heart, I realized I was an entrepreneur. And it was time to build a company of my own. I was confident that with the right people working alongside me, I could once again be successful.

I already had the idea for The Home Depot. It would be a brand

new concept in home improvement stores that would carry everything that anybody would ever need in order to build, maintain, or remodel a house at prices and with service never seen before.

Along with my partner, Arthur Blank, we created The Home Depot, which today has more than 2,200 stores, sales of over \$80 billion, and employs more than 300,000 people.

Each of you, as you graduate, has the opportunity to have a successful life, in your own field. Your success doesn't have to be in billions of dollars, but it should be something that gives you your own sense of personal fulfillment.

As Emory students, you have had the opportunity to experience and understand the benefits that giving back can mean to others. You have all benefited from the generous contributions of people like Robert Woodruff, whose business successes helped bring to fruition the university you see.

I hope one of the things you learned while attending Emory was the importance of creating and disseminating wealth into institutions and facilities that benefit others around the world.

Believe me, I know — doing something good in this world is better than the best earnings quarter report you will ever have in business. When your profit line is measured by the lives you have saved, or the children you have helped, or the needs you have met, you can never have red ink.

My advice to all of you about giving back is to do it in any way that you can, whether it is personal involvement or through contributions. Your life will be so much fuller. It will expand your heart.

My family's involvement in today's society is far from the hammers I used to sell. We're involved with autism, medical research, nanotechnology, and many other areas. Our focus right now is on our military, to help them get treatment for catastrophic, combat-related injuries or paralysis or brain trauma.

I cannot impress upon you enough how critically important it is in my own personal life when I know that I've touched a life. When I go to The Marcus Institute and see an autistic child who may not have been functioning at all, and they begin to smile, to communicate, even to laugh. The profound effect that has on my own personal psyche is unbelievable, but the profound effect on their families is much greater.

As college graduates, you have so many new days ahead of you. Enjoy them and learn something new from every one of them.

Start giving back today. Whether you share knowledge, or money, or time, our world needs your passion, your risk-taking, your enthusiasm, your courage, your wisdom and your leadership.

Good luck to all of you. May you find success and happiness in your future.

This essay has been adapted from Bernie Marcus' Commencement address. For the complete version, visit www.emory.edu/COMMENCEMENT.

EMORY report

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Nancy Seideman
nancy.seideman@emory.edu

EDITOR
Kim Urquhart
kim.urquhart@emory.edu

DESIGNER
Christi Gray
christi.gray@emory.edu

PHOTO DIRECTOR
Bryan Meltz
bryan.meltz@emory.edu

STAFF WRITER
Carol Clark
carol.clark@emory.edu

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Leslie King
ltkking@emory.edu

Commencement

DIPLOMA CEREMONIES



BRYAN MELTZ

With diplomas in hand, Brandon Justin Smith and his fellow Emory College graduates prepare to embark on their next journey.

EMORY COLLEGE

“Four years ago we convened together for the first time at freshman convocation, where faculty members encouraged us to immerse ourselves in the Emory community and inspired us to pursue our passion,” senior class orator Anna Altizer told her 1,129 fellow graduates.

“Over the past four years Emory’s values have become our own,” she said.

“And we too have left our mark on Emory University.”

Together at Emory, Altizer said, the class of 2008 has witnessed Emory’s sense of responsibility to the community, acted as world citizens, and confronted uncomfortable issues head on.

— Kim Urquhart

ROLLINS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Stan Foster had three words for the 220 Master of Public Health graduates: “Prevention, Prevention, Prevention.” A professor in the Rollins School of Public Health’s Hubert Department of Global Health, Foster even had a placard printed with those three words. A veteran of smallpox eradication, he drew on the personal statements of students for his address and shared daunting health sta-

tistics for a “world crying out for prevention.”

The RSPH class of 2008 included students from 39 states and 42 countries, ranging in age from 21 to 59. The school also granted 34 Master of Science diplomas and 22 dual degrees.

— Rhonda Mullen

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

After welcoming Candler’s graduates, families and friends — including the class of 1958 graduates celebrating their 50th class reunion — Dean Jan Love quoted Philippians 4:4-9, which states in part “...Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice. And the God of peace will

be with you.”

In all, the school honored 128 Master of Divinity recipients, 22 Master of Theological Studies recipients and 11 Master of Theology recipients.

— Kelly McLendon

NELL HODGSON WOODRUFF SCHOOL OF NURSING

It seems fitting on the day that marks Florence Nightengale’s birthday that 181 Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing students graduated. The pioneer of modern nursing is a fitting role model, said Dean Marla Salmon, and Commencement speaker Chancellor Michael M.E. Johns, in turn, said Salmon was the perfect model of a nursing leader to emulate.

He also shared a few life lessons:

“Your reputation always will precede you into the room. Your degree is both a blessing and a burden. It is a blessing because you know what excellence is. But now you have a special obligation. You’re good, but we expect you to do better. No matter what you do, you carry the Emory pedigree. You are our proof of principle.”

— Kay Torrance



BRYAN MELTZ

Goizueta Business School graduates are poised to be champions of change and advocates of innovative ways to create economic value.

GOIZUETA BUSINESS SCHOOL

Dean Larry Benveniste said to the class of 2008, “We are blessed that our school bears the name of one of the greatest principled leaders of our time, Roberto C. Goizueta. He was proud of our school and especially proud of our graduates. He would have expected much from you. You have been given the gift of opportunity. Use it wisely. Do good for yourself, your family and your community.”

Olga C. de Goizueta, widow of Roberto C. Goizueta, congratulated and shook

hands with each graduate.

The business school awarded 641 degrees: 260 BBAs, 191 full-time MBAs, 65 Evening MBAs, 25 Modular Executive MBAs, and 100 Weekend Executive MBAs.

New this year was a pinning ceremony for graduating children, grandchildren and siblings of Emory alumni during the awarding of BBA diplomas.

— Victor Rogers

SCHOOL OF LAW

“Law is a very demanding profession. You and only you are responsible for setting your priorities,” Most Outstanding Professor recipient Richard Freer told the 260 graduates during Emory Law’s Hooding and Diploma Ceremony. Freer, who also was honored with Emory’s Scholar/Teacher Award, encouraged students to pursue their

legal careers one day at a time.

Notable law graduates included Judge Dorothy Toth Beasley, Emory’s oldest 2008 graduate, and Harriett Musoke, Emory Law’s first Doctor of Juridical Science graduate.

— Liz Chilla

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Dean Lisa A. Tedesco presided over a ceremony granting diplomas to 131 master’s candidates and 213 doctoral candidates.

Tedesco praised the graduates for their hard work in making the transition from students to scholars, and urged them to “leave with something of the spirit of Emory in your character and with a commitment to pursuing knowledge that will

shape our future by addressing the most difficult and important problems of this day.”

In recognition that the Ph.D. is the highest academic degree, each doctoral graduate received a doctoral hood from his or her adviser and Senior Vice Provost Claire Sterk.

— Ulf Nilsson

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Arthur Kellermann, associate dean for health policy in the medical school, advised the 112 School of Medicine graduates to never lose sight of the “why” in medicine.

Kellermann also paid tribute to Health Students Taking Action Together, the group that campaigned to support Grady Memorial Hospital.

“When Grady’s future was on the line this year, these men and women didn’t hide behind their stethoscopes,” Kellermann said. “They fought for the hospital. And they won.”

In the separate diploma ceremony

honoring Emory’s 54 allied health graduates in physical therapy, medical imaging and ophthalmic technology, Jeffrey Koplan put a global perspective on the challenges that health professionals now face.

“Global health needs you,” said Koplan, who directs Emory’s Global Health Institute. “You graduate today well trained, well motivated, and well situated to help people, heal people, and do so with better tools and in more places than last year’s graduates or those before them.”

— Pam Auchmutey

Multi-talented Zelkowitz gets McMullan



BRYAN MELTZ

Dean Joanne Brzinski presents the Lucius Lamar McMullan Award to Rachel Zelkowitz, who will donate part of the no-strings-attached gift to the Emory Counseling Center.

By BEVERLY CLARK

Emory graduate Rachel Zelkowitz knows a little something about how to meet deadlines. During her four years at Emory, she took on numerous positions with the award-winning

Emory Wheel and earned a reputation for grace under fire, high ethical standards and warm support of her colleagues.

These attributes led to her winning the 2008 Lucius Lamar McMullan Award, one of Emory's highest student honors which also

comes with \$25,000 — no strings attached. Endowed by Emory alumnus William L. Matheson '43C in honor of his uncle, the award is given to a graduating senior who exhibits "outstanding citizenship, exceptional leadership and potential for service to

his or her community, the nation and the world." The donor's intention is to allow a student to do something he or she wouldn't otherwise be able to do.

"Winning the McMullan was truly stunning. There are so many tremendously talented people

in my class doing extraordinary things, so this is not something I would ever expect to receive," Zelkowitz said. She gave a gift to the Emory Counseling Center and set aside the rest for graduate school and savings.

"The counseling center performs a tremendous service to campus and has been a great source of support for me personally the past three years, so I want to give back," Zelkowitz said. "I hope to see the center take a more prominent role in students' lives, and that the stigma associated with seeking help reduced."

Zelkowitz recently served as executive editor of the Wheel and was a member of the appeals board of the Emory College Honor Council. She chaired the senior class day committee and was a student representative on the President's Commission on the Status of Women. She also used her musical talents in the Emory Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra as a French horn section co-leader.

Zelkowitz graduated with highest honors as a political science and journalism major. The Robert W. Woodruff Scholar also completed an honors thesis in political science. She is now headed to a six-month internship with Science magazine.

"Science has always been a passion of mine," she said. "I plan to combine that with my love of writing and communicating, and hopefully provide a service that will benefit the public by increasing people's understanding of the importance of science in our lives. My training at Emory gave me a fantastic foundation to do this."

Scholar/Teacher Award among Freer's honors



KAY HINTON

President Jim Wagner congratulates University Scholar/Teacher Award Winner Richard Freer, who was also named Most Outstanding Professor at Emory Law's ceremony.

By LESLIE KING

It has been "a great year" for oft-honored professor Richard D. Freer, who added more awards to his stack during Commencement.

The Robert Howell Hall Professor of Law was chosen to receive the University Scholar/Teacher Award by Emory faculty on behalf of the United Methodist Church Board of Higher Education and Ministry, only the second law faculty member to receive this honor.

Freer gave the Commencement speech at the law school's diploma ceremony, chosen as Most Outstanding Professor for the seventh time by the law students.

Freer has been selected as Professor of the Year twice by the Black Law Students Association; and received the Emory Williams Award for Distinguished Teaching.

"What strikes me about this group of graduates is they are my children's age," he says. So Freer constructed his remarks like that of parent, exhorting the departing students "not to let the profession scare you or consume you."

Freer, who joined Emory in 1983, has been described as a charismatic teacher with high standards and an extraordinary knowledge of civil procedure.

For the "charismatic" part,

Freer says, "I think the classroom should be tense but fun. I think we do better work when we're nervous."

On the other side of the edge is a caring teacher. Freer says students sometimes come to his office and beg him not to call on them in class, saying they would be too nervous and wouldn't say the right thing.

"I tell them to choose a day within say, the next week, and a case and I'll call on them that day about that case," he says. That way, they are prepared and no one need ever know about the advance planning. "It helps build confidence."

The key to Freer's success in front of the classroom came from his dad, a high school tennis coach. Having moved across the country to a new city, a new house with a new baby and as a first-time teacher, his dad told him: "You are the quarterback." That meant, Freer says, "I had to run that class; the students have to know who is boss."

"[Teachers] have always fought distractions," says the self-described kinetic classroom roamer. "I believe the professor has to dominate the room. If I'm not the most important and exciting thing in the classroom — if I'm not the best game in town — I'm gonna quit."

Commencement

FACULTY AWARDS

The Emory Williams Award for Distinguished Teaching is the University's most prestigious awards for teaching, established in 1972 by alumnus Emory Williams.

- **Kenneth Anderson**, associate dean of academic affairs and associate professor of philosophy
- **William W. Buzbee**, professor of law
- **Steven Culler**, associate professor of health policy and management
- **J. William Eley**, executive associate dean of medical education and student affairs
- **Michael Elliott**, associate professor of English
- **Sarah Freeman**, clinical professor of family and community nursing
- **Frank McDonald**, professor of chemistry

• **Ian McFarland**, associate professor of systematic theology

• **Nicholas Valerio III**, associate professor in the practice of finance

• **Regina Werum**, associate professor of sociology

The 2008 faculty teaching awards are given out by individual schools.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

• Outstanding Service: **David Petersen**, professor of Old Testament

• Excellence in Teaching: **Luther Smith**, professor of church and community

EMORY COLLEGE

• Center For Teaching and Curriculum Awards: **Patricia Brennan**, associate professor of psychology; **Michael Sullivan**, associate professor of philosophy; and **Christopher Beck**, senior lecturer, biology

GOIZUETA BUSINESS SCHOOL

• Marc F. Adler Prize for Excellence in Teaching: **Rich Makadok**, associate professor of organization and management

• Donald R. Keough Award for Excellence: **George Benston**, John H. Harland Professor of Finance (awarded posthumously); **Doug Bowman**, professor of marketing; and **Libby Egnor**, director of BBA admissions

• Modular Executive MBA Distinguished Educator: **Robin Cooper**, professor in the practice of management accounting; and **Shehzad Mian**, associate professor of finance

• Weekend Executive MBA Distinguished Educator: **Shehzad Mian**, associate professor of finance

• MBA Teaching Excellence Award: **Patrick Noonan**, associate professor in the practice of decision and information analysis; and **Sriram Venkataraman**, assistant professor of marketing

• Evening MBA Distinguished Educator: **Rob Kazanjian**, professor of organization and management; and **Patrick Noonan**, associate professor in the practice of decision and information analysis

• BBA Distinguished Educator: **Allison Burdette**, assistant professor in the practice of business law

ROLLINS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Professor of the Year: **Paul Weiss**, senior associate, biostatistics

• Thomas Sellers Jr. Award: **Michael Kutner**, Rollins Professor and chair of biostatistics

SCHOOL OF LAW

• Most Outstanding Professor: **Richard Freer**, Robert Howell Hall Professor of Law

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

• Evangeline T. Papageorge Distinguished Faculty Award: **William Eley**, executive associate dean for medical education and student affairs

Magee honor exemplifies her Jeffersonian qualities



Rosemary Magee, inspired by McMullan Award recipients, will donate part of her Jefferson Award for scholarships. ANN BORDEN

By ERIC RANGUS

Rosemary Magee '82 PhD has experienced the Emory community as a student, alumna, staff member, faculty member, and now as an administrator. Among other things, she helped build Emory's summer study abroad program, spearheaded the construction of the Schwartz Center for Performing Arts, and for the last four years has served as secretary of the University. She has given a great deal to Emory — and that generous attitude of service hasn't stopped with her receipt of the 2008 Thomas Jefferson Award.

"I have had the full Emory experience," said Magee, "I've had the pleasure of working at Emory, but I've also had the opportunity to reinvent myself as the institution has shaped itself."

The Jefferson Award is given

each year to a faculty member or administrator in appreciation for significant service through personal activities, influence and leadership. The personal and professional qualities of the recipient resemble those Jefferson would have considered essential to the intellectual, social and political advancement of a society.

"Everything that I've been able to contribute to this institution has also substantially enriched my life," Magee said. "I'm really standing on the shoulders of so many friends, colleagues and collaborators. This award represents their work and their contributions as well."

Two of those friends are Robbie Brown '07C and Rachel Zelkowitz '08C, both of whom Magee describes as "her role models." In more ways than one.

Brown and Zelkowitz are both winners of the Lucius Lamar

McMullan Award, a student leadership and citizenship honor that carries with it a \$25,000 no-strings-attached gift. Brown selflessly donated his entire award to an orphanage in India started by his classmate Elizabeth Sholtys '07C. Zelkowitz, too, is donating a portion of her award to the Emory Counseling Center.

The students' generosity — and example — moved Magee to donate part of her cash award to help fund the Emory Alumni Board Leadership Scholarship, a new alumni-driven campaign to assist leading students who also show financial need.

"Rachel was one of the first people I told [about receiving the Jefferson]," Magee said. The two have been friends since Zelkowitz profled Magee for The Emory Wheel, where she was a staff member. Brown had been a student in one of her classes and, just before his graduation, he asked Magee to attend the Emory Scholars brunch as his "most influential teacher."

"We discussed doing something symbolic," Magee said, recalling her conversation with Zelkowitz. "And we wanted to honor Robbie's generous spirit. One of the great things about this University is that everyone can be a teacher and everyone can be a student."

Magee said she will use the remainder of her Jefferson monetary award to help cover costs while serving as an artist-in-residence at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Ireland.

Magee is the second consecutive alumna to receive the Jefferson Award. In 2007, the Jefferson went to Melissa Maxcy Wade '72C-'76G-'96T-'00T, director of the Barkley Forum.

After earning her doctorate from Emory's Institute of Liberal Arts, Magee began a steady climb up the administrative ladder culminating in her 2004 promotion to vice president and secretary of the University.

SNAPSHOT



SPECIAL

2008 Distinguished Emeritus

The Emeritus College's spring reception on May 6 in Cox Hall honored the four recipients of the Distinguished Emeritus Award for 2008: (From left to right) Biology Professor Emeritus William Murdy, former dean of Oxford College, who has long served as responsible steward of the University's natural resources; Obstetrics and Gynecology Professor Emeritus Betty Connell, who has written and lectured extensively about unintended pregnancy and contraception; Classics Professor Emeritus Herbert Benario, a prolific scholar, writer, and international expert on the Roman historian Tacitus; and Theology Professor Emeritus Theodore Runyon, author of "The New Creation: John Wesley's Theology Today" and a committed social activist.

Emory courtesy scholarships

The following employees earned Emory degrees in 2008 using the courtesy scholarship program offered to Emory faculty and staff. For more information visit, <http://www.hr.emory.edu/>.

Christopher Ryan Collins
Robert Thomas Thompson III

Saima J. Zuberi
Julia Mae Crawford

Cuttino bestowed on born mentor



Economics Chair Hashem Dezhbakhsh's open-door policy helped earn him the 2008 George P. Cuttino Award for Excellence in Mentoring. TOM BROADNAX

By CAROL CLARK

Economics Chair Hashem Dezhbakhsh was born in Shiraz, an ancient city in southwest Iran. His father was a high-ranking military officer, and Dezhbakhsh was raised in a regimental atmosphere, both at home and at school.

"I grew up in a culture where the distance between students and teachers is substantial. It's very formal," says Dezhbakhsh, whose open-door policy helped earn him the 2008 George P. Cuttino Award for Excellence in Mentoring, established by alumnus John T. Glover '68C.

"In elementary school, we had tough discipline for how you dressed, spoke and walked. Everything was rehearsed," he says. "I didn't see it as a burden, rather as guidance."

Cultural norms prohibited Dezhbakhsh from finding a mentor among his own teachers. Early on, however, he showed a tendency to become an educator who reaches out to students in an informal, personalized way.

"When I was little, I tried

to mentor younger kids," he says. "We had a big yard with a pool and I would organize outdoor study groups for the neighborhood. We also played soccer. It seems to me that it's not any different from what I do now," adds Dezhbakhsh, who plays on Emory's Economic Optimizers soccer team when he's not teaching or doing administrative duties, which include serving as director of undergraduate studies.

The key to successful mentoring is being approachable, he says, especially in these technological times, when students often take exams, turn in papers and communicate online.

Dezhbakhsh cherishes the connections with students he has cultivated, which often extend beyond their graduations, as they send him news of their careers. "One moment a confused teenager walks into your office, debating what they need to do with their lives," Dezhbakhsh says. "You have a chat, some follow-up, and before you know it, you have a lawyer or investment banker sharing stories about their successes."

Brittain winner a model of engaged scholarship



Brittain Award recipient Zain Ahmed (right) graduated along with his cousins (left to right) Saima Zuberi, Farhan Arshad and Fatima Ahmed. BRYAN MELTZ

By BEVERLY CLARK

Putting knowledge into action are ideals of engaged scholarship that Emory graduate Zain Ahmed lives each day. Ahmed pushes himself to the limit for the greater good, whether it's in the lab working on intensive organ transplant research, developing programs for an international nonprofit, or tutoring local high school students.

His achievements earned him Emory's highest student honor, the Marion Luther Brittain Award, presented each year at Commencement to a graduate who demonstrates exemplary service to both the University and the greater community without expectation of recognition.

The political science and neuroscience and behavioral biology major (who also completed requirements for a chemistry degree), graduated summa cum laude with highest honors. He completed his honors thesis in transplantation immunol-

ogy with his mentor, Allan D. Kirk, professor of surgery and scientific director of the Emory Transplant Center.

A 2007 Emory Community Building and Social Change Fellow and an Emory Scholar, Ahmed is focused on tackling issues related to health and education. "I consider them to be basic human rights that are both integral and related to other complex issues in the world. It is very difficult for me to see others undergoing preventable hardships," Ahmed said.

Ahmed founded Global Health, Education, Empowerment and Development (HEED) in 2006. The nonprofit engages students around the nation to work in developing nations to address issues related to health, education and economic development. The group's first major initiative will be to collaborate with a local nonprofit in Calhuitz, Guatemala, to build a health clinic and school and implement a micro-credit initiative start-

ing this summer. Ahmed donated the \$5,000 that comes with the Brittain Award to the effort.

He will stay at Emory next year and continue his research full time at the Emory Transplant Center and travel to Guatemala throughout the year to implement HEED's various initiatives. He also plans to apply to joint programs in medicine, research and public health next year to earn a medical degree and a doctorate.

Ahmed dedicated the Brittain Award to his parents, immigrants from Karachi, Pakistan.

"They have sacrificed a lot for me and have instilled many of the values and principles that I constantly strive to follow and uphold," Ahmed said. "They have always encouraged me to help others, work hard, never quit, be a kind-hearted person and always challenge myself while encouraging me to pursue my own interests and desires. They are my role models and I owe them everything."

WEEKEND: Special events glow as praise flows

Continued from the cover

hundreds of student-held candles making their way across the Houston Mill Bridge was that much more breathtaking.

The Block Party and Concert had previously been held on McDonough Field, which is now out of commission because of construction. That prompted a move

to an actual block (Asbury Circle) and the results were excellent.

No longer fenced in as they were on McDonough, guests (estimated to be about 1,200 over the three-hour event) moved about freely, munching on chili dogs from The Varsity and grooving to the sounds of We Fly Standby and Splitting Images. Both bands consist of Emory students and alumni.

Speaking of grooving, the Torch and Trumpet Soirée, a student and parent dance party at the Emory Conference Center Hotel, began on May 9, and didn't end until around 1:30 a.m. the following morning. In between, music from the Gary Motley Trio and DJ TJ '06C kept the dance floor full.

The weekend wasn't all about partying, though. There were poignant moments as well. For

example, student speaker Samantha Ehrlich '10C addressed some 200 guests at the Corpus Cordis Aureum induction ceremony May 11. Corpus Cordis Aureum is the EAA's special group of alumni from 50 years ago and earlier.

"I cannot begin to imagine what I will be doing 50 years from now," said Ehrlich, co-chair of the Student Alumni Associa-

tion. "I know for a fact that I want to be exactly where you are today, still engaged with my alma mater. I admire each of you for your dedication, your contribution, and your eternal spirit. You inspire me to reach for my goals, you teach me to embrace deeply rooted traditions. Most importantly, you are my friends."

When Ehrlich was finished, few of her friends had dry eyes.

Commencement

OXFORD: Family continues legacy of service



2008 Oxford graduate Shannon Fleming from Chattanooga, Tenn., celebrates Commencement Day with her mom Sonya Fugh.

Continued from the cover

preeminent position in the world to which we have become accustomed," with technology being produced "better and cheaper" elsewhere and increased competition from other rising countries.

What will assure the U.S. and its citizenry a continued leading role in the modern world? What we have always had, says Paul: American ingenuity — the "creativity and sound, innovative judgment of a people who expect each individual to pursue freely. . . self-imposed goals" with the qualities a liberal arts education confers.

"We must know our talents and weaknesses, and encounter what really makes life meaningful for us, or else the spark of creativity has no fuel to allow it to grow and burn brighter," Paul said, encouraging gradu-

ates to be self-aware and self-confident.

Dean of Campus Life Joseph Moon stepped forward to present the Eady Sophomore Service Award to Allison Anne Vinson. Vinson, president of the Oxford Chorale, actively involved in the culinary club and CORE, the environmental awareness club, a lab assistant, and member of Leadership Oxford, represents "what's best about this generation of Oxford students." Those who supported her nomination described Vinson as "creative, positive, loving, spontaneous and caring."

Vinson's family, including father Art Vinson '66Ox-'68C, sister Alexandra Hope Vinson '05Ox, and Jonathan Vinson '91Ox-'99M, has a long and enduring Oxford legacy, and Alexandra was, in fact, the Eady Sophomore Service Award recipient in 2005.

Brothers Mark Daniel '79Ox-'81C and Bill Daniel

'73Ox-'75C, were also in attendance, the only other siblings ever to both receive Eady awards.

Dean of Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer Kent Linville presented the Emory Williams Award for Distinguished Teaching to Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Philosophy Kenneth Anderson. His students said Anderson's "knowledge of the subject matter motivated me," that he had "helped expand my perspective on life," and that he "loves teaching, and what he's teaching."

And then, as Seney Hall's bell struck the hour, and bouquets of fresh flowers were gathered up, and digital cameras flashed, the graduates made their procession.

"Go now," said Shema, who presented the benediction, "and celebrate your accomplishment."

GRADUATES: Science Guy says revel in 'joy of discovery'

Continued from the cover

with Arthur Blank to create The Home Depot.

The joy of philanthropy was the biggest reward of his success, Marcus told the graduates. "Start getting involved now," he said. "Whether you share knowledge or money or time, our world needs your passion, your risk-taking, your enthusiasm, your courage, your wisdom and your leadership."

The United States has been at

war for longer than the graduating seniors have been in college. The average price of a gallon of gas, which seemed high during their freshman year at about \$1.60, has shot up to \$3.60. The country teeters on the brink of recession and the polar ice caps continue to shrink.

But technology, and growing awareness of an interconnected world, heralds the promise of a new era, said Bill Nye during his Class Day speech prior to Commencement.

Revel in "the joy of discovery,"

urged Nye, an engineer, comedian and Emmy-winning TV host, known as "The Science Guy."

He told the graduating seniors to use their brains to innovate a different way of life.

"You need to find ways to do more with less. That's the key," Nye said.

"What will you be doing in 2015?" he asked. "I imagine most of you will have kids, mortgages and back pain. But I hope most of you will also be on your way to changing the world."

RETIREMENTS

Recognition of the retiring members of the faculty, administration, and staff. Date indicates year of initial employment at Emory.

FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS

William Beik (1990)
David Bright (1991)
John Bryan (1968)
Martin J. Buss (1959)
David Cook (1973)
Annick Davies (1966)
Dorinda Evans (1978)
Camelia Flanigan (1979)
Sallie Boineau Freeman (1985)
David Freides (1966)
Richard J. Golden (1976)
David Greene (1983)
Jon P. Gunnemann (1981)
Mary G. Hart (1971)
John H. Hayes (1973)
Joan M. Herold
Joseph B. Justice Jr. (1975)
Charles Frederick Lawe (1983)
Orlando Oscar Lopez (1986)
Francene Chiles Mangham (1983)
Mary A. Merrill (1989)
Stephen B. Miller (1977)
Matthew W. Morris (1978)
William J. Mulcahy (1989)
Lynda P. Nauright (1978)
Lee A. Pederson (1966)
Keith M. Phillips (1988)

Jan Pohl (1987)
Richard B. Rothenberg (1993)
Don E. Saliers (1974)
Todd H. Schill (1989)
Rudolf Schmid (1986)
Robin M. Schreiber (1983)
Irene Seay (1989)
Beth J. Seelig (1991)
A. Tariq Shakoor
M. Thomas Thangaraj (1988)
Claire M. Westdahl (1994)
Martha L. Wright (1995)
Leona G. Young (1961)
Michael D. Zeiler (1969)

STAFF

(25 or more years of service)

Jan Abitz (1980)
Nezzie Allen (1977)
Nancy B. Almond (1975)
Margie Anderson (1966)
Lil Jeanett Bailey (1970)
Morris Bowman Jr. (1967)
Patsy A. Bryan (1972)
Stephanie Cartee-Crowe (1968)
Alice S. Cary (1964)
Judy B. Champaign (1980)
Christine J. Clarke (1963)
C. M. Cobb (1977)

Bessiemere N. Coleman (1974)
Julia M. Crowder (1978)
Ann D. Deryck (1981)
William H. Dickie Jr. (1982)
Linda P. Ferrell (1978)
Carolyn Freck (1976)
Susie George (1972)
Bobbie J. Hatcher (1983)
Joseph W. Holston (1971)
Gloria D. Jefferson (1978)
Sarah Yvonne Jefferson (1979)
Raymond Keith (1966)
Eileen S. Kelley (1977)
Suzette L. Lackey (1976)
Rosa L. Manson (1980)
Florette W. Mayo (1967)
Barbara McManus (1981)
Geraldine Merritt (1973)
Katherine B. Moore (1976)
Sandra M. Moskaluk (1977)
Mabel Elaine Nelson (1981)
Linda Parrett (1967)
Margie S. Rosiek (1978)
Barbara A. Sterkins (1976)
James E. Thomas (1959)
Suzan D. Tibor (1967)
Marie E. Viallet (1979)
Barbara Louis Ward (1976)
Michael C. Ward (1979)
Sarah Lee Wynn (1970)

Eleanor Main's spirit present on big day



In honor of his late doctoral adviser, Eric Wearne graduated in Eleanor Main's gown.

BRYAN MELTZ

By MARY LOFTUS

Commencement was especially meaningful for Eric Wearne, who received his Ph.D. in educational studies on May 12. Although Wearne lost his adviser, Eleanor Main, director of Emory's Division of Educational Studies, to cancer on Feb. 8, he wore her gown in the ceremony.

"We developed a relationship over my time at the University," said Wearne, who is director of data analysis in the Governor's Office of Student Achievement in Atlanta. "She was always kind and generous

with her time and energy with me, but I think she was that way with everybody. She also had real, practical knowledge of how things work in government and schools. She passed away right before my [dissertation] defense, but this kind of lets her be there at the very end with me."

"Dr. Main was encircling him with her presence and her gown," said Charles Howard Candler Professor of Educational Studies Carole Hahn to the DES faculty and graduate students lined up for the ceremony.

8

Commencement



Oxford graduates (from left to right) Paula Zwillich and Kelsey Zimmerman prepare to graduate.

KAY HINTON



The Atlanta Pipe Band leads the procession.

BRYAN MELTZ



SGA President Emily Allen carries the mace.

BRYAN MELTZ



Graduate Collin Richardson earned a Master of Music.

BRYAN MELTZ



Emory College graduate Carol Caudill gets ready with the help of her sorority sisters.

BRYAN MELTZ



Emory College graduate Daniel Kaufman gets a hug from his grandmother.

BRYAN MELTZ