SNAPSHOT

Oh boy! Tickets for Tut

“Hotlanta” turned into “Tutlanta” Sept. 9, as tickets became available for the upcoming exhibition, “Tutankhamun: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs.” The first tickets to see treasures from the boy king’s tomb went to 40 first-graders from Morningside Elementary School from sponsor Northern Trust at a Carlos Museum launch event.

The Carlos Museum will present “Tutankhamun” at the Atlanta Civic Center from Nov. 15 to May 25. The exhibition is organized by National Geographic, AEG Exhibitions and Arts and Exhibitions International, with cooperation from the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities. For tickets and information visit www.kingtut.org or carlos.emory.edu. See “Soundbites,” page 7.

Theory meets reality in redesigned MBA

By VICTOR ROGERS

This fall Full-Time MBA students at Goizueta Business School began classes two weeks earlier than in previous years. The early start is just one of several changes under the school’s new Full-Time MBA curriculum, designed to better equip students for a lifetime of success.

“Our new curriculum actively integrates classroom theory and business reality,” says J.B. Kurish, associate dean of the Full-Time MBA Program and associate professor of finance. 

“In a new course, Management Practice, faculty and business leaders guide students as they embrace the complexity of current business challenges. This practice of navigating through complex issues ensures Goizueta graduates are well-prepared to address today’s challenges and capitalize on tomorrow’s opportunities.”

Last fall Goizueta faculty approved key structural changes to the Full-Time MBA curriculum, including more links between management theory and practice, greater degrees of freedom for students to pursue a concentration earlier in their studies, and better integration of courses, career planning and leadership development.

Why change the curriculum?

Corporations are demanding more from their newly hired MBAs — and sooner. In addition, there are new realities of business including globalization; heightened complexity of business environments; an acceleration in the pace of change; and an increased focus on data-driven decision-making.

These factors combined make curriculum reform a key competitive tool among top business schools. Before designing the new curriculum, the MBA Curriculum Committee conducted extensive research that included surveying Goizueta alumni and current students, employers, and deans of other leading business schools, as well as benchmarking Goizueta’s curriculum with other top MBA programs.

New Ethics leader to embrace hard issues

By ELAINE JUSTICE

Paul Root Wolpe isn’t afraid to ask the big questions. In fact, Emory’s new director of the Center for Ethics seems to thrive on them.

“What should happen to the body if an astronaut dies in space?” he asked in an article last winter for Popular Science. Last fall while visiting Emory, Wolpe lectured on “Is My Mind Mine?” Neuroethics, Privacy and the Fifth Amendment.”

Wolpe, who also serves as the first chief of bioethics for NASA, assured readers that if the astronaut death happened on a short mission to the moon, “the craft would turn around and come back. But it gets thornier if the astronauts are on Mars, or even halfway there.”

“Thornier” is Wolpe’s forte, and he’s delighted to be at Emory. As he settles in at the Center’s new home in the heart of campus, Wolpe says that as an ethicist, there is nowhere else he would rather be.

Homecoming Weekend to be filled with celebration

By ERIC RANGUS

Emory Homecoming Weekend, which begins Friday, Sept. 26, and runs through Sunday, Sept. 28, has in recent years truly become a campus-wide celebration. And this year, the accent is on “celebration.”

Celebration Emory is one of the highlights of this year’s Homecoming calendar, and the entire Emory community is invited. Celebration Emory, the public launch of Campaign Emory, will take place on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 5 p.m. on the Clairmont Campus. Co-hosts President Jim Wagner and
Finding his focus

Gymnast turned mathematician is driven by precision

By CAROL CLARK

Jim Nagy is a leader in the field of using math and scientific computation to sharpen blurry images, for everything from medical to security applications. But right after high school, he had only a fuzzy picture of his future.

“I worked in a factory, driving a forklift and loading trucks. I didn’t have a vision for the future. I didn’t have a vision for anything from medical to security applications. But right after high school, he had only a fuzzy picture of his future.”

“He has to baby his left shoulder to this day due to his past injuries, but Nagy has no regrets, crediting gymnastics with helping him become more focused and organized. Inspired by a professor who used math and computers to solve problems with signal and image processing, Nagy found a new passion and went on to get his doctorate degree and conduct research in this emerging field. Just as digital cameras break images into tiny pixels, Nagy takes complicated equations surrounding imaging and cancer screening. ‘Medical imaging is a tricky thing.’ Nagy says. ‘For one thing, your lungs and heart are continuously moving, causing blurring. And you have to radiate someone. The main problem is, how do you get a good image and, at the same time, limit the radiation dose to a person?’

Tomoynthesis is a new technology, not yet approved for clinical purposes, that uses conventional X-ray technology to provide more three-dimensional views. ‘If a tumor is small, it can easily be hidden,’ Nagy explains. ‘By rotating the X-ray in a spiral, and using several projections — filtered to capture different kinds of information — you can get more perspectives and more data.’

The task for Nagy and graduate student Juliana Chung is to develop algorithms and software that can translate the data gathered by tomosynthesis into clear images that can be easily read by radiologists. ‘As computers get faster and faster, some people think you should be able to solve any problem, but that’s not true,’ Nagy explains. ‘Actually, the faster the computers get, the harder the problems become that you want to solve.”
**ETHICS: Wolpe sees center for real change**

Alysse Meyer was named the Sports Imports/AmERICAN VOLLEYBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION Division III National Player of the Week following her performances at the Emory Classic Sept. 5-6. She is just the fifth Emory player in volleyball history to have earned that award.

Students can come in, throw down the challenge and engage in a conversation or read a book,” he says. A forthcoming program on ethics at the movies will take students from viewing films that deal with ethical issues to participating in student discussion groups. In selected cases, says Wolpe, those discussions will lead to students taking action in the community.

“The Center’s desire is to be a resource for and a help to the Atlanta community,” says Wolpe. “We’re committed to being not just an insulated, intellectual, monastic kind of Center, but rather an expansive place where ideas can lead to palpable change.”

**Eagle’s Meyer spikes her way to prestigious volleyball honor**

**By JOHN FARINA**

Alysse Meyer was named the Sports Imports/AmERICAN VOLLEYBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION Division III National Player of the Week following her performances at the Emory Classic Sept. 5-6. She is just the fifth player in Emory volleyball history to have earned that award.

**ACCLAIM**

Matthew Morris, associate professor of French at Oxford College, co-directed a three-day international colloquium in June at the Centre d’Études Supérieures de Civilisation Médiévale, an arm of France’s Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, on the colloquium, “Enracinement, écriture et réécriture du merveilleux Néerlandais: Autour de Médiévica,” was co-sponsored by Emory and the University of Poitiers in Poitiers, France. The University’s payroll department received the Prism award for Best Processes from the American Payroll Association. The department has been ranked as number one in the nation for best practice payroll processes.

The award was given for the processes that the department’s team developed to certify, train and test more than 400 timekeepers for the university’s automatic time and attendance program.

Team members include: Beth Cox, Rhonda Foster, Joleen Mitchell, Amber Sims, Stacy Taylor and Evin Wilson.

Jagdish Sheth, Charles H. Kellstadt Professor of Marketing at the Goizueta Business School, was a winner of the World Trade Center Atlanta’s 2008 Governor’s International Awards presented Aug. 23.

The awards recognize the achievements of Georgia-based companies and individuals in four categories: international trade, international education, international trade, international education, and individual contributions to the international community.

Sheth was the winner in the individual contributions to the international community category.

The Emory tennis team won the Peach Belt Conference championship. Team members include: Anita Bellard, postdoctoral fellow in pathology in the School of Medicine; Dan Brat, professor of pathology; Carrie Eggers, captain, lead research specialist at Winship Cancer Institute; Adam Marcus, assistant professor at Winship; Valerie Lockhart, Oxford College athletics staff, John Nickerson, associate professor of administration; and Hilary Rosenthal, Winship research specialist.

Emory, in its first year of playing together, beat Texas’ Insurance in the semifinals and the King & Spalding law firm in the finals. The team’s trophy is on display in the Winship labs.
EMORY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

MBA: Changes offer greater flexibility

Over the next few months Emory will begin the transition to a new mail services provider, IKON.

Why is Emory undertaking a consolidation of its mail services?

Three mail vendors currently serve Emory University Hospital, The Emory Clinic and the academic and administrative units of the University. Emory is consolidating services with one provider in order to improve service levels and customer service; streamline the management and oversight of the service provider; promote improved accountability with one provider instead of several; and in the long run lower the costs for these services.

What does this consolidation mean for me?

In the short term, with any major change such as this there will be a period of transition with some bumps for everyone on campus. Most people will not notice any major changes right away during the transition, but your patience is requested. Longer term, Emory hopes to have an improved overall system.

When will the transition to mail services providers begin and how long will the transition take?

Details of this transition and plans for the order way, and will continue over the next several months. A transition team with Emory staff, IKON employees and Pitney Bowes staff are working daily on this transition. The tentative phase-in schedule allows for transitions to the new contract by Oct. 1 for Emory Hospitals; Nov. 1 for Emory University; and Jan. 1 for The Emory Clinic.

Why was IKON selected as Emory’s mail services provider?

After a national search and thorough the RFP process, IKON was chosen due to its national reputation, technology focus, leadership and proven track record of service on other campuses and on Emory’s campus within Emory Healthcare.

Who provided input during the selection process?

This business review started over a year ago, and included formal vendor presentations and vendor interviews in spring 2008, with business representatives from The Emory Clinic, Emory’s hospitals, Emory University and Emory Healthcare administration, Campus Life and student leadership to directly collect their input and suggestions regarding the search and selection. In 2007, an advisory group was formed that included representatives from across campus, who were charged with reviewing Emory’s mail functions from both service and cost perspectives. In addition, a campus-wide survey was e-mailed in November 2007 in order for every member of the faculty and staff and every student to provide feedback on mail services.

If I have problems with my mail, what should I do?

For unresolved issues, contact the mail services hotline at 404-712-8759. A new director of Emory support services will be hired shortly to work on mail services related issues.

Symposium set on AIDS vaccine

A symposium, “Working Towards an AIDS Vaccine,” will be held Friday, Sept. 19, from 7-9 p.m. in the Bourne Seminar Room of the Yerkes National Primate Research Center. The symposium honors Henry L. Edelman and Aas Graig Candler Professor of Microbiology and Immunology. A reception will follow.

Guest speakers include Thomas Hope of Northwestern University; Rama Rao Amara of the Emory University Center; David Masopust of the University of Minnesota; Eric Mishkin of Vaccines and the Immune System and Robert A. Sedor and Barney S. Graham of the National Institutes of Health.

Goizueta Business School’s new Full-Time MBA curriculum is designed to better equip students for a lifetime of success.

Goizueta Business School’s new Full-Time MBA curriculum (on pg 4) is designed to better equip students for a lifetime of success.

The renovated curriculum provides students with greater degrees of flexibility — the ability to pursue greater depth of study in a chosen concentration earlier in their plan of study. Students will complete all but one of their core courses by the end of the first semester, and will complete twice as many elective courses before going into their summer internships.

The new curriculum is better integrated, with broad recommendations on core course content and its timing. The committee’s research highlighted the need for enhanced rigor, and continued emphasis on building analytical skills.

The core class structure is redesigned to improve the sequencing of courses and their content, eliminate duplication of material across classes, and to achieve better integration. There also is explicit structure to better integrate career planning and leadership into the curriculum.

The experience has surpassed my expectations,” says Korey White, a first-year MBA student who was an engineer and collegiate basketball coach. “The learning has been tremendous. It is transforming my thought process on how to engage with people, and control my emotional intelligence.”

The new curriculum will help students like first-year MBA student Julie Feld, who has a lib- eral arts background, worked in public relations, and wants to broaden her skill set and gain a better understanding of overall business functions.

“The curriculum is most appealing because students now have more electives open,” Feld says. “Also, for career switchers, it provides some self-selection in terms of which classes are most interesting, and an understand- ing of one’s own strengths before getting too far along in the pro- gram.”

First-year MBA Daniel Grahm is looking at the long-term gains provided by the new curriculum.

“If [the faculty and adminis- tration] are committed to build- ing a better experience and bet- ter institution, I will benefit from that mindset for years to come — not just for the two years I am in school,” says Graham.

Symposium on mental health advances

“Healthy Minds Across America,” a free public forum featuring Emory experts dis- cussing the latest advances for mental health disorders, will be held Thursday, Sept. 14, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the Winship Cancer Institute, Building C. The Emory School of Medicine and the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression (NARSAD) will sponsor the event.

The forum, which will include question-and-answer sessions with each of the experts, is one of 48 same- day events across the United States to highlight mental health awareness. The event is expected to reopen library.emory.edu/services/ level%207/retrievals.html.

The forum can be accessed at healthyminds@narsad.org or 1-800-829-8289.

Construction in Library’s Level 7

Faculty, staff and students are reminded that Stack Lev- el 7’s redevelopment remains closed for renovation. A new director at Stack Level 7 numbers F101 through H3, which include anthropology, business, Canadian history, economics, geography, Latin American history and statistics — are housed off-site in temporary storage. Request L7 books online at http://library.emory.edu/services/ stack/archives/venezuelanlevel%207/retrievals.html.

Level 7 is the fourth of six stack levels to be fully reengineered to improve the accessibility to users on campus. Level 7 is expected to be ready in January 2009.

Academics:

Classes Without Quizzes on Saturday, Sept. 27, features talks by faculty members Drew Westen, professor of psychiatry and psychology, and Carol Newcomb, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Old Testament. Westen will present “The Political Brain,” which explores how emotion and reason collide in politics, and Newcomb will discuss angels and demons in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Athletics:

The annual Birdies for Eagles golf tournament in Stone Mountain kicks off the weekend’s festivities Friday morning. Sept. 26, and alumni softball, volleyball and baseball games spice up Saturday afternoon. Saturday night, Sept. 27, is the first annual Emory Sports Hall of Fame Induction ceremony. Emory’s volleyball and men’s soccer teams have home games as well.

Dooley Statue Unveiling: On Friday, Sept. 26, at a statue unveiling ceremony, the late Emory president will be dedicated on Ashby Circle, following the Homecoming parade and followed by a tailgate and soccer game.

Building Dedication: The dedication of the new home for the Candler School of Theology and the Center for Ethics takes place Thursday, Sept. 25.

More Homecoming highlights

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Expanding Bike Emory adds spin to commuting

By DAVID PAYNE

The innovative commuting program Bike Emory is entering its second year in high gear, including the debut of a Fuji bicycle that was custom-designed for the campus, based on feedback from the program participants.

The Fuji Paliade 1.0 comes in “Emory Blue,” has a sleek, retro look, and features a rack for carrying books and a bell. Additionally, a range of Fuji bicycles are available to members of the Emory community at deeply discounted prices until mid-October.

“Bike Emory supports the University’s transportation and sustainability goals,” says Jamie Smith, senior program associate of the Clifton Community Partnership and director of the Bike Emory program. “We want to develop a great bike culture on our campus, because for every person who chooses to bike, that’s one less car on the roads around Emory.”

Launching in August 2007, Bike Emory grew out of the Clifton Community Partnership — a University initiative to improve the quality of life within a roughly three-mile radius of the campus. Emory partnered with national bike maker Fuji Bicycles and locally owned Bicycle South to design the program, which is the first of its kind in the nation.

In addition to the discounted bike offers, the program includes mobile on-campus bike repair, classes in bike safety and group rides. For those who live too far away to commute to Emory by bike or don’t own one, the program’s bike share component allows them to hop on a borrowed bike for jaunts around campus.

The bike share feature began in April with a fleet of 20 bikes that have been checked out more than 300 times during the summer months. The bike-share fleet more than doubled in September to bring the total to six bike checkout stations and 50 available bikes.

“Over the coming year, we’re going to keep expanding, adding even more bike-share locations and more bike racks and other facilities,” Smith says.

Bike Emory gears up during Orientation Weekend.

More reasons to ride

• New bike share stations are now open at the SAAC and the Dobbs University Center. Within its first week, 135 bikes were checked out of the SAAC station.
• Want to ride on the weekend? Bikes can be checked out seven days a week at the SAAC and DUC bike share stations.
• Buy any 2009 Fuji model bike for 2008 model prices if you order by Oct. 1.
• Emory Healthcare employees get a special $50 gift certificate good at Bicycle South, a free helmet, u-lock, and rear light when they purchase a bike through bike.emory.edu.
• Bike Emory meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at the Dobbs University Center. Next meeting: Sept. 17, 6 p.m., DUC 363.

For more information, visit bike.emory.edu.

GUIDE TO EMORY GOVERNANCE GROUPS

Six governance groups representing broad constituencies across the University are charged with advising campus administrators on issues of concern to their communities. Elected representatives of each group are expected to carry forward information and points of discussion back to their constituencies.

Employee Council

What It Does: Facilitates communication between employees and the University administration; advocates for issues of concern for all University employees; and represents the perspective of employees to the administration.

When It Meets: Every third Wednesday from noon to 2 p.m., in the Jones Room, Woodruff Library. First meeting: Sept. 17.

Key Events/Issues: This year’s theme is “Talk to Me: Communication in Community.” Communication-building and effective communication will be promoted with part of each meeting devoted to training for better communication in person, via e-mail, in writing.

For More Information: Matt Engelhardt, president; www.employee.council.emory.edu

President’s Commission on the Status of Women

What It Does: Serves as an advisory board to the president on issues related to Emory women and seeks to advance women’s interests at the University.

When It Meets: Third Wednesday of each month, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Jones Room, Woodruff Library (Oct. 15 will be held at Yerkes Primate Center).

For More Information: Joyce King, chair; www.pcswomen.emory.edu

President’s Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Concerns

What It Does: Serves as a forum for matters of concern to LGBT persons across the University; advises the president on implementing commission recommendations; conducts studies and develops and supports programs to reduce homophobia and heterosexism.

When It Meets: Third Tuesday of each month from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the Jones Room, Woodruff Library. First meeting: Sept. 16.

For More Information: Jennifer Thompson, graduate assistant, jthomp@emory.edu; or www.emory.edu/SCALGBTC

University Senate

What It Does: Represents every constituency of the University; serves as a forum on initiatives and proposals that affect the University as a whole. It is comprised of faculty, staff and students.

When It Meets: Monthly, 3:15 p.m. to 5 p.m., in the Jones Room, Woodruff Library. First meeting: Sept. 17. Key Events/Issues: Last year’s efforts to make the Senate more vital to the University will continue. The Senate will also follow through on its recycling initiative. A Senate committee is expected to be created to make recommendations for implementing the service resolution that passed last year.

For More Information: Jennifer Thompson, graduate assistant, jthomp@emory.edu; or www.emory.edu/Senate

More key events and issues:

President’s Commission on Race and Ethnicity

What It Does: Serves as a forum for discussion and analysis of race and ethnicity on campus and of national import; develops and supports activities that enhance the presence of persons of color and strengthen the community of color at Emory.

When It Meets: Third Monday of every month at 3 p.m. First meeting: Sept. 15 in Administration 450.

Key Events/Issues: The major focus will be collaborating with the other commissions to discuss recommendations made over the last 10 years to see if there are major issues that may need revisiting.

For More Information: Blanche Burch, chair; www.pcrace.emory.edu

For More Information: Jessica Lowry, co-chair; www.emory.edu/PCLGBTC/

More key events and issues:

For More Information: Jessica Lowry, co-chair; www.emory.edu/PCLGBTC/

For More Information: Jon Bou; www.emory.edu/SCA

--- Leslie King
Psychology of baseball a hit

By CAROL CLARK

“That the Cubs could be in the World Series, 100 years after they last won it, is a beautiful thing to contemplate,” says Hillary Rodman, associate professor of psychology and director of the program in Neuroscience and Animal Behavior.

Stadium, where she rooted for the New York Mets. “I can remember when my favorite pitcher, Tom Seaver, lost what had been a no-hitter at the very last possible point in the game,” she says. “I was in high school, and I couldn’t focus on my studies the next day. I sat on the steps outside of the building and cried.”

Rodman occasionally leads a popular seminar called “Science and Myth of Baseball.” What goes on in the mind of a pitcher during the final minutes of a close game? How does practicing to hit a baseball flying at 95 miles per hour change a player’s brain? Are mental stimulants and elaborate conditioning routines actually having a greater effect on the sport than steroids? And why do the fans care so much about it all?

Rodman and students tackle those questions and others. The students attend Braves games observing fan behavior in the stands, and review videotaped plays, to discuss topics such as the psychology and neural basis of decision-making.

The next time she teaches the course, it will be supplemented with a new book, “Your Brain on Cubs: Inside the Heads of Players and Fans,” a collection of essays on neuroscience and sports, recently published by the Dana Center in Washington, D.C. Rodman co-authored the final chapter, titled “It Isn’t Whether You Win or Lose. It’s Whether You Win. Agony and Ecstasy in the Brain.”

When athletes suffer a defeat, they undergo measurable hormonal reactions. “You can see those same hormonal changes in the fans watching,” Rodman says. “There is a lot of interest in neuroscience recently in how people vicariously experience the emotions of others.”

Rodman was an only child of parents who had little money but a lot of passion for baseball. Enduring years of low moments with the Mets finally paid off big for her when the Mets won the World Series in 1986. “I have a flashback memory of it,” she says, her eyes lighting up. “I was in graduate school at the time, watching the game in my friend’s living room in Princeton. They hadn’t won the Series since 1969.”

Zen practice speeds minds’ recovery

By QUINN EASTMAN

Experienced Zen meditators can clear their minds of distractions more quickly than novices, according to a new brain imaging study.

After being interrupted by a word-recognition task, experienced meditators’ brains returned faster to their pre-interruption condition, Emory researchers found. The results were published in the September issue of PLoS (Public Library of Science) ONE.

Emory psychiatry researcher Giuseppe Pagnoni, who recently moved to University of Modena and Reggio Emilia in Italy, and his co-workers used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to examine changes in blood flow in the brain when people meditating were interrupted.

Scientists have previously observed that for most people, the brain looks quite active even when they’re not doing anything in particular.

“A consistent set of brain regions display higher activity during wakeful rest than during a variety of demanding tasks,” the authors write. That set of regions is sometimes called the “default network.”

After interruption, experienced meditators were able to bring activity in parts of the brain back to baseline faster than novice meditators.

That skill could be an important tool against psychiatric conditions such as obsessive-compulsive disorder, where patients display excessive rumination or the increased production of task-unrelated thoughts, Pagnoni says.

“Cell bodies in the arteri- al walls called dendritic cells act like smoke-sensing fire alarms for the immune system, says immunologist Cornelia Weyand. “All of our major arteries have this alarm system,” she says. “To our surprise, we found that the arteries of the neck, the arms, the abdomen and the legs are triggered by different infectious organisms.”

Some vascular diseases attack arteries only in the abdo- men or in the neck and upper extremities, and this selectivity has puzzled doctors for years, Weyand said.

To probe the differences among arteries, Weyand and her colleagues examined the activity of genes that encode Toll-like receptors in blood vessels from human donors. Each type of artery had a different set of Toll-like receptor genes turned on.

Toll-like receptors are a cornerstone of the “innate” immune system. The capture of bacterial or viral fragments through Toll-like receptors can result in mononuclear reactions. “You can see those same hormonal changes in the fans watching,” Rodman says. “There is a lot of interest in neuroscience recently in how people vicariously experience the emotions of others.”

Weyand hypothesized that the dendritic cells in arteries are mainly performing a protective, calming function. For example, the reason cells in the iliac arteries, located in the vicinity of the gut, respond avidly to flagellae may be because of the abundant bacterial flora that inhabits the gut, she said.

Arteries from distinct body regions have unique alarm functions

By QUINN EASTMAN

Human arteries play distinct roles in the immune system depending on their anatomic location. Emory researchers have discovered.

Their findings explain why vascular diseases affect different parts of the arterial network and could help doctors fine-tune the treatment of such diseases as atherosclerosis and vasculitis. Atherosclerosis causes heart attacks and strokes because it occurs preferentially in arteries supplying the heart and the brain.

The results were published online Sept. 2 by the journal Circulation.

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Toll-like receptors are a corner- stone of the “innate” immune system. The capture of bacterial or viral fragments through Toll-like receptors alert the immune system early during an infec- tious attack. Toll-like receptors can respond to whip-like anten- nas on bacteria called flagellae, parts of bacterial cell walls, or DNA and RNA that leaks from viruses or bacteria.

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Some vascular diseases attack arteries only in the abdo- men or in the neck and upper extremities, and this selectivity has puzzled doctors for years, Weyand said.

To probe the differences among arteries, Weyand and her colleagues examined the activity of genes that encode Toll-like receptors in blood vessels from human donors. Each type of artery had a different set of Toll-like receptor genes turned on.

Toll-like receptors are a corner- stone of the “innate” immune system. The capture of bacterial or viral fragments through Toll-like receptors alert the immune system early during an infec- tious attack. Toll-like receptors can respond to whip-like anten- nas on bacteria called flagellae, parts of bacterial cell walls, or DNA and RNA that leaks from viruses or bacteria.

Weyand hypothesized that the dendritic cells in arteries are mainly performing a protective, calming function. For example, the reason cells in the iliac arteries, located in the vicinity of the gut, respond avidly to flagellae may be because of the abundant bacterial flora that inhabits the gut, she said.

Arteries from distinct body regions have unique alarm functions

By QUINN EASTMAN

Human arteries play distinct roles in the immune system depending on their anatomic location. Emory researchers have discovered.

Their findings explain why vascular diseases affect different parts of the arterial network and could help doctors fine-tune the treatment of such diseases as atherosclerosis and vasculitis. Atherosclerosis causes heart attacks and strokes because it occurs preferentially in arteries supplying the heart and the brain.

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Arteries from distinct body regions have unique alarm functions
Lessons from Ethiopia

By DANIELLE SMITH

When I told people I was spending two months of my sum- mer in Ethiopia, the general re- action was, “Why?” I feel Ethi-opia, more so than any other African country, has been stig- matized in the U.S. as a place of poverty, suffering and general misery. When one thinks of Ethiopia, they have not be far from this stereotype.

While it is true that in my obser- vations at a free ART (anti-retroviral therapy) clinic for pa- tients with HIV/AIDS I encountered many heart- wrenching social situations, it would be a horrible injustice to such an amazing country to characterize it only by these neg- ative aspects. I found an atmos- phere that I felt I had not pre- viously encountered, but I learned that during the two months here about compassion then I have in my entire life spent in the U.S.

While in Ethiopia, I divided my time between entering data for Kenneth Mase, a Ph.D. can- didate in the anthropology de- partment here at Emory, and shadowing the physicians at the ALERT (All African Leprosy and Rehabilitation Training Centre) hospital who work in the ART clinics.

The hospital provides free services and medications to the citizens of Addis Ababa, an invaluable service that has result- ed in the treatment of thousands of HIV-positive people as well as those suffering from tuberculosis, leprosy and dermatological problems. The availability of these medications to the people of Addis Ababa has drastically improved the living conditions and made it possible to view HIV not as a death sentence, but as a manageable chronic disease.

It is also true that Ethiopia is a very poor country, and in the two years the clinic has been established, 1,000 patients have received ser- vices with only 13 deaths. These remarkable numbers attest to the changing medical conditions in Ethiopia and the country’s growth.

For example, one of the first- line drugs used in the ART clinic is Stavudine (or dd4T). This par- ticular drug is now used rarely in the U.S. and Europe due to serous side effects including per-ipherical neuropathy and lip- oedymphy, the wasting of fat from a certain area of the body, and its appearance as a “buffalo hump” on another.

The fact that we do not hold Ethiopia and other countries in Africa to the same stan- dards of care as in the U.S. ex- emplifies the indifferent attitude our country takes toward places we don’t view as “advancing.”

So much of what I learned while in Ethiopia came from in- depth conversations with the Ethiopian physicians at the clin- ic and the 2008 Goodrich research assistant with whom I lived. Se- lam, currently obtaining her medical degree at a school in Addis Ababa, became a close friend and confidant. I will continue communication with her, and have spent time visiting her mother, uncle and cousin who live in Atlanta.

I am already making plans to go back to Ethiopia and visit her. She helped me make sense of so many of the things I saw, as much as one can make sense of some of the scenes of horrific poverty and suffering that occur there.

I was able to understand how the U.S. seems to people living their daily lives in a place like Ethiopia, both the mispercep- tions and the incredibly accurate assessments they make. For ex- ample, anyone growing up in the U.S. takes for granted that our family structure and ways of re- lating to closest kin are the “right way” to do things.

However, Ethiopians are ap- palled by our treatment of our elders. When I told Selam that it is common to place an elderly parent in a nursing home and visit him or her only on occasion, she was shocked. She explained that would never happen in Ethiopia, because children take care of their parents just as the parents took care of their chil- dren for so many years. Maybe this is an area where we could learn a thing or two from the Ethiopian way of life.

I could provide endless exam- ples of ways my views were changed in the time I spent in this amazing country. But my bottom line to most people, when they ask me about my experi- ence, is that the first image when they think of Ethiopia should not be one of a starving child begging on the street.

It should be one of an unbe- lievably rich culture with a unique and beautiful language, fantastic food, gorgeous moun- tain ranges, and most of all warm and welcoming people.

While it is crucial not to ig- nore the many problems that ex- ist in a country like Ethiopia, it is also essential not to let them take center stage.

Diane Smith (left) lunches with the physicians she shadowed while in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where she was also assisting an Emory doctoral student with anthropology

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Jared Diamond, best-sell- ing author of “Guns, Germs, and Steel” and winner of the Pulitzer Prize, will present the 2008 Goodrich Lecture on “How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed” on Oct. 15 in Emory’s new Carlos Museum.

The public lecture will be at 7:30 p.m. in The Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts. Diamond, a professor of geog- raphy and physiology at UCLA, has captivated readers and audiences by his powerful nar- ratives of the rise and collapse — and tenuous future — of human societies. Ranging across the disciplines of ecology, anthropology, linguistics, history, geogra- phy, physiology and genetics, he follows in the great intellectual tradition of such scientist-writ- ers as Stephen Jay Gould and Lewis Thomas. A recipient of a MacArthur Foundation “genius” grant, he is also the author of the soon-to-be-published “The Evolution and Future of the Human Animal.”

Diamond, deputy to the president and chair of the White Lecture Committee, said that the committee had zeroed in on Diamond because he meets the lecturership’s aim of appeal- ing to a broad spectrum of the University community.

“Every generation has its poly- math interpreter of where we are and where we are going,” says Haik. “In my undergraduate days it was Buckminster Fuller. Today it’s Jared Diamond.”

Sponsored by the DVS Senior Group and Emory’s President’s Office, the White Lecture was established in memory of Emory’s 14th president, a 1908 graduate of Emory College and later dean of the College and vice president of the University. White served as president from 1942 until retiring in 1957.

The lecture series, which has been dormant for more than a decade, is being re-inaugurated after an endowment campaign by DVS alumni, who raised $250,000 for the lecture series.

This year’s lecture also ben- efits from support by the Emory Program in Linguistics.
Events

**ADVANCE NOTICE**

**Advance Notice**

Celebration kicks off campaign

Emory faculty, staff, students, and visitors will gather on Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Clairmont campus for a celebration, cultural performance and reception honoring the public launch of CampusCommons.org, an ambitious effort in Emory’s history to leverage the University’s people, programs and places through the power of private support.

At Celebration Emory, President Jim Wagner and Emory Alumni Board President Chuck Divine will announce the public roll-out of CampusCommons.org, at 5 p.m. and include the Cirque du Soleil performance of “Varekai” to focus on the University’s history to leverage the University’s people, programs and places through the power of private support.

The series is coordinated by the Office of Advancement and Strategic Partnerships in the Office of the Provost and co-sponsored by the Faculty Council. All lectures will be at 4 p.m. in the Jonsom Room of the Woodruff Library.

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**SEASON ROUNDUP**

**Collaborations and guests highlight ‘08-09 dance season**

**sept. 25, 8 p.m.**

**Dance for Reel: An Evening of Dance on Camera.**

The academic year’s first lecture in the Life of the Mind series features Dance Waller, professor of biologists at the Rollins School of Public Health. Speaking Sept. 25 on “Maps, Mysteries, and Medicine,” Waller will discuss how research using maps and spatial information can help reveal ways to promote conservation and fight diseases.

The Provost’s Office created the Life of the Mind series to enhance the intellectual life of the entire Emory community. The series offers an accessible and engaging opportunity for staff, students, and faculty to discuss with faculty across many disciplines the many ways in which Emory moderates the way it conducts their research.

The series is coordinated and sponsored by the Office of Academic and Strategic Partnerships in the Office of the Provost and co-sponsored by the Faculty Council. All lectures will be at 4 p.m. in the Jones Room of the Woodruff Library.

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**Free films hit on kung fu, classics**

By **JESSICA MOORE**

The Film Studies Department and Emory College present Emory Cinematheque, free Wednesday night 35mm films.

The season kicked off with screenings of “My Beautiful Laundrette” and “Versus,” honoring author/screenwriter Hanif Kureishi’s campus visit.

“Little Children” (Sept. 17), starring Kate Winslet, will be shown on the occasion of actor, writer and director Todd Field’s visit for the Artists & Critics Panel with film critic A.O. Scott and Emory’s Matthew Bernstein (Sept. 18, 4 p.m., Carlos Museum). The “International Movie Classics to 1938” series begins with Gloria Swanson in “The Golem” (Sept. 24) and the German silent film “Metropolis” (Oct. 1). Other films include: “My Week With the Movie Camera” (Oct. 8), “Modern Times” (Oct. 15), “M” (Oct. 22), “The Scarlet Empress” (Oct. 29), “A Story of Floating Woods” (Nov. 5), “My Man Godfrey” (Nov. 12), “Le Roman d’un Tricheur” (Nov. 19) and “Alexander Nevsky” (Dec. 3). A special screening of the silent martial arts film “Red Heroine” with live accompaniment by David Stiege Ensemble is set for Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Unless otherwise noted, screenings are at 8 p.m. in White Hall 205. For more information, visit www.filmstudies.emory.edu.

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**Film, fashion focus of ‘Artists & Critics’**

The first of two “Artists & Critics” free panel discussions examines film as a means of creativity, expression, entertainment, communication and, ultimately, manipulation.

On Sept. 18 at 4 p.m. at the Carlos Museum, New York Times film critic A.O. Scott and Todd Field, screenwriter and director, will discuss their craft and its relation to other presenter’s roles and the public. Matthew Bernstein, professor and chair of Emory’s Film Studies Department, moderates.

Fashion is the focus of the next Artists & Critics panel in November.

For information: www.creativity.emory.edu. Listings are subject to space limitations.

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**Special**

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**

**Interfaith Prayer Breakfast.**


**Farmers’ Market.**

11 a.m. Cox Hall Bridge. Free. 404-727-6374. Every Tuesday.

**Wednesday, Sept. 17**

**Toomastovers.**


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**Visual Arts**

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Andy Warhol.**


**Friday, Sept. 19**

**“Tutelars.”**


**Thursday, Sept. 18**

**“Redux 2011: Unexpected Connections Between Diet and Toxic Stress.”**

Dean Jones, Emory pulmonologist, presenting. 9 a.m. Emory University, 500 Ponce de Leon Ave. Free. 404-778-7777.

**Saturday, Sept. 17**

**“Babies & Kids/Baby Food.”**

Emory Healthcare, presenting. 6:30 p.m. Whole Foods Market (600 Ponce de Leon Ave.). Free. 404-778-7777.

**Wednesday, Sept. 17**

**“It’s Shocking: Electrosurgery.”**

Stephen Weiss, Emory gynecologist and obstetrician, presenting. 8 a.m. Steiner Auditorium, Grady Health System, 860. Free. 404-727-6401.

**Tuesday, Sept. 16**

**“From Bread Basket to Basket Case: The History of Zimbabwe.”**

Geoffrey Nyarota, The Zimbabwe Times, presenting. 4 p.m. Emory High Center. Free. 404-727-6402.

**Monday, Sept. 15**

**“Bringing the War home: Between Diet and Oxidative Stress.”**

Dean Jones, Emory pulmonologist, presenting. 9 a.m. Emory University, 500 Ponce de Leon Ave. Free. 404-778-7777.