Evolution Revolution’ looks back and ahead

By CAROL CLARK

Evolution is a fact of life, happening not just over millennia, but over decades as a booming human population, globalization and scientific breakthroughs drive change faster than ever. An Emory public symposium, “Evolution Revolution: Science Changing Life,” will feature some of the world’s leading scientists, from Emory and beyond, to discuss how technology and growing knowledge of our origins may affect our future.

“Evolution Revolution” anticipates the 200th anniversary in 2009 of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of “On the Origin of Species.” The two-day event begins Thursday, Oct. 23 with free talks by biologist E. O. Wilson, known as “the father of biodiversity.” Wilson will speak informally on the topic of creativity at 3 p.m. in the Jones Room at Woodruff Library, then deliver the keynote address, “Darwin and Please see EVOLUTION on page 5

Campaign rolls out red carpet

By MARLENE GOLDMAN

If you were on the Clairmont Campus this week, you couldn’t help but notice a bevvy of trucks and workers preparing for two of the largest University-wide events ever held at Emory.

The 31,000-square-foot tent rising on Clairmont’s playing field will house the public kick-off events for Campaign Emory, the most ambitious and comprehensive fundraising effort in Emory’s and Georgia’s history. By Thursday, Sept. 25, the canvas structure will have been transformed into an elegant, air-conditioned venue with

Please see CAMPAIGN on page 4

Rescue effort saves books

By KIRSTEN TAGAMI

A rescue effort is under way in the Conservation Lab at the Woodruff Library. Specialists on the Emory Libraries staff have been drying, pressing and cleaning hundreds of books that were damaged by water from a valve leak in the library’s fire sprinkler system over the Labor Day weekend.

About 2,300 circulating books got wet, including 500 that were so badly soaked they were shipped to a freeze-dry facility in Chicago, says Ann Frellsen, collections conservator for the Emory Libraries. Freezing stops mold from developing and keeps ink from smearing.

The leak on Sunday, Aug. 31, sent water pouring down walls and onto shelves of books in three levels of the library. Water traveled through tiny cracks in the floor from the sixth floor down to the fifth and fourth floors. Staff from Emory Libraries’ Preservation Office — the largest of its kind in the South — arrived Sunday evening to assess the damage, place plastic sheeting over shelves, and inventory and start drying books.

Fortunately, the library staff acted fast, so damage to the books has been minimized, says Justin Still, restoration account manager for Munters, the company that is freeze drying the books.

“We can’t reverse wrinkling or staining, but we can prevent further damage,” says Still. Any water in the books is vaporized during the freeze drying process, he says.

The rest of the volumes are being preserved in Emory’s Conservation Lab using less high-tech methods. Library staff took their Lean Cuisines out of the freezer compartment of the staff room refrigerator to make room for some of the books. Other books are being dried using ordinary room fans and are being placed in book presses to retain their shape.

As of Sept. 17 all but 53 of the 1,800 books handled in-house have been dried in the conservation lab and returned

Please see LIBRARY on page 5
When Lisa Underwood goes to Disney World, she is more interested in how the Magic Kingdom moves the masses — the trams and parking areas — than the entertainment and attractions.

“I drive my family crazy, because we’ll be on vacation and we’ll have to pull into a parking deck and I’ll make notes about things. But they’ve used to it by now,” says Underwood, who recently moved to Atlanta with her family to lead Emory’s transportation and parking services.

The 20-year veteran of the transportation and parking industry previously directed the same services at Washington University in St. Louis.

When researching best practices in transportation management for Wash U, Underwood occasionally turned to its peer, Emory. “I was very familiar with the commitment that the institution has made to transportation and its cutting-edge programs,” she says. “And when this opportunity came up it attracted me because of that commitment.”

Since joining Emory in August, Underwood says she has felt “right at home.” And she has hit the ground running. Her first month saw the unionization of the contractor First Transit that provides all of Emory’s Cliff shuttle services. A strike that could have greatly impacted campus was avoided and a contract was signed.

“It all worked out fine, but it was an interesting way to get started,” she says. “In hindsight, it was a great opportunity to get up to speed and identify who my campus partners were, and see how quickly they all came to the table to work through a possible challenge.”

Challenge is a big part of Underwood’s position. She is charged with overseeing all transportation programs of Emory University. Underwood oversees the Clairmont parking deck, the window of her office in the University Center, and the transportation office on the Clifton campus.

Underwood occasional]
Vega quartet welcomes new first violinist

By JESSICA MOORE

Fia Durrett has joined Jessica Wu, violin, Yinzi Kong, viola, and Guoang Wang, cello, as the Vega String Quartet’s new first violinist. Durrett will make her 2008-09 debut with Emory’s Quartet in Residence in a free Noontime Series concert on Sept. 26 in the Carlos Museum performing Brahms’ “Quintet in F Major” with guest pianist Jonathan Shames.

“Originally from Houston, Texas, Durrett made her debut at age 18 with the Houston Symphony, playing the Brahms “Violin Concerto.”

She holds both Bachelor of Arts and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School, where she founded the Andros String Quartet, finalists in the 2003 Concert Artists Guild International Competition, and performed in many venues around New York City, including playing the Brahms “Violin Concerto.”

Fia Durrett (right) and the Vega String Quartet

New Emory law faculty specialize in hot topics

By LIZ CHILLA

Four new and visiting faculty members join Emory Law this fall: Dorothy Brown, professor of law; Jonathan Nash, professor of law; Mark Engsberg, assistant professor of law and director of library services; and Laura Spitz, visiting professor of law.

Brown, who served as a visiting professor at Emory Law last year, specializes in the areas of tax law and critical race theory. Formerly a professor of law at Washington and Lee University, Brown taught courses in federal income taxation, partnership, bankruptcy, tax critical race theory, and administrative law, and served as director of the school’s Frances Lewis Law Center. She is renowned for her scholarship in tax policy as it relates to race and difference.

Nash specializes in environmental law, property law, and administrative law, and the study of courts and judges. He previously served as the Robert C. Cudd Professor of Environmental Law at Tulane University, where he taught courses in environmental law, property, tax, and economics and civil procedure.

Most recently, he was a visiting professor at University of Chicago Law School. Nash is a prolific scholar, publishing in many top-ranked law journals.


Spitz, who is visiting Emory Law for the 2008-09 academic year, specializes in the areas of bankruptcy and commercial transactions. She joins the Emory faculty from the University of Colorado Law School, where she serves as an associate professor teaching courses in bankruptcy, commercial transactions and bankruptcy.

Under Dean David Partlett’s leadership, Emory Law continues toward its goal of hiring 10 new faculty members over the next five years, providing additional opportunities for student-faculty interaction, adding depth to existing program areas and providing leadership in new areas.

“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.

Richard D. Cummings, William Patterson Timme Professor and Chair of Biochemistry in the School of Medicine, has been selected as the winner of the 2008 Karl Meyer Award from the Society for Glycobiology. The “Con Amor Aprendemos—With Love We Learn” program will train “promotoras”–community health care workers to educate Latina couples about HPV and its consequences. Promotoras also will learn to help couples adopt behaviors that reduce the risk of HPV transmission.

Flowers created the program with the assistance of the American Cancer Society.

Lisa Flowers, associate professor of gynecology, Division of Gynecology, Gynecology, received $105,000 from the Prevent Cancer Foundation to fight the human papillomavirus (HPV) through education.

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Michael M.E. Johns, University chancellor and executive vice president for student affairs, emeritus, was appointed by the Secretary of Defense to serve as a member of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences Board of Regents. University of the Health Sciences is the nation’s federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing and educates active-duty uniformed officers dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. The regents’ role is to advise the university in academic medicine and biomedical research as they relate to the needs and aspirations of the uniformed services.
Two schools have new names

The Board of Trustees approved new names for two schools: Emory College of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School. The move, at the recommendation of the deans, makes official what has been known informally for some time, says Provost Earl Lewis.

Emory College’s new name clarifies its role within the wider University, and differentiates it more clearly from other schools and units, says Dean Lisa Tedesco. “It is also more descriptive of what we study and teach in the College than was our previous name. Arts and Sciences is a term with a long and distinguished history in academia, representing the pursuit of the high ideals of scholarship, and we are proud to claim it as our own,” Tedesco adds.

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences sought to remove “arts and sciences” from its name because it did not capture the full diversity of its program offerings. “With the name ‘Graduate School,’ we signal a more inclusive identity, one authentically representative of the work our faculty do on behalf of graduate education,” says Dean Louis Tedesco.

University receives Conservancy award

The Georgia Conservancy named Emory “2008 Distinguished Conservationist of the Year” for its dedication and commitment to preserve and protect Georgia’s natural environ-
ment. The annual award, to be given at the 15th annual Celebration Emory, is the highest honor bestowed by the Conservancy.

“Emory’s sustainability vision is a core component of the university’s blueprint for success in our culture and history,” said President James Wagner.

“We believe that working for positive transformation in the world begins right here at home. Therefore, we try to pay heightened attention to the ways in which we grow and consume food, heat and cool our buildings, move around campus and respect the natural environment.”

Apply for grants for medical research

The Campaign Emory tent will have undergone another transformation to welcome some 1,750 alumni, faculty, staff and students for a more casual evening at Celebration Emory. In a program similar to the gala’s, President Jim Wagner and Emory Alumni Board president Crystal Edmonson ’90C will announce Emory’s campaign goals, then showcase many donors who have partnered with Emory to support the University’s scholars and scientists, innovations and inventions, and programs and partnerships.

During both events, the canvas tent’s 40-foot-tall ceiling will provide plenty of headroom for a unique ensemble of dancers, musicians and high-flying performers. They will present Campaign Emory in yet another voice — Esquire, a visual exploration of the origins, challenges, and ultimate triumph of courageous inquiry and the transformative power of philanthropy.

An internationally renowned cirque-style cast will journey through an ideal power- ful enough to inspire positive change in the world. These acrobats have been featured in productions by Cirque du Soleil, the Moscow Circus, and NBC’s Celebrity Circus, and will be accompanied by exhilarating live Taiko-fusion music.

The ability to transform a playing field into a high-level environment. The annual award, to be given at the 15th annual Celebration Emory, is the highest honor bestowed by the Conservancy.

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As demands for Information Technology services continue to grow, University Technology Services (UTS) is constantly looking for ways to improve its services while becoming more efficient at delivering them.

To accomplish those goals, UTS is engaged in an extensive process improvement initiative. By embarking on any process improvement project, it is critical to select a proven framework providing the guidance as well as the flexibility to implement with the unique business requirements and culture of the organization. The Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL®) provides this framework incorporating and referencing other complementary standard frameworks.

ITIL shifts the focus of IT toward aligning with the business strategy of the institution. This begins with the first principle of service strategy. The objective is to define and create services based on business outcomes, not technology. By prioritizing and focusing on effectively delivering what customers want and need, there is a secondary effect of improving operational efficiency.

Another transformation is to instill a methodology and culture throughout the organization toward continual service improvement (CSI). CSI challenges organizations to understand and control the performance and cost of all existing services — taking proactive corrective steps when services fail to meet customers’ needs. The approach of actively seeking improvement continues throughout the entire lifecycle of a service.

A recent review of service performance and customer discussions revealed a large volume of downtime and unanswered support requests from employees. To address this, UTS has focused on improving the number of new services, the need for expanded hours and staff levels steadily, how can we keep current, much less address pressure and backlog issues?

The answer is a set of organizational processes called service management, which focuses on using services to demonstrate clear value to customers. Service management has been used by many successful IT organizations, and is already beginning to show great results at Emory.

As a first step to identify service improvement areas, UTS examined our methods for delivering services and defined those critical processes for improvement. The results were dramatic:

- The Change Management process stabilized the environment: 94 percent of changes implemented successfully and overall downtime decreased by 32 percent.
- The Incident Management process decreased the number of outstanding customer requests from 1,565 to 255.
- The Service Level Management process defined specific goals for addressing reported issues and met or exceeded the goals for 98.8 percent of all requests.

The next challenge is to maintain and improve in the above areas as well as build upon this success across other functions and departments.

Information technology is no longer only to the University at a critical strategic advantage with increasing reliability and growth.

Again, how can we meet the demands with current staffing and budget levels? In order for UTS to help Emory achieve our goals in the Strategic Plan outlined by President Wagner, we must improve operational efficiency, creating capacity for future growth.

One method to increase available capacity is through process improvement initiatives, to identify a time required to maintain current services thereby facilitating the delivery of new services.

In 2008, UTS will develop a strategic plan to facilitate the process improvement areas based upon the needs of the division and our business partners. Implementing ITIL® is about more than evaluating and revising processes; it is about change: changing the culture toward services versus technology; changing to align with the business strategy; changing and improving the way IT works with customers; and changing focus to meet the goals and vision of Emory.

Karen Jenkins is director of client technology services for University Technology Services.

By CAROLINA IBARRA

The Emory HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Unit has been selected by the National Institutes of Health to join the HIV Prevention Trials Network and to participate in several new clinical prevention studies.

The HIV epidemic in the United States continues to grow. According to information released at this year’s International AIDS Conference, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that the number of new HIV infections in the United States each year has been significantly underestimated. The annual infection rate is 40 percent higher than previously estimated — 56,300 people became infected with HIV in 2006.

A new two-year prevention Women’s HIV Research Network (WHRN) is being established to begin enrolling volunteers this fall. Its main objective will be estimating the overall HIV incidence rate among 2,000 women in the United States from CDC-defined high-risk groups.

African American women account for 36 percent of new HIV infections in the United States, and this is a strong racial disparity in the distribution within women — 80 percent of HIV/AIDS cases in women occur in blacks and Hispanics. And 80 percent of HIV acquisition in all U.S. women is due to heterosexual contact.

The study will enroll women who reside in high-risk areas and who have never been tested for HIV. Those who do test positive will be referred to HIV care. During the study, participants will be placed in focus groups and risk-reduction counseling in order to prevent infection and will be tested for HIV at each appointment.

By developing a study that focuses recruitment on women residing in defined high-risk communities, participating sites around the country will be able to track sexual behavior, alcohol and drug use, prevalence of domestic violence, and mental health indicators of women at risk of HIV acquisition. This will lead to a better understanding of the causes of the epidemic around the nation and will allow for better prevention programs.

Emory’s HIV/AIDS Clinical Trials Unit is one of the few sites in the country to be part of the three major clinical trials networks — the HPTN, AIDS Clinical Trials Group and the HIV Vaccine Trials Network. Through these networks, Emory’s Center for AIDS Research will be able to focus not only on new medication for clients, but also on prevention efforts that are greatly needed in the U.S. today.

Continued from the cover

As part of that conservation team, Frellsen traveled to three coastal Mississippi counties that were hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. They assessed the damage at public librarians, courthouses and other locations that had significant collections of books and documents — a total of 19 institutions in three states.

More recently, Frellsen, Webber and Julie Newton, another conservation technician, pitched in to salvage materials from the Atlanta Daily World after the roof of its offices on Auburn Avenue were damaged by the March 14 tornado that tore through downtown Atlanta.

Continued from the cover
EXPLORE SPIRITUAL DIMENSIONS OF TOLKIEN

Course information
"J.R.R. Tolkien and the Spiritual Journey"
Instructor: Prof. Phillip Thompson, executive director, Aquinas Center
5 sessions: Wednesdays
Dates: Oct. 8–Nov. 5, 7 p.m.
Registration fee: $155

New at Center for Lifelong Learning
"Emory Mini Law School—Taking You Out of the Law!": This series of panels on legal exploration in law will provide an understanding of how this country's legal system works.
"Tutankhamun-Experience Ancient Egypt!": Explore the ideas of the kingship that shaped pharicic Egypt from the Old Kingdom to the time of King Tutankhamun by touring murals and tombs, temples and palaces.

For registration and details on all classes, visit www.cll.emory.edu.

Dr. R. MELTZ

Aquinas Center Director Phillip Thompson (right) will team up with Emory artist Jef Murray for one of the sessions he will teach on "J.R.R. Tolkien and the Spiritual Journey."

By JAMES HARPER

When was the last time you journeled to Middle-earth to reconnect with J.R.R. Tolkien, Frodo, Bilbo and the dwarves? Phil Thompson would argue that it’s time to re-energize your knowledge of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy by signing up for a new course he’s teaching at Emory Center for Lifelong Learning. Thompson, newly appointed executive director of the Aquinas Center of Theology at Emory, will lend his considerable expertise on Tolkien’s works to lead an exchange of ideas on how the author has impacted his readers’ lives. “J.R.R. Tolkien and the Spiritual Journey,” which begins Oct. 8, will explore “the spiritual dimensions of Tolkien... the deep issues about the journey of human life as reflected in the challenges encountered by the book’s characters and how those issues might shed some insight on our lives today,” says Thompson.

“I’ve conducted seminars such as these in the past, and participants tend to come in with amazing knowledge about Tolkien. Moreover, there is a genuine thirst to share those ideas with others.”

There is much to explore about Tolkien and his characters, but it is the personal messages that seem to resound in the works of this atypical British writer since “The Lord of the Rings” was published in 1954.

Tolkien, a professor of old English at the University of Oxford, also wrote "The Hobbit. The books share the same prehistoric setting in an invent- ed version of the world which Tolkien called Middle-earth. According to Thompson, it is the travails and triumphs of the hobbit duo, Frodo and Bilbo Baggins, and their allies as they battle against evil that continue to wield influence over people’s lives today.

To illustrate how "Lord of the Rings" has exerted strong personal reactions, Thompson has invited artist Jef Murray to par-ticipate in one of the sessions. Murray, interlibrary loan spe-cialist at Pritzker Theology Library, has devoted much of his artis- tic endeavors to interpreting Tolkien works, creating canvases for the past eight years. His paintings have appeared in several pub-lications including those of the International Tolkien Society. "J.R.R. Tolkien is a good example of how people have been inspired by Tolkien’s writings in very subtle ways," says Thompson. "The sub- tle influences of Tolkien are also typical of the author’s beliefs. Despite the fact that he was a devout member of the Catholic faith, he did not want to bang the reader over the head with a hammer of religious fervor."

Tolkien viewed himself as a philologist and a person who understood languages, myths and literature, notes Thompson. His mission was to write something that would bring to his English homeland some of the mythological glory inherited by the Greeks, Norse and other European cultures.

"The amazing thing about Tolkien and his works is that he created an entire cosmos including the people, languages, songs, stories and history that previously existed only in his mind," says Thompson.

"There is evidence that he began working on the languages as early as 1916, so the case can be made that “Lord of the Rings” was created over a 40-year time span. I can just imagine how reluctant publishers were to take on a project that challenged readers to accept a book whose characters spoke in unknown dialects." If early publishers were slow to accept Tolkien’s works, Thompson anticipates little retic- ence when it comes to class dis- cussions during the seminars.

"We’ll utilize some book excerpts and movie clips to facil- itate discussions during the seminars. “The amazing thing about Tolkien,” says Thompson, “and that’s really the heart of the challenge: to bring an entire society from having read these works.”

By HOLLY KORSCHUN

Emory researchers will begin enrolling participants in a clin- ical trial testing a new bird flu vaccine. The Emory study will enroll 112 volunteers as part of a 500-person national study conducted by the NIH Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Units, which Emory joined last November.

Vaccines for the various strains of bird flu could save thousands of lives and billions of dollars, scientists believe. They estimate a bird flu pan- demic in the United States could affect 90 million with flu-related illnesses and result in 2 million deaths.

The upcoming bird flu vaccine trial is an important part of our national prepared- ness for a future influenza pandemic,” says Mark Mulligan, principal investigator of the Emory VTEU and executive director of the Emory Vaccine Center’s Hope Clinic.

"By figuring out the best vaccine strategies, we hope to reduce the potentially severe impact of the next pandemic," he says. "Emory is proud to be participating. This is an opportu- nity for volunteers to con- tribute to an important public health effort. We are overdue for an influenza pandemic. It is really a matter of when, not if." This clinical trial is helping us get ready for that ‘when.’"

For more information see www.hopeclinic.emory.edu, contact Eileen Osumi at 404-727-2424-6000, or e-mail vaccine@ emory.edu.

By HOLLY KORSCHUN

Scientists at Yerkes National Primate Research Center and the Emory Vaccine Center have discovered important clues from the immune system that explain why sooty mangabey monkeys and other primates stay healthy despite infection with simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV). Understanding how these natu- ral hosts resist illness has been a key unsolved mystery in under- standing AIDS.

The Emory scientists have found that the immune systems of sooty mangabeyes become much less activated during SIV infection than the immune sys- tems of rhesus macaques, which develop an AIDS-like illness. The scientists believe the less vigorous immune response in mangabeyes may explain why SIV and HIV infection leads to AIDS in some primate species but not others.

The reasons are found in major differences in immune signaling in a type of dendritic cells, which play a key role in alerting the body to the pres- ence of invading viruses or bac- teria and in initiating immune responses.

In sooty mangabeyes, den- drritic cells are not activated during the initial or chronic stages of SIV infection so mang- abeys don’t mount a significant immune response to the virus. On the other hand, in humans and macaques infected by HIV and SIV, dendritic cells are read- ily activated.

Unfortunately, rather than helping clear the immunodefici- ency virus infection, chronic dendritic cell stimulation may result in chronic immune activa- tion and unintended damage to the immune system. Scientists believe that chronic immune activation in response to HIV infection is a major driving force in the development of AIDS.

The fact that mangabe dendritic cells are less suscep- tible to activation by SIV may explain why these monkeys don’t have abnormal immune activa- tion and don’t develop AIDS.

The researchers believe new treatment strategies could steer the immune system away from reactive states that promote the use of antiretroviral drugs that can inhibit replica- tion of the virus.
When the distinguished Italian writer and Nobel laureate Umberto Eco arrived at Emory to begin his lectures on "Confessions of a Young Novelist," he and his staff knew that the three-day event would mark the 20th anniversary of Richard Emmann Lamm Lectures in Modern Literature, inaugurated by Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney in 1988.

The Emory community remembers Professor Lamm's annual spring-time return to lectures from Oxford University in England, 1976 to 1986, his Emory arrivals marked by literary lectures that were attended by huge audiences that came to hear the biographer of Yeats, Joyce and Wilde speak eloquently about serious literature.

As Emory's first Woodruff Professor, he also played an instrumental role in acquiring Usborne's Stone for our literary archives, helping acquire rare books and manuscripts by W.B. Yeats, Lady Gregory, and adding his own collection to the permanent holdings.

Before Professor Lamm died, then President James T. Laney flew to Oxford to inform him that Emory would establish a lecture series in his name, and when Laney asked him why he wanted to inaugurate the series, Emory's residence hall was named Seamus Heaney Hall.

Seamus Heaney filled Glenn Auditorium to capacity during his three lectures in April 1988, and when he signed copies of his book "The Emory Depart," the line stretched from there to Clifton Road for two hours.

Before he departed, Heaney presented to Special Collections (now MARBL) the manuscripts and correspondence for his lectures, subsequently published as "Lanterns in the Round." Director Linda Matthews, moved by Heaney's fondness for Little Brown House, was inspired to extend the growing collections into the contemporary, the textual, the personal and the community.

A new selection committee comprised of Heaney's former colleagues and admiring scholars who would perpetuate the Emman tradition of special literary, literary audiences in jargon-free language.

Free of departmental, college and university politics, they aim to choose well-spoken writers who can step outside their creative writing, address a topic of major concern in their own or modern writing, and attract and engage a community of readers. Priority of selection goes to creative writers, who also read their work.

The Irish poet Seamus Heaney, one of our most eminent contemporaries, has included the following novelists A. S. Byatt, David Lodge and Salman Rushdie, the Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, and now Umberto Eco.

Each of these writers has brought wonderful different audiences to Emory, especially Mario Vargas Llosa, who attracted huge Hispanic crowds that gathered around him like a rock star, so popular is he in their reading lives.

Even two years' notice, however, is insufficient to book some world-class writers, a number of whom have wished to come but have regretfully declined for various professional reasons, including the late Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Vladimir Nabokov, and J. M. Coetzee, among others.

When a writer has been unavailable, we have happily chosen three of the most prominent literary critics writing today — Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Helen Vendler of Harvard University, and Denis Donoghue of New York University.

We invited each to bring a major poet, and through their choices we had readings from Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka and Pulitzer Prize poets Anthony Hecht and Jorie Graham.

The reads grew in prominence and prestige, so did MARBL, and all the lecturers and poets have requested tours of the collections. In consequence of this year's tour of the new Anthony Hecht archive and the Seamus Heaney correspondence.

On the way in from the airport, Salmon Rushdie also asked to visit MARBL, and at the reception for him at Lailwater he was asked by President Wagner, "Why don't you place your papers at Emory?" To which Rushdie replied, "Why don't you ask me?"

The result is history, and now we have not only the Rushdie archive but his presence as a distinguished professor for five years. Mario Vargas Llosa, at the end of his lectures, said that would gladly return to teach occasional seminars. Thus, one of the long-term horizons of the Emmann Lamm Lectures has been to generate fabulous archives for MARBL, and distinguished teaching for the University.

When I invited Umberto Eco to give the Emmann Lamm Lectures, I had no idea what his response might be, and so I was utterly delighted when he sent an alacritous "yes," saying that he had long wished to pay homage to a man who had not only helped him immensely with Joyce but who had written a major review of his first novel, "The Name of the Rose," in the New York Review of Books, a review that catapulted him into recognition and prominence in America.

It was immensely pleasing to hear that, 20 years after his death, Richard Emmann still has the power to draw great writers to his door.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear Eco's opening lecture, "How I Write, through to his reading from his novels, Oct. 5-7.

For details, visit www.emory.edu/ellmann.

Nobel Laureates help celebrate human rights

By LESLIE KING


The event is free for students from any university and for Emory faculty and staff. Registration is $50 for other participants.

The event is sponsored by the Center for the Study of International and Comparative Law and the Emory Human Rights Institute.

The first-person account of the event was written by Ron Schuchard, a Goodrich C. White Professor of English.

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Before he departed, Heaney presented to Special Collections (now MARBL) the manuscripts and correspondence for his lectures, subsequently published as "Lanterns in the Round." Director Linda Matthews, moved by Heaney's fondness for Little Brown House, was inspired to extend the growing collections into the contemporary, the textual, the personal and the community.

A new selection committee comprised of Heaney's former colleagues and admiring scholars who would perpetuate the Emman tradition of special literary, literary audiences in jargon-free language.

Free of departmental, college and university politics, they aim to choose well-spoken writers who can step outside their creative writing, address a topic of major concern in their own or modern writing, and attract and engage a community of readers. Priority of selection goes to creative writers, who also read their work.

The Irish poet Seamus Heaney, one of our most eminent contemporaries, has included the following novelists A. S. Byatt, David Lodge and Salman Rushdie, the Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa, and now Umberto Eco.

Each of these writers has brought wonderful different audiences to Emory, especially Mario Vargas Llosa, who attracted huge Hispanic crowds that gathered around him like a rock star, so popular is he in their reading lives.

Even two years' notice, however, is insufficient to book some world-class writers, a number of whom have wished to come but have regretfully declined for various professional reasons, including the late Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Vladimir Nabokov, and J. M. Coetzee, among others.

When a writer has been unavailable, we have happily chosen three of the most prominent literary critics writing today — Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Helen Vendler of Harvard University, and Denis Donoghue of New York University.

We invited each to bring a major poet, and through their choices we had readings from Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka and Pulitzer Prize poets Anthony Hecht and Jorie Graham.

The reads grew in prominence and prestige, so did MARBL, and all the lecturers and poets have requested tours of the collections. In consequence of this year's tour of the new Anthony Hecht archive and the Seamus Heaney correspondence.

On the way in from the airport, Salmon Rushdie also asked to visit MARBL, and at the reception for him at Lailwater he was asked by President Wagner, "Why don't you place your papers at Emory?" To which Rushdie replied, "Why don't you ask me?"

The result is history, and now we have not only the Rushdie archive but his presence as a distinguished professor for five years. Mario Vargas Llosa, at the end of his lectures, said that would gladly return to teach occasional seminars. Thus, one of the long-term horizons of the Emmann Lamm Lectures has been to generate fabulous archives for MARBL, and distinguished teaching for the University.

When I invited Umberto Eco to give the Emmann Lamm Lectures, I had no idea what his response might be, and so I was utterly delighted when he sent an alacritous "yes," saying that he had long wished to pay homage to a man who had not only helped him immensely with Joyce but who had written a major review of his first novel, "The Name of the Rose," in the New York Review of Books, a review that catapulted him into recognition and prominence in America.

It was immensely pleasing to hear that, 20 years after his death, Richard Emmann still has the power to draw great writers to his door.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear Eco's opening lecture, "How I Write," through to his reading from his novels, Oct. 5-7.

For details, visit www.emory.edu/ellmann.


**Luminaries hosts poet Paula Yoo**

Paula Yoo, president of the American Council of Learned Societies and a leading scholar of Korean American literature, will explore the “ecology” of learning communities and consider the impact of new technologies, such as the Internet, on the future of the field. Yoo will discuss the second lecture this year in the Luminaries in Arts and Humanities series that brings leading artists and scholars of the arts and humanities to the university. Initiated and hosted by the Office of the Provost, the free public lecture series is cosponsored by the Emory Creativity & Arts Strategic Initiative.

**10th Mary Lynn Morgan lecture set**

Lydia Davis will be the 10th annual Mary Lynn Morgan Annual Lecture. Davis is the author of the graduate studies Ph.D. program in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education in Rollins School of Public Health. The university will also celebrate the 10th annual Mary Lynn Morgan Annual Lecture. Event details are as follows:

**ADVANCE NOTICE**

Learn all about 2008 elections The Woodruff Library highlights the historic 2008 presidential election with two exhibits, a workshop and a selection of books. The exhibits explore past and present presidential campaigns as well as the presidency itself.

**Events**

**For Homecoming Weekend:**

- **Wednesday, Sept. 24**
  - Women’s Soccer vs. Brevon Parker College, 7 p.m.
  - Men’s Soccer vs. Piedmont College, 7 p.m.

- **Saturday, Sept. 27**
  - Celebration Emory, 5 p.m. Clairmont Campus. Free. 404-712-7787. www.emory.edu/events. Event sold out.

**Visual Arts**

**Now Showing**


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