Drug royalty sale fuels Emory research

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

Emory’s record half-billion-dollar sale of royalty rights to the leading anti-HIV drug Emtriva will be reinvested in the University’s scientific and health-related research and education mission for the benefit of Georgia, the nation and the world, according to President James Wagner and other senior officials.

“Very early in my presidency members of the University community came together to draft a vision statement in which we pledged ourselves to work together collaboratively and courageously for the positive transformation of the world,” said Wagner. “It’s hard to think of a more dramatic moment to illustrate just how great our collective impact can be.”

Because of the terms of Emory’s intellectual property policy, it is already clear that Emory College and the School of Medicine will be major beneficiaries of the $540 million sale, along with the Departments of Chemistry and Pediatrics and the laboratories of the co-inventors, chemistry Professor Dennis Liotta and pediatrics Professor Raymond Schinazi. They and a third inventor, former Emory researcher Woon-Bae Cho, discovered the anti-HIV compound patented by the University in the early 1990s, and will share 40 percent of the total sale price.

Also known as enricitabine and FTC (an acronym for its combination of the two names), Emtriva—the “Em” stands for Emory—was used with another compound to form a daily, combination treatment called Truvada that improves and extends the lives of HIV-infected people throughout the world.

Under the terms of the

PCSW calls for Emory women in leadership

BY CHRISTI GRAY

The President’s Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW) is taking applications for the selection of two Emory women to attend the Higher Education Resource Services (HERS) 2005–06 New England Management Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration.

“We are looking for faculty members and high-level administrators who are interested in advancing their own careers in higher education,” said Allison Dykes, PCSW chair. “Candidates should also be interested in helping the PCSW advance the status of women in leadership at Emory.”

The Management Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration is one of the most distinguished leadership programs in the country, Dykes said. The instructional areas of this program are planning and fiscal management, managing in organizations, and professional development. The institute seeks to prepare women for deanships and other senior administrative posts. Participants in the institute carry the titles of associate and assistant dean, assistant,
Thoughts from Russell Square

I have never taken much stock in President George W. Bush’s admonition to shop as part of our patriotic duty in response to 9/11. But in the weeks since the London bombings, I’ve been thinking about something else: the fragility of human decency, and its power as a weapon in fighting terror.

The Hankeys are used to living in the center of the city, with the world at their doorstep. Lillian Hankey is an emeritus professor of religion in the Department of Biochemistry and Daniel Hankey is an emeritus professor of microbiology. Daniel is chair of the Hankey Chair in the Department of Biochemistry. Lillian Hankey is a former chair of the Department of Biochemistry and is the first established endowed chair in its department.

Outside, patrons sat at tables in full view of the ravaged bus. No one ignored it, but no one gave in, either, and the little restaurant kept on—desserts, piano, pasta and all. Human decency, I learned that evening, means affirming life at the very moment of terror—not in its aftermath, not upon later reflection, but in its very presence.

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Every Friday night Richelle Fulks takes her seat behind this piano at a downtown restaurant. It’s not a tough assignment for the classically trained Fulks, who works as a veterinary technician at Yerkes, except for one thing—the stage hangs from the ceiling. “Everybody in the restaurant can see me,” says the shy musician, “I just put my dreads down so I don’t have to look back, because I’ll get nervous and mess up.”

For someone who prefers to remain in the background, playing piano at Mick’s restaurant in downtown Atlanta can be a pretty tough gig. The white baby grand hangs from the ceiling in the center of the place, making it a conversation piece whether anyone is playing or not.

So when Richelle Fulks sits down for her regular Friday night set, she has a certain ritual she follows before taking the airborne stage. “I have a drink before I go up there,” said Fulks, a classically trained pianist who works days at Yerkes. “Everybody in the restaurant can see me, and the only music is coming from me, so people just come in and stare. I just put my dreads down so I don’t have to look back, because I’ll get nervous and mess up.”

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Fulks got her regular job at Mick’s about two months ago, and she is a savvy enough performer to gear her playlist to the crowd. She’ll usually open with a sonata, she has a certain ritual she performs to gear her playlist to the crowd. She’ll usually open with a sonata, she has a certain ritual she performs, she’ll have a Q&A session where any child. “People are like: ‘I’ve never heard Def Leppard on piano before.’ And with that Linkin Park song, ‘Numb,’” she said, showing her knowledge of 21st century hard rock as well.

“I’m just having fun.”

It’s easy to see that Fulks has a remarkably wide repertoire, but there is one popular, Grammy-winning artist she purposely avoids. “I know four Alicia Keys songs, but because I get compared to her so much, I tend to stay away because I’m not trying to build up my own thing. But I do get requests for her stuff all the time.”

After playing intermittently for years, Fulks’ musical career is rapidly moving forward. She played two gigs during the recently completed National Black Arts Festival (NBAF). Fulks backed up the Live Poets Society during “An Evening of Spoken Word.” On Wednesday, July 20, at the West End Performing Arts Center, the next evening the Live Poets performed “Black Erotica” (another spoken-word performance, albeit adult-themed, as the title suggests) at the Loft at Eastlink Live.

The Live Poets were co-founded and are led by Derrick “Abyss” Graham, a spoken-word artist who has performed nationally with the Def Poets. Fulks met Abyss last year during an open jam session at Atlanta’s Apache Cafe. Abyss was looking to put a band together and perhaps set up a future tour, and he liked what he heard from Fulks (who was just getting back into performing at the time). They sat down together and composed a song in just 10 minutes (Abyss is a guitar-player as well). Their collaboration has grown stronger by the day.

Not only did Fulks back up Abyss during their NBAF shows, they play together at other spots around town (Sundays at the Dave and Buster restaurant in Marietta is a regular stage), and this past winter Fulks and Abyss toured the Midwest, playing college gigs in states the stripped down shows were just Abyss and his guitar and Fulks and her keyboard, and one of the most memorable was at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mount Pleasant, a farm city of less than 10,000, south of Iowa City.

“Aster we performed—it wasn’t a big crowd, maybe 70 students and eight faculty—we had a Q&A session where any one could ask anything they wanted,” she said. “Everybody was so warm that we ended up inviting them back to our hotel room, and we just played music and they read their poetry.”

During performances, Fulks gets to slow off her playing (often at Abyss’ urging), like her Mick’s shows, she bounces from the classical she’s known since childhood to the modern hip-hop sounds of Ludacris.

Fulks started playing piano at 5. She loved it until she was 9, which is when the inevitable loafing of practice started. Still, there was no denying her talent. She won a statewide competition (the first of many), and got to play for an audience that included poet Maya Angelou (a faculty member at Wake Forest University, located in Fulks’ hometown of Winston-Salem, N.C.).

Fulks eventually went to the North Carolina School for the Arts, where she studied classical piano. Despite a lot of success, she doubted her own abilities and potential. Part of this came from her background (while many classmates were taught at institutes, her piano teacher taught students in the basement of her home). It wasn’t that Fulks’ chops weren’t as good (she was just as talented as the higher-pedigreed players), she just had concerns about making a living as a musician.

“Classical musicians don’t make any money until they’re dead,” she said. “I just had a feeling that this wasn’t going to work out.”

So Fulks applied to the animal science program at North Carolina A&T with the goal of becoming a veterinarian. She got married in the interim, and instead of going to vet school after graduation, she moved to Atlanta to work at Emory’s Division of Animal Resources in the School of Medicine. After two years there, she returned home to work at Wake Forest’s primate center before eventually working her way back to the Atlanta area.

As Fulks’ music career has blossomed, her Emory career is going though some changes as well. After working at the Yerkes Flat Station in Lawrenceville since 2000, where she studied maternal behavior in rhesus macaques, on July 25 she moved to the main campus to take a position as a veterinary technician, involved in clinical medicine.

Fulks’ enjoys her animal care work and it pays the bills—something even with the increased number of gigs she’s getting doesn’t always do. However, not all of Fulks’ work is geared toward earning a paycheck.

She plays on occasion at a juvenile penitentiary in south Atlanta where she performs during poetry readings. She also plays at Harambee, a holis tic stress program for inner-city youth. “There are grants for us to come in and teach music and poetry or just talk to the kids,” Fulks said. Even though the program has funds set aside for artists, she doesn’t accept them. “It’s the least I can do to just go in there,” said Fulks who has two children of her own. “Sometimes I don’t even get a chance to play because they just want to talk about what happened at home. I’m just an ear or a heart or a hug—whatever they need.”

“I’ll get a lot of paying gigs, so that’s just fine with me,” said Fulks, who speaks the truth. She is featured on three tracks on Abyss’ upcoming CD, and she has played both session and live work with a variety of hip-hop and R&B artists. Her next goal is to put out a solo CD.

“It’s called 88 Degrees, because of the 88 keys on a piano,” she said, adding that she hopes to complete work on it in November. It’s mostly instrumental, but also contains some spoken-word pieces, though she is not the speaker. That might be grabbing the spotlight.
Bayh-Dole Act, which was passed by Congress in 1980 to encourage universities to move scientific discoveries rapidly into the marketplace, proceeds from the royalty sale must be used for scientific research and education. After allocations to the schools, departments, laborato-
ries and researchers, Wagner and Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Mandl explained that the central adminis-
tration of the University will end up with $130 million to $150 million of the $540 million total.

“We are entering into a very disciplined phase of the implementation of our strategic plan,” said Wagner. “The elements of our strategic plan that are research-related and consistent with the Bayh-Dole Act provisions will benefit from these moneys. But it is im-
portant to keep in mind that this is one of several resources that will finance the strategic plan. The contributions of the late Joe Crooks, Mandl, and Mandl’s predecessor, the late Joe Crooks, are so proud of Drs. Liotta, Laney, and I asked him, “When you get $105 million back in 1979, what did you do with it?” He said they used all of it to boost Emory’s endowment and then tried to use those funds in ways that people could match to the revenue, ways to challenge the University to get even more revenue. So we’ve got a lot to think about.

Speaking of President Laney, with the way this is being presented in the mainstream press, a lot of people are going to look at this as a “second Woodruff gift” and possibly expect it to have a commensurate impact on the University. Do you think that’s a fair expectation?

I see both sides of that. In one sense, it’s hard to make the comparison. Remember, the

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lion (see story, page 1) is being hailed as the single biggest commercial sale of intellectual property for any university in history. Emory Report sat down with President Jim Wagner to discuss what this unprecedented development will mean.

Emory Report: What kind of immediate impact is this going to have on Emory’s operating budget?

Jim Wagner: There are two parts to that answer, and the first is the restriction of the Bayh-Dole Act. That law is a way to make sure that new and beneficial technologies produced by universities would be attractive com-
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The second is that, even if there weren’t restrictions, we are entering a very disciplined phase of the implementation of our strategic plan. The elements of our strategic plan that are research-related and consistent with the Bayh-Dole Act provisions will indeed benefit from these moneys.

What was the rationale for taking the money up front rather than wait for annual royalties from this patent?

We think the return on in-
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vestment for converting that money in the short term to new programs, to investing in people and programs, will pay a benefit—the compounding effect of that investment is far greater than we would have gotten from just the cash spread out. Also, I don’t know that we should expect a measurable, dollar-for-dollar impact from every penny we spend from this money; just as we would with any large revenue stream that is spent and invested wisely, there will be intangible ben-
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The initial amount predict-

ed for the Strategic Plan Initiative Fund, which will serve as start-up funding and identified revenue in the plan, was $25 million per year. Will that number go up, say, $40 million a year now?

It depends how we manage this, and we really need to talk about that. How much of this cash do we have compelling, immedi-
ate needs for? And how much should more appropriately, more responsibly, take the form of an internal foundation? A lot of strategic thinking needs to be done to determine what fraction of this gets immediately invested and what fraction becomes an endowment.

And those decisions have not been made yet? No. The next step is to assign strategic-program costs and uses in order to set funding priorities, and that’s part of what’s hap-
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A group of “alumni” of Crawford Long Hospital’s Centering Pregnancy program gathered for a post-partum reunion last week at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. The program, relies on a group approach to prenatal care, combining health assessment, education and support.

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

As any mother can attest, pregnancy is not exactly a stroll through the nursery. But belonging to a group of similarly expectant women can help, and that is the thinking behind a relatively new prenatal health program that is quickly gaining popularity at Crawford Long and Grady hospitals.

Called “Centering Pregnancy,” the program is directly adapted from an approach pioneered by Sharon Kelley, a nurse, midwife and former Yale University faculty member who first introduced its concepts at the University of Minnesota.

Centering Pregnancy is based on a group approach to prenatal care, combining three essential elements of care every pregnant woman needs: health assessment, education and support.

“It creates a community of pregnant couples,” said Maureen Kelley, clinical associate professor and chair of family and community nursing at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. Kelley implemented the program in place at Crawford Long, with the sessions taking place at the nursing school. Centering Pregnancy first found its way to Grady through Claire Westfall, assistant professor of obstetrics-gynecology and director of Grady’s nurse-midwifery program.

In the program, groups of up to 10 women (and often their partners) meet regularly starting at the women’s 16-week mark of pregnancy. Typically two to three midwives, and the women gain knowledge not only from professionals (the midwives) but also from each other.

“It’s very focused on women’s own experiences,” said Kathryn Woebner, associate professor and chair in the nursing school, who has the unique perspective of having participated in the program as a mother and a patient. Woebner’s first child is due in August. “Some of it is practical information—maternity clothes, for example. Most of the women in our group are very well-educated—a lot of them work at the CDC or as nurses—so they have a lot to offer.”

Women are matched in groups with similar due dates, and the entire program is billed to insurance just like conventional prenatal checkups. In one sense, the program is not at all cutting-edge (all of the expected topics in Centering Pregnancy have long been available in part through other avenues), but the key is to bring together such a comprehensive approach together in a single format.

And that format works. Centering Pregnancy covers the same prenatal classes that a couple would usually take on top of the traditional care covered by insurance.

“It’s really a prenatal plus,” Kelley said. “We wanted to offer something special for Emory employees. We care about the community at Emory and wanted to bring this model to offer something special for Emory women.”

Not only Emory women but their partners as well.

“The men get to touch it as well as the women,” Kelley said. One of our new fathers came back to the group and talked about how he went through a sort of post-partum depression when the reality of life with a newborn at home set in. Where else are men going to get feedback like that?”

Andrew Woebner, Kathryn’s husband, who dutifully accepted his wife’s invitation to accompany her to group sessions (“He’s a very smart man,” Kathryn quipped), agrees on the merits of the program.

“The closer you get to the due date, they do things like take you to the hospital and show you. This is something you would actually come in; you talk to this desk first; now let’s go look at a labor and delivery room,” Andrew said. “They try to fill in as many blanks as possible and make it comfortable for both parties.”

Something must be working, because in just a short year since the first Centering Pregnancy group was launched at Crawford Long, the first “alumni” have had their children and reconvened for reunions suggesting that not only pregnancy support but lasting friendships can be a product.

“We had three couples in our group in the hospital this past weekend, having their babies,” Kelley said. “They were checking on each other. So they’ve got this community of people who are living through the same thing they are, and that’s really nice experience.”

For more information on Centering Pregnancy, call Emory Women’s Care at 404-686-3643. Since the program was established as a service for Emory employees, it is open to anyone covered by Emory Healthcare.

Summer camp introduces teenagers to science

Michael Johns was one of the guest speakers at the School of Medicine’s Summer Science and Discovery Camp, which brought groups of teenagers to campus to learn about science and health.

BY TIA MCCOLLORS

Eager area high school students for a love and curiosity for science who spent part of their summer vacation at the School of Medicine’s Summer Science Discovery Camp and Academy programs not only gained a strong foundation in science—they learned valuable life lessons as well.

This year, by the closing sessions in July, they were armed with enough knowledge and lunches provided by volunteer parents, Lee was determined to see if the Atlanta metro area would embrace and support a summer science camp experience.

“They were a curious lot, Lee said. “Mostly African American males, some girls, two Asian students, but no Caucasians at the time.” In 2009, it expanded to include an academy program for 11th and 12th graders held in two three-week sessions. More than 800 students have been enrolled in both programs since their inception, representing families across the racial, economic, educational and metro Atlanta geographical spectrum, reaching through African American and Hispanic students long has been a central goal.

This summer, campers delved into a number of topics taught by their mentors, including a college undergraduate students, medical students and other program alumni. This year’s topics included the science of the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and reproductive systems, sexually transmitted diseases, infectious diseases, bacteriology, immunology, biotechnology and food science. They also reviewed diseases that disproportionately affect minorities, such as diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular disease and HIV/AIDS.

Anitra Sumby, one of the lead counselors, is a rising senior in Emory College. After graduating with a degree in biology and political science, she plans to attend medical school to obtain a combined MD/MPH degree so she can pursue a career in emergency medicine.

“When I heard of this program, I knew I wanted to be involved in it,” she said. “I’ve worked in summer camps before but never one that was just focused on science. I attended a camp like this when I was younger and it introduced me to the field. I loved the idea of giving that same opportunity to another student.”

Counselor and second-year Emory medical student Adige Awigbe has always enjoyed teaching and mentoring kids, especially in medicine and science.

“I think it’s important that we get kids really excited about this field early so they can be inspired to pursue careers that are often perceived by young people as being too difficult,” said Adigebe, who aspirations to an internal medicine specialty. “When they leave the camp, I want them to have a large bank of knowledge on the sciences that most people don’t learn until college or medical school.”

Other counselors include second-year medical students Elizabeth Gooding and Matt Wallace; Andy Kedir, a 2005 neuroscience graduate of Emory College; and Gregory Malik Burnett, a past academy alumnus who is a rising junior at Duke University.

Some of the premises that Lee used to establish the program remain the same. “It’s our hope that students better understand that science is all around us and that people of color and females can learn and enjoy science,” he said. “Equal importance is for students to realize that academic achievement knows no racial, color, ethnic or gender boundaries, and it’s OK to be smart.”

For information on admission requests for students for college, there are college admissions sessions conducted by the Emory College admissions office. Lee also noted that the Office of Multicultural Medical Student Affairs is beginning to institute a tracking system to determine the educational pathways alumni have taken.
Researchers study secretive bisexual activity and HIV risk

BY ALICIA SANDS LUBY

Despite a great deal of attention in recent years, the issue of some black men not disclosing their bisexual behavior secretive from their main female sex partners, or “keeping it on the down-low,” does not translate to high-risk sex with male partners, nor an increased risk of HIV transmission, according to David Malebranche, assistant professor of medicine in the School of Medicine and internist at Grady Hospital.

Malebranche is co-author of a recent review article with Gregorio Millet, Byron Mason and Pilgrim Spikes, all from the CDC. The results of the review, “Focusing ‘Down-Low’: Bisexual African Americans in Atlanta,” was published in the May issue of the Journal of the National Medical Association.

The article is the first of its kind to critically examine the “down-low” theory—that secretive black bisexual men are the primary force behind the current high rates of HIV among black women in the United States.

Using statistical data compiled from 24 reference articles, including conference abstracts and literature about bisexual activity and HIV risk, the authors examined four key points: estimates of bisexuality among black men; identity versus behavior; or what men call themselves versus how they behave racially; rates of same-sex behavior among black women; and whether nondisclosure of same-sex activity translates to riskier sex or decreased condom use.

According to the article, the best available studies actually report a low prevalence of bisexual behavior (2 percent) among black men in the United States. The authors also found that when compared to white, Latino and Asian MSM, black MSM were more likely to identify as bisexual or report being black and bisexual, and were less likely to disclose their same-sex behavior.

The authors found studies, however, reporting that nondisclosure of same-sex behavior did not lead to riskier sexual behavior. Some studies described that black MSM who did not disclose their homosexual activity were less likely to be HIV positive, have multiple male sexual partners, or have unprotected sex with male partners than those who disclosed their same-sex behavior.

“The purpose of the paper was to examine four major points commonly made when talking about the down-low and to see how much those issues actually played out in the literature and data,” said Malebranche, who also practices at Atlanta’s Ponce de Leon Center, one of the largest outpatient clinics in the country providing comprehensive medical care to approximately 4,000 HIV-infected patients each year.

“We found that was while the prevalence of bisexuality among black men in general appears to be low, reported bisexual identification and behavior among black MSM is a lot higher than other ethnicities, and they are not as likely to disclose their same-sex behavior as white MSM,” he continued. “However, when it comes to unprotected sex, it appears that nondisclosing black MSM engage in less risky behavior than those who disclose their same-sex behavior.”

Based on those findings, Malebranche said it’s erroneous to believe black men on the “down-low” are disproportionately responsible for transmitting HIV to heterosexual black women.

“When you look at the whole issue of the down-low, it really translates into the issue of disclosure—who you’re telling and who you’re not telling. It’s really dependent upon the nature of the relationship and gender of the individual with whom you’re having sex,” Malebranche said. “If some black MSM are secretive, bisexual, studies have demonstrated that they’re more likely to have more male sexual partners than disclosing black MSM, and thus are more likely to have unprotected sex with these female partners. However, these same men report lower rates of unprotected sex with their male sexual partners than disclosing MSM.”

These facts lead the study team to ask, “If bisexual black men represent a small proportion of black men in the United States, and nondisclosing black men less likely to be HIV positive than gay-identified men or engage in high-risk behavior, then is this population primarily responsible for the HIV epidemic among heterosexual black women?”

According to recent statistics, approximately 40 percent of the cumulative AIDS cases among black women through 2003 are attributable to intravenous drug use, with another 40 percent attributable to risky sexual behavior. However, it’s not known what proportion of these cases are infected having sex with heterosexual, bisexual or homosexual men.

“The flawed logic often perpetuated by the media is that only homosexual men have HIV, bisexual men only contract HIV through homosexual behavior, and the only way black women contract HIV is through sexual contact with these bisexual men,” Malebranche said. “Homosexuals are not the only ones with HIV, and just because someone keeps their same-sex behavior secretive doesn’t necessarily mean that they are irresponsible with condom use.”

The authors argue that the issue of high-risk sexual behavior among homosexuals has been absent from the discussion involving men on the down-low and the high prevalence of HIV among black women. For instance, they found that rates of condom use by black heterosexuals are low, even among couples, where one partner is HIV positive and the other is HIV negative.

“Sustaining the down-low theory takes the focus away from the behavior that transmits HIV,” says Grady’s David Malebranche, co-author of a new study that explores one controversial theory on the spread of HIV.

According to a new study co-written by Kenny Ressler of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, nearly half of mental health patients his group surveyed experience symptoms of post-traumatic stress, but very few of these people have been diagnosed with the disorder.

In addition to Ressler, the study’s authors include psychiatry and behavioral sciences scholars: Ann Schwartz and Rebekah Bradley; Melissa Sexton, of the comparative literature program in Emory College; and Alissa Sherry of the University of Texas at Austin. The study was funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health and by the Emory Medical Care Foundation and the School of Medicine.

“Post-traumatic stress common among mental health patients

BY HOLLY KORSCHUN

More than 80 percent of patients surveyed at Grady Hospital’s outpatient mental health clinic have experienced a severely traumatic event, mainly violence during their lifetime, according to a study by researchers at the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience (CBN), the School of Medicine (SOM) and the University of Texas at Austin.

Of those surveyed, 44 percent met the criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). A full 14 percent of those whose charts were reviewed had been diagnosed with the life-threatening anxiety disorder. The findings, published in the journal Psychiatric Services, suggest trauma is likely underrecognized and PTSD often undiagnosed among low-income, inner-city African Americans in Atlanta.

PTSD affects an estimated 9 to 12 percent of the general population. The disorder, which results from a psychologically traumatic experience, is characterized by intense anxiety, insomnia, irritability, outbursts of anger, difficulty concentrating, hyper-vigilance and an exaggerated startle response.

For the study, researchers surveyed 184 African Americans at Grady’s outpatient mental health clinic about previous traumatic experiences. Most respondents earned less than $3,000 per month or were homeless. A total of 153 participants (83 percent) reported having experienced at least one traumatic event in their lifetime.

More than half had been attacked with a knife, gun or other weapon. Forty-five percent of the females surveyed had experienced sexual assault. More than one-third of respondents had experienced childhood physical abuse, and a similar number had experienced childhood sexual abuse before the age of 13.

Forty-four percent of those surveyed met the criteria for PTSD. The researchers also found that many of those with PTSD suffered higher rates of major depression, suicide attempts and substance abuse compared to those who did not have PTSD. They also were more likely to have lived an unstable childhood family environment.

“Despite the high rates of trauma and PTSD, our finding that only a small number of those surveyed had a PTSD diagnosis indicates this population is not currently identified as being in need of treatment,” the study co-author Kenny Ressler, of CBN and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the medical school. “We believe that the underdiagnosis of PTSD is the case not only in our mental health center but also nationally.”

According to the best available studies, approximately 40 percent of the cumulative AIDS cases among black women through 2003 are attributable to intravenous drug use, with another 40 percent attributable to risky sexual behavior. However, it’s not known what proportion of these cases are infected having sex with heterosexual, bisexual or homosexual men.

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“There should be talk about this issue, and we hope that our research will motivate clinicians to talk about PTSD with their patients, and to offer treatment for those who need it,” Ressler said.

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Interns in the law school's Summer Child Advocacy Program spend 10 weeks working in one of the most challenging aspects of the law, but they still find a little time to unwind, like at this social event at the home of law faculty member Mary Margaret Oliver. Those in attendance included (from l-to-r): Atlanta City Hall intern Eric Lee and Emory law students/program interns Peter Morschek, Dena Crim and Elizabeth Rose.

BY ERIC RANGUS

Child advocacy is one of the most challenging areas of the law—as well as one of the lowest paying. However, the challenges of child-focused law often draw some of the most eager practitioners. “The work can be difficult at times, but I am learning a great deal,” said Joshua McCabe, a 2004 political science graduate of Emory College. McCabe is one of this year’s interns for the School of Law’s Summer Child Advocacy Program. He is interning at the DeKalb County Child Advocacy Center, where his responsibilities include assisting in forensic interviews on children who have been abused and neglected by their parents. He has already appeared in court on behalf of a young client.

“The program is amazing,” said McCabe, a perfect example of the program’s goal of recruiting the best and brightest students. He spent 2004–05 in St. Andrews as a Bobby Jones scholar and is one of only a handful of 2005 interns without a law background (yet). “I haven’t even started law school yet and already I’m making a presentation in court.”

“The intent of the program is to bring the best and the brightest to this kind of work, to turn them on to how wonderful, fascinating and interesting it is, so that they will continue to work and improve the practice of children’s law and advocacy,” said program Director Beth Reimels, ’01L, an intern herself in 1999.

Part of the law school’s Bar Child Law & Policy Clinic, the Summer Child Advocacy Program lines up interns (this year there are 20, the number changes depending on funding) with juvenile courts, state agencies and child advocacy organizations around the state. Most are in the metro Atlanta area, but this year’s interns have been placed as far away as the Golden Isles Children’s Advocacy Center in Brunswick, Ga.

The program was originally geared toward Emory students exclusively (both those in the law school and Emory College), but now the summer program draws national interest. Seven of this year’s interns are from schools outside Georgia (and they come from top law schools including Harvard and the University of Virginia) and four more are from other state schools (the University of Georgia and Georgia State).

The advocacy program began in 1992, and when the Barton Clinic was established in 2000 (clinic director Karen Worthington was part of the organization where the interns learn advocacy program interns), the most logical place for it to function was under the clinic’s name.

“These children need advocates,” Reimels said. “Children don’t vote, have no voice and need somebody looking out for them to share with the various systems they interact with what these children need and want from their perspective.”

Some internships are with district attorneys’ offices prosecuting accused perpetrators of abuse and neglect. Others work in courts helping represent children in juvenile court proceedings.

“We have other interns who are in nonprofits that interact with these systems,” Reimels said. “And some are in policy organizations who are helping inform legislation around these kinds of issues.”

The internships run 10 weeks and include a training session, an introduction to the tools of the trade, such as how to make a case from a child’s point of view. During the internship, the students submit biweekly field notes as well as a final report. The field notes, which Reimels reviews and returns with comments, are the interns’ opportunities to ask questions as well as relate their frequently challenging experiences.

“You hear stories about drug-addicted parents select their drug of choice over [the welfare] of their children,” Reimels said. “The interns also are working with professionals whose jobs are hard; they are overworked and understaffed— the interns are really needed.”

The interns also get together for program-wide events like panel discussions featuring child-law experts, tours of child-focused centers (such as the Fulton County Child Advocacy Center and the neonatal intensive care unit at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta).

Occasionally, they even find time to socialize, like at a July 25 gathering at the home of Mary Margaret Oliver, a visiting professor in the Barton Clinic. “Emory provides a public service to excellent professionals doing excellent work,” said Oliver, who in her spare time serves as a rep- resentative in the Georgia House and is former chair of the House Judiciary Committee. “The interns are learning a lot about themselves as well as about the system, which unfortunately can be very difficult in a lot of ways.”

“With the expertise these women gain at the institute, we will develop a plan to use the stipend to educate the Emory community about opportunities for leadership development and identify ways to support women at Emory who wish to advance their careers,” said Dykes.

“There are many programs at other universities that support the advancement of women in leadership roles, and we would love to help Emory contribute to these efforts.”

Located on the Wellesley College campus in Massachusetts, the intensive program is held on five consecutive weekends starting in October. This is a deviation from PCSW’s original plan devised in January of sending the two women to the six-week HERS Summer Institute.

“The PCSW wanted to provide a more flexible program to accommodate the many demands women face in managing their careers and leadership responsibilities,” said Dykes. “The five-weekend program is affiliated with Wellesley, our sister institute, but shorter in duration.”

The deadline for applications is August 25. Applications can be found at the PCSW website (www. pcswny.org) or picked up at the Center for Women and should be sent through campus mail to Martha Fagan, School of Law, 1301 Clifton Road. For more information, e-mail Leadership Committee Chairwoman Martha@law.emory.edu.
For online event information, visit www.events.emory.edu.

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**Events for the Emory Community**

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**THURSDAY, AUG. 1**

**Surgical Grand Rounds**

"Modern Management of Pelvic Fractures." Amy Wyrzykowski, medicine, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-2196.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 13**

**Center for Women Financial Seminar**

"Everything a Woman Should Know About Her Financial Future." Linda Kuryloski, Cynthia Lynn, Rebecca Godbey, Mary Anne Walser and Stephanie Friesie, presenting. 9 a.m. Governor’s Hall, Miller-Ward Alumni House. $35. 404-727-2000.

**THURSDAY, AUG. 18**

**Surgical Grand Rounds**

"Looking for Biomarkers Associated with Diabetes and Insulin Resistance Outcomes After Weightloss Surgery." Nana Gletsu, medicine, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-2196.

**THURSDAY, AUG. 25**

**Surgical Grand Rounds**

"Bleeding Disorders in the Surgical Patient." Yvonne Datta, medicine, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-2196.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 2**

**Servant Leadership Brown Bag Lunch Lecture**

1 p.m. Earl Lewis, provost, presenting. Free. 404-727-7664. 355 Dobbs Center.

**WEDNESDAYS**

**Toastmasters @ Emory**

8 a.m. 231 Dental School Building. Free. 404-727-3721.

**THURSDAYS**

**Chess Club**

6:30 p.m. 106 Bishops Hall. Free. 404-778-4121.

**SATURDAYS**

**Swing Dance**

8 p.m. Church School Building, Fellowship Hall. Free. 678-665-6462.

**TUESDAY, AUG. 16**

**School of Nursing Centennial Open House**


**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 31**

**Center for Women Open House**


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**VISUAL ARTS**

**Schatten Gallery Exhibit**


**Special Collections Exhibit**


**Through Aug. 15.**

**Carlos Museum Exhibit**

“Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries from the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology.” Third Floor Galleries, Carlos Museum. $7 suggested donation; free for students and staff. 404-727-4282.

**Through Nov. 27.**

**EXCAVATING EGYPT**

**GREAT DISCOVERIES FROM THE PETRIE MUSEUM OF EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE CARLOS MUSEUM**

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**RELIGION**

**WEDNESDAYS**

**Zen Sitting Meditation**

4:30 p.m. Rustin Chapel, Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-5120.

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**Emory Report**

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For sports information, visit www.go.emory.edu.

To submit an entry for the Emory Report calendar, enter your event on the University’s web events calendar, Events@Emory, which is located at http://events.cc.emory.edu (also accessible via the “Calendar” link from the Emory homepage) at least three weeks prior to the publication date. Dates, times and locations may change without advance notice. Due to space limitations, Emory Report may not be able to include all events submitted.