On a multicultural mission

By MARGIE FISHMAN

Having recently come out as a gay man to his parents, Scott Seitz, then an incoming Emory freshman, was searching for a community that welcomed diversity and promoted active discussion among different identity groups.

Now a senior, Seitz looks back on his first Freshman Crossroads retreat sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services (OMPS) as an “awakening.” Through role play and barrier-breaking activities, he gained a window into how students of different ethnicities and religious backgrounds experience the world.

“The unique mission of OMPS is to get people talking to each other and learning from each other,” he says.

Events celebrate Flannery O’Connor links

By MAUREEN MCGAVIN

The story of acclaimed author Flannery O’Connor’s life is illuminated through her correspondence with a wide range of thinkers, poets, writers and theologians. Her distinctive personality, humor, relationships and beliefs,” says author and O’Connor scholar Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of the University.

The plural “Habits” title of the celebration is a twist on the singular title of the book “in that Sally Fitzgerald and Flannery O’Connor inspired habits of thinking and writing — and therefore of being — in all of us,” says Magee.

Join the ranks of Emory Cares

By ERIC RANGUS

With nearly two weeks to go before the kick-off of the 5th annual celebration of Emory Cares International Service Day, there are already 24 opportunities for community service.

You can shadow an emergency room doctor at Grady Memorial Hospital, clean up Oakland Cemetery or Hahn Woods, or help sort donations for refugees living in the city. If those options don’t interest you, there are at least 21 more to choose from.

Emory’s ties to its Atlanta home are very strong, and the University is active in a variety of communities here,” says Kerry Gallo ’11PH, administrator of Emory Cares for the Emory Alumni Association (EAA), which founded the first University-wide Emory Cares Day in 2003.

Last year, Emory Cares drew more than 450 volunteers in Atlanta alone.

Please see SERVICE page 4

Journal ranks Emory ‘Best Place to Work’

This year The Scientist magazine’s readers ranked Emory University as the 5th Best Place to Work in Academia in the United States.

The ranking was based on a survey of more than 2,350 life scientists with a permanent position in an academic, hospital, government or research organization.

Emory is a newcomer to the top 15 institutions in the Best Places to Work rankings by life scientists.

Overall, respondents focused on collaborative teams building and unique funding opportunities as important work environment factors.

Lisa A. Tedesco, dean of the James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies, says the survey “inspires our efforts to be a truly distinctive and distinguished place to work as a scientist, mentor and researcher. It also provides recognition of the excellent opportunities for science faculty at Emory.”
EMORY PROFILE

David Lambeth
Serendipity and strategy
Pathologist takes a chance in science and art

By QUINN EASTMAN

David Lambeth's scientific career is a reminder of Pasteur's adage that chance favors the prepared mind. While exploring the origin of free radicals and reactive oxygen in cells, his laboratory discovered the existence of a new family of enzymes that produce them. Starting in the late 1990s his lab linked the enzymes to human cancer and — along with cardiologists and — along with cardiologists the Nox enzymes, researchers never before trusted their role in cell signaling while others are looking ahead to applications in fighting disease.

Lambeth himself teamed up in 2006 with scientists from Geneva, Kyoto and his home state of Texas to found a Swiss-based company, GenKyoTex. GenKyoTex is developing inhibitors of NADPH oxidases as potential treatments for diseases such as pulmonary fibrosis, diabetic neuropathy and hypertension.

Like his science, Lambeth's artistic pursuits also reflect a combination of serendipity and strategy. He is an enthusiast for acoustic finger-style guitar playing — think Richard Thompson and Shimmy Popinga.

At times, Lambeth has teamed up with other musicians to form various bands. One iteration had him teamed up with a graduate student who plays Irish fiddle.

"The problem for me with playing in a group is that eventually some of the musicians want to become famous or at least play for money," he chuckles. "I had those same daydreams in college, but at this point, I just want to play for myself and my friends, usually in someone's living room."

In addition to guitar playing, Lambeth has been stretching his creative side as a painter. He says he's mostly self-taught, augmented by a few courses at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center.

"For me, it's another form of experimentation, with colors and solvents instead of cells and enzymes," he says.

He had enjoyed painting as a teenager, and started painting again as his 40th birthday approached. He says he started out more in the style of the Impressionist school, depicting for example dappled reflections on water. Recently, he has grown more classical, while still retaining the pure, bright colors used by the Impressionists.

"I wanted something more classical, while still retaining the pure, bright colors used by the Impressionists. A painting in his office shows the owner and sole employee of a three-table restaurant he met on a remote beach near Zihuatanejo, Mexico. "I tried to emphasize the folds of her dress and the pride that showed through on her weathered face and resolute posture," Lambeth says.

By QUINN EASTMAN
Creativity Conversations

Series has Carter as first political guest

By CINDY MURPHY-TOFI

A recent $3 million award has allowed the Carter Center to expand their work in several important areas, including health, education, and human rights.

The award will be used to:

- Provide technical assistance and grants for schools, community organizations, and health care providers to develop school-based clinics in their respective communities.
- Support an academic success coordinator for students in our programs.
- Support research on mental health disorders.

The funding also will support collaborative efforts between the Department of Pediatrics and other urban health programs in conjunction with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and the Grady Health System.

The funding initiative was designed to support all disciplines of medicine from primary to subspecialty care, as well as international health, the arts, environment and wildlife.

William Foege was honored with the 2009 CDC Foundation's Hero Award. The award, the presentation of which was accompanied by an emotional and emotional reception, was given to the former director of global health at the Rollins School of Public Health for improved health in the developing world and broadening public awareness of critical health issues. Foege is also a fellow in the Global Health Program of the O.C. Miller.

ACCLAIM

His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama and Rosemary Garland-Thomson were among 50 people profiled by Utne Reader for “making a difference.” The Dalai Lama, a recipient of the Nation’s Distinguished Professor, was chosen to represent all disciplines in a second annual list of visionaries. Garland-Thomson, professor of women’s studies, was noted for her work on disabilities.

Kerry Ressler was presented with the Friedman Award by the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, which supports research on mental illness. Ressler is also a researcher at National Primate Research Center.

Barbara Stoll has been elected to the Institute of Medicine for her new class of 65 top national health scientists. Stoll chairs the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine, and is a neonatal researcher.

Major contributors to the advancement of the medical care and public health are elected through a highly selective process.

Paul Root Wolpe has been selected to join the Fellows Program of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. Wolpe is also a fellow in the Rollins School of Public Health.

BY QUINN EASTMAN

Most vaccines in use today are delivered through the mouth or nose, but scientists who study the immune system believe it may be better to deliver vaccines through the mouth or nose, to strengthen the body's defenses where the attack starts.

Dr. Williams, associate professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at Emory School of Medicine, thinks M cells, a type of cell found in the intestines, may be a key to effective mucosal vaccines. The results of Williams' teams' research were recently published by the Journal of Immunology.

BY JON EISEN

For an orally delivered vaccine to stimulate the immune system properly, enough of it has to cross the barriers posed by mucosal surfaces, Williams says. Effective vaccines delivered through the intestine, he says, are often too weak to boost the immune system. However, a temporary dose delivered through the nose could minimize those effects, and there may be more selective ways to stimulate development of M cells via the RANKL pathway, he says.

The current research was supported by the National Institutes of Health and the Cyrus and Colitis Foundation of America.

BY BRYAN METZ

Dr. Williams' research is featured in the journal of Immunology.
The People Speak 'tour to visit campus

The People Speak College Tour 2009 comes to campus Nov. 10, sponsored by the James Weldon Johnson Institute (JWJI).

The tour seeks to engage college students in discussion about the nation's history and link that to civic action.

“The People Speak” is a film that will air on The History Channel in December and is based on Howard Zinn’s “A People’s History of the United States.”

On sale are 2009 models, which will be pulled from the Web site for the 2010 models. Even after the sale, the Emory Cares Web site will be available to purchasers.

“Are we offering for the first time an electronic bike,” Smith said about the incoming 2010 models, which really gives a boost when a rider is starting off from a stop such as a traffic light.

Emory is extending its event to bicyclists and accessories through Nov. 15, according to program director Abby Horowitz.

For more information, see www.history.com/people.speak.

Bike sales extended plus new offerings

Bike Emory is extending its event to bicyclists and accessories through Nov. 15, according to program director Abby Horowitz.

On sale are 2009 models, which will be pulled from the Web site for the 2010 models. Even after the sale, the Emory Cares Web site will be available to purchasers.

“We're offering for the first time an electronic bike,” Smith said about the incoming 2010 models, which really gives a boost when a rider is starting off from a stop such as a traffic light.

Smith notes that the fit of the bike is the most important aspect when buying one.

Pogi Bikes, Bike Emory's partners in a laser-sizing device for a high-tech way to get the right bike.

For more information, see www.bike.emory.edu.
First, I want to thank the many members of the Emory community who have extended such a warm welcome to me since I arrived in October as director of Equal Opportunity Programs. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks and months. I am excited to be part of Emory’s enduring effort to create community and advance diversity and to work across campus with others engaged in this important work.

EOP protects historical, legal and ethical principles of openness and non-discrimination while advancing a broad vision of inclusion in which all members of the Emory community and guests are welcomed and have an opportunity to participate fully. As part of the Office of Community and Diversity we are a resource for access, equity and inclusion.

EOP has five major responsibilities:
- Community and Diversity Planning: Emory’s community and diversity efforts should be based on strategic goals and priorities. EOP assists schools, divisions and departments in designing and developing community and diversity plans that are aligned with existing institutional priorities.
- Data: Community and diversity at Emory can be described in quantitative and qualitative terms. EOP develops and distributes Emory’s Affirmative Action Plan (an analysis of the University’s workforce) and Diversity Profile (a demographic census). EOP is also working to develop additional metrics for assessing Emory’s progress with regard to community and diversity.
- Education and Professional Development: EOP designs and delivers programs that promote diversity and inclusion throughout the institution, including strategies for optimizing performance, and discrimination and harassment awareness and prevention.
- Internal Complaint Investigation: EOP is responsible for upholding Emory’s Equal Opportunity and Discriminatory Harassment Policy. We respond to inquiries about the policy and facilitate the resolution of concerns related to the policy. We investigate internal complaints to determine if policy violations have occurred.
- Search and Hire: EOP monitors Emory’s hiring processes and procedures and assists departments with recruiting and hiring practices designed to support access, equity and inclusion.

To learn more about our work, visit www.emory.edu/EEO.

Michelle Meyers is director of Equal Opportunity Programs.
‘Great Works’ illuminates Ten Commandments

By MARGIE FISHMAN

“But if we lose control and try to make everything into law, we’ll be in danger of losing it all.”

The Religious Society of Australia’s text-messaging version of the Ten Commandments reflects our appetite for easily digestible information at breakneck speed in a digital age.

But are we missing the point?

“When we speak about the Bible, many people know the stories,” said Shalom Goldman, professor of Hebrew and Middle Eastern Studies. “But they don’t know the text.”

Goldman seeks to illuminate the Ten Commandments — a list of moral and religious imperatives representing the guiding tenets of the monotheistic religions in the context of both the Old and New Testaments, the Qur’an, the Bible, and the Hindu Vedas.

By ELAINE JUSTICE

Religion Dispatches (www.religiondispatches.org), the online religion magazine based at Emory, has received a grant of $870,000 from the Ford Foundation for its operations over the next three years.

The award is one of the largest single grants to the humanities in the history of Emory College, says Bobby Paul, dean of Emory College of Arts and Sciences.

Launched in February 2008, Religion Dispatches already has passed the 2 million page views mark and is on track to reach a million readers a year, says Gary Laderman, chair of Emory’s Department of Religion. Laderman and Linell H. Davis of Arizona State University are Religion Dispatches’ executive editors and co-directors. They attribute the magazine’s success to growing interest for online analysis and commentary on religion and public life.

“Religion Dispatches meets a critical need for progressive expertise, public scholarship and informed perspectives at the intersection of religion, social justice issues and policy debates,” says Cydny Callaway, visiting assistant professor of pastoral care at Candler School of Theology and John Blevins, visiting assistant professor of American religious history and culture. “Part of the nature of this beast is to be fast on your feet and be constantly ready to change.”

In coming months, Religion Dispatches will roll out a new design and architecture with an eye toward expanding multimedia content on the site. Plans also include marketing its content to religion scholars as a resource for classroom use, and continuing outreach to other Web and social networking sites. Religion Dispatches stories already have appeared on sites such as the Huffington Post and Washington Post’s “On Faith” blog.

Online journal grant among Emory College’s largest

By ELAINE JUSTICE

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Learning basic truths from Nobel Laureates

By HINH LY

The 2009 Nobel Prize announcements undoubtedly stirred up a lot of emotion in the winner, it also brought a lot of questions to some of us here at Emory University who had the pleasure to work with some of these newly minted Nobel Laureates. Prior to joining Emory as an assistant professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, I was a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Elizabeth Blackburn of the University of California at San Francisco, who was named the Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology in 2009. In the laboratory, I worked also with Tristram Parslow, now William Patterson Timmie Professor and Chair of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at Emory.

The Halle Speaker Series, The Halle Institute will co-sponsor the event, which is by invitation only. To see www.halleinstitute.emory.edu/ as some of the events are not the only Emory connections to some of the past Nobelists Among them: Bill Kelly, an associate professor of biology, was a former trainee of Andrew Fire, the 2009 Nobelist in Medicine; and Daniel Kalman, an associate professor of pathology was a former trainee of Michael Bishop who won the 1989 Nobel Prize in Medicine. This speaks volume to Emory's ability and success in the recruitment and retention of top-notch scientific talent. These scientists were trained with luminary scientists throughout the world. What's even more exciting is the fact that these recent Nobel Prizes have been awarded for basic scientific inquiries that at the time of discovery not necessarily have a clear and immediate medical benefit. As Dr. Blackburn has recently commented, “The most exciting part about basic research is that you don’t really know what’s going to happen.”

Dr. Blackburn, on the other hand, was a former trainee of Andrew Fire, the 2009 Nobelist in Medicine. In his lab, he was studying telomerase, which are DNA-protein structures that cap and protect our chromosomes. One can think of these structures as aglets at the tips of shoelaces; the loss of these plastic caps can result in fraying of the tips of the shoelaces — make them unsightly and useless. Similarly, when telomere structure and function are disrupted on human chromosomes, various forms of diseases, such as premature aging syndromes and cancers, can develop.

My laboratory here at Emory was among the first to show that this could happen in patients with a severe and sometimes fatal form of bone marrow syndrome known as aplastic anemia. Because of premature death of blood stem cells as a result of telomere dysfunction, these patients are more prone to infection, bleeding episodes, cancers, and death due to marrow failure syndromes. Except for marrow stem-cell transplantation, there are currently no other effective forms of treatment for these patients. Work in my lab is offering important insights into the role of telomere biology in human diseases and hope for patients who are suffering from these debilitating diseases with telomere dysfunction.

Dr. Blackburn's work on deciphering the atomic structure of telomerase and the translation machinery in the cell paved the way for understanding how the enzyme renders this molecule inactive and ultimately result in cell death. Both the telomerase Nobel and this ribosome Nobel touch upon the importance of funding basic science.

At the time when both projects were initially being studied, there didn’t appear to be any obvious medical relevance. However it has become increasingly apparent that if scientists focus on understanding important fundamental cellular mechanisms, there’s bound to be some sort of medical relevance at some later stage.

And it is unknown how basic cellular processes occur, how one can understand when they are perturbed or disrupted in disease states? Dr. Ramakrishnan commented on this conundrum: “The idea of supporting long-term basic research like that at LMB does lead to breakthroughs, the ribosome is already starting to show its medical importance.” It is important to note that many of the recent Nobelists have made other important contributions to the society at large. Dr. Blackburn, for example, is well known for her unwavering desire to promote workplace balance in one’s career, to increase the number of women in science, and to champion for stem cell research and funding. She shared her Nobel Prize with Carol Greider, who was at the time of the seminal discovery a young female graduate student in the Blackburn lab at the University of California at Berkeley.

Dr. Blackburn has continued to promote and nurture budding scientists, many of whom have prospered in their own careers as faculty members and scientific investigators at many premier research and teaching institutions throughout the world. It is a testament to her success in building a thriving scientific enterprise based purely on basic research, and for her wonderful character as a mentor, teacher, collaborator and friend, and not to forget, the role model for many budding scientists in the world.
Chimpanzee drama inspires ‘Hominid’

BY HUNTER HANGER

On a small island in Holland, a modern-day “Macbeth” unfolds as a beloved leader is overthrown and a utopian community is rocked by bloodshed and greed. The new play “Hominid” is based on actual events within a chimpanzee colony in a Dutch zoo as documented by primatologist Prans de Waal, director of Living Links Center at Yerkes National Primate Research Center.

“Hominid” will be presented Nov. 12-22, in the Mary Gray Munroe Theater at the Dobbs University Center. Tickets (public: $18, Emory employees $14, Emory students $6) can be purchased at 404-727-5050 or www.arts.emory.edu.

Playwright Ken Weitzman, Playwriting Center of Theater Emory Director Linda Paulsen, and members of Atlanta’s Out of Hand team were commissioned by the Playwriting Center of Theater Emory through grants from the Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts and Emory’s Creativity, Art and Innovation to create a new evolution-themed work. The process included a two-week residency at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center in Georgia.

“The thing that compelled us most about de Waal’s work,” says Weitzman, “was his investigation into just how similar humans and apes are.” As they structured the script and the concept, de Man says, “we filled ourselves with de Waal’s ideas. The need for hierarchy to maintain order, undeniable gender differences, the power of coalitions — traits that humans share with other great apes.”

De Man says the experience of partnering with a playwright and scientist was unique for her theater company, which historically developed new work predominantly through highly physical ensemble exploration.

Weitzman explains: “Out of Hand works in a very particular way, building a show from the beginning without a script, using a series of material generating exercises.”

This production is co-sponsored by the Emory College Program in Science and Society and the Yerkes National Primate Research Center.

EVENTS

**THIS WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS**

**TUESDAY, Nov. 3**
Creativity Conversation with Christopher O’Riley. 3 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050.

“The Scientific World-View and Vipassana Meditation.” Paul Fehrenbach, meditation teacher. 2:30 Dental Building. Free. pveddin@emory.edu.

**WEDNESDAY, Nov. 4**
An Evening With Orpheus. 7 p.m. Carlos Museum. Free. 404-727-4282.


**THURSDAY, Nov. 5**


**SATURDAY, Nov. 7**
Men’s and Women’s Soccer v. Carnegie Mellon University. 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Free. www.emoryathletics.com.

**HABITS: O’Connor’s life unfolded**

Continued from the cover

Fitzgerald was a visiting research scholar at Emory in the 1980s and 1990s. She played an instrumental part in Emory Libraries’ acquisition in 1987 of O’Connor’s letters to Atlanta friend Betty Hester, which were kept closed according to Hester’s instructions until 2007 (Hester was the anonymous A in some of the letters). Emory Libraries acquired Fitzgerald’s papers in the winter of 2008, both collections are at the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

“As Emory holds both O’Connor’s letters to Betty Hester and a Bailey Fitzgerald papers, it’s very appropriate that Emory host a celebration of the 30th anniversary of this seminal event,” said Emory Libraries’ interim director of MARBL.

The upcoming celebration involves interconnected events, says Magee — the 30th anniversary of “The Habit of Being,” Fitzgerald’s longtime relationship with Emory, her role in its acquisition of the author’s letters and Emory’s recent acquisition of Fitzgerald’s papers.

Magee will serve as moderator for the panel discussion, featuring William Sessions, a retired Georgia State professor and a personal friend of O’Connor, the Rev. Gregory, a faculty member at Georgia College & State University and editor of the Flannery O’Connor Review, and Elizabeth Chase, Woodruff Professor of English.

Washington Post book critic and author Yardley, who reviewed “The Habit of Being” when it was first released in 1979, and Yardley, will give a lecture titled “Flannery O’Connor’s Last Masterpiece.”

‘Habit’ Nov. 5 events

**LEVEL 3 PANEL:**
30th Anniversary of the First Appearance of “The Habit of Being.” 4 p.m. Woodruff Library, Jones Room

**LUMINARIES LECTURE:**
“Flannery O’Connor’s Last Masterpiece.” Yardley, presenting. 5 p.m. Woodruff Library, Jones Room

**READING:**
Flannery O’Connor to Robert and Sally Fitzgerald. Brenda Byrum, presenting. 7:30 p.m. Cannon Chapel.

**Staffer writes about O’Connor’s spiritual side**

The latest book from Lorraine V. Murray, public services assistant in the Pitts Theology Library, “Abbeys of Andalucia: Flannery O’Connor’s Spiritual Journey” offers an in-depth look at O’Connor not only as a writer and an icon, but as a theologian and student of prayer.