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30TH ANNIVERSARY

On a multicultural mission



PHOTOS COURTESY OF OMPS

A photo timeline tracing 30 years of multicultural life at Emory will be on display at the DUC Gallery throughout Unity Month.

By **MARGIE FISHMAN**

Having recently come out as a gay man to his parents, Scot 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.

Celebrating its 30th anniversary this month, OMPS has planned a series of events pegged to its core mission: Developing a more pluralistic Emory community by emphasizing cross-cultural competence and global citizenship.

On Nov. 13, OMPS will host a reception at the DUC Art Gallery beginning at 2 p.m. to highlight an exhibit of more than 60 photographs, articles

and art posters that trace the history of the office in its advocacy for minority and diversity issues. The event will feature a video with interviews from OMPS founding director, Lelia Crawford, and previous OMPS administrators, along with a slideshow of signature OMPS events.

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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 Southern voice will come to life with a program of special events on Thursday, Nov. 5.

To recognize the 30th anniversary of the publication of O'Connor's letters in Sally Fitzgerald's book "The Habit of Being," Emory Libraries

is hosting "Habits of Being: Flannery O'Connor and Sally Fitzgerald."

The celebration will include a panel discussion, a lecture by Washington Post book critic Jonathan Yardley and a dramatic reading from O'Connor's letters by Atlanta actress Brenda Bynum.

O'Connor, a native Georgian, lived with Sally and Robert Fitzgerald and their children on a farm in rural Connecticut in 1949 and 1950. The three

had many discussions about their shared Catholic faith, and O'Connor remained close friends with the couple until her death in 1964.

Fitzgerald compiled and edited "The Habit of Being: Letters of Flannery O'Connor," published in 1979.

"It was a groundbreaking book in terms of understanding the nature of Flannery O'Connor's work and the insights into her life that the letters provided — her per-

sonality, 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.

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Join the ranks of Emory Cares

By **ERIC RANGUS**

With nearly two weeks to go before the kick-off of the 7th 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 collaboration, team 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."

NEW ONLINE AT EMORY.EDU

www.emoryhealthcare.org

Check out Emory's newly redesigned consumer Web site at emoryhealthcare.org.

There you will find easy navigation and access to quick links that help you find a physician, refer a patient, and learn more about the innovative treatment options available at Emory Healthcare. Stay connected with Emory's CarePages, e-mail a nurse, learn about top medical advances and more.

Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Fred Sanfilippo and Emory Healthcare CEO John Fox welcome thoughts and feedback about the site at webadmin@emoryhealthcare.org.

www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT

What is the truth behind hypnosis? Can the realm of law be explained in musical terms? What do Abraham Lincoln, Ayn Rand and Ronald Reagan have in common?

Tune in to Emory Report's new podcast series, BookIReport, to hear interviews with faculty authors. Recently featured are Scott Lilienfeld on "Psychology Myths," Robert Schapiro on "Polyphonic Federalism" and Patrick Allitt on "The Conservatives."

Look for BookIReport podcasts in each online edition of Emory Report, and listen as faculty bring their scholarship and research to life through readings and anecdotes.

EMORY report

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Nancy Seideman
nancy.seideman@emory.edu

EDITOR
Kim Urquhart
kim.urquhart@emory.edu

DESIGNER
Christi Gray
christi.gray@emory.edu

PHOTO DIRECTOR
Bryan Meltz
bryan.meltz@emory.edu

SCIENCE WRITER
Carol Clark
carol.clark@emory.edu

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Leslie King
ltkings@emory.edu

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Emory Report accepts display advertising. For more information, contact a sales representative at 404-727-6178 or ebnsnyde@emory.edu.

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EMORY PROFILE David Lambeth

Serendipity and strategy

Pathologist takes a chance in science and art



BRYAN MELTZ

David Lambeth is professor of pathology and laboratory medicine.

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 cardiology researcher Kathy Griendling, also at Emory — to heart disease.

Since then, these enzymes, called NADPH oxidases or Nox enzymes for short, have rapidly become a field of inquiry unto themselves. Scientists around the world have identified NADPH oxidases as important for basic processes across many species. They help plants fight off pathogens, guide sexual development in fungi, are essential for egg laying in flies and even help humans to sense gravity.

The professor of pathology and laboratory medicine's first exposure to the study of reactive oxygen began at Duke, where he attended graduate school in biochemistry. Lambeth worked with Henry Kamin on enzymes that use oxygen to modify

hormones, and next door was Irwin Fridovich, who had identified an enzyme called superoxide dismutase that "mops up" reactive oxygen.

Scientists have known about forms of reactive oxygen for several decades, but for much of that time they were thought to be only short-lived "sparks" thrown off by mitochondria, cells' miniature power plants.

That picture changed slightly when certain immune cells were found to make bursts of reactive oxygen to kill bacteria. During the 1990s, Lambeth was studying the enzyme immune cells used to make these bursts.

He became intrigued when clues appeared that cells outside the immune system, such as cells lining blood vessels, also made reactive oxygen. "If we had trusted the assumption that the reactive oxygen was coming from mitochondria, we would have never gone looking for the Nox enzymes," he says. "What started as a side project quickly became our major focus."

Lambeth says it's an accident that scientists discovered a reactive oxygen producing enzyme in immune cells first. Because Nox enzymes are so widespread throughout the evolutionary tree, it's

probable that their functions in cell signaling came long before their role in fighting bacteria.

Now the Nox field is heading in "many directions at once," Lambeth says. Some researchers are reaching back to find the fundamental roles they play 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 shimmering arpeggios.

At times, Lambeth has joined 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 musi-

cians want to become famous or at least play for money," he chuckles. "I had those same delusions 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. 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.

People

Scientist on a conveyor belt of discovery

BY QUINN EASTMAN

Most vaccines in use today are administered by injection. But scientists who study the immune system believe it may be better to deliver vaccines through the mouth or nose, thus strengthening the body's defenses where the attack starts.

Ifor 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*.

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 oral vaccines such as polio vaccine come from pathogens that preferentially stick to M cells and exploit them to invade mucosal tissues in the intestine.

M cells act like "conveyor belts" transporting small particles across the barriers and into Peyer's patches, which resemble lymph nodes but are specialized for the intestines.

"As bacteria and food and other material come through the intestine, M cells divert a

bit of that stream," he says. "It's how the immune system keeps track of what's out there."

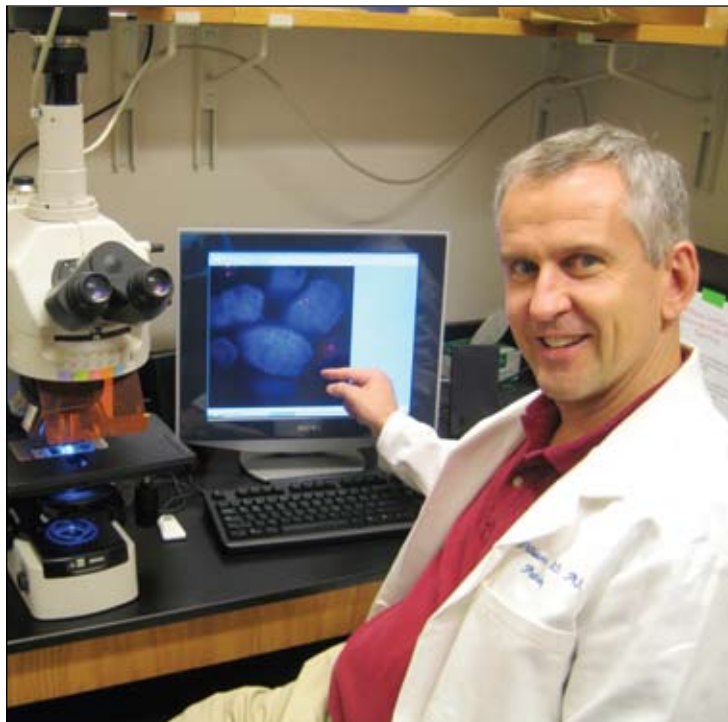
Working with Williams, graduate student Kathryn Knoop discovered that a protein made by the body called RANKL (receptor activator of NF- κ B ligand) is essential for the proper development of M cells.

Mice lacking the gene for RANKL have more than 50 times fewer M cells in their intestines, the authors found. The intestines in these mice also have trouble taking up fluorescent beads that are a stand-in for bacteria.

By injecting mice with artificial RANKL, the scientists could correct the defect. In addition, regular mice treated with RANKL had more M cells throughout their intestines. Usually M cells are found next to Peyer's patches.

The Emory team has earned a Grand Challenges Explorations grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to test their ideas. Williams says the Gates grant will allow his laboratory to test whether RANKL treatment can boost the immune response to oral vaccines in mice. Also, he plans to examine how RANKL treatment affects the mucosal surface inside the nose.

"We're still trying to figure out if it works for other mucosal



Ifor Williams' research is featured in the *Journal of Immunology*.

BRYAN MELTZ

surfaces like those in the nose," he says.

RANKL is also important for bone development and breast milk production. That means prolonged RANKL treatment throughout the body might have unwanted effects on bone density in humans, Williams says.

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 Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America.

ACCLAIM

William Foege was honored with the 2009 CDC Foundation Hero Award Recipient.

The award, the presentation of which encompassed a lecture and reception, was given to the professor emeritus of global health in 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 senior fellow in the Global Health Program of the CDC.



His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama and **Rosemarie Garland-Thomson** were

among 50 people profiled by *Utne Reader* for "making a difference."

The Dalai Lama, Presidential Distinguished Professor, was chosen to represent the magazine's 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 2009 Freedman Award by the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, which supports research on mental illnesses.

The associate professor in the School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences was recognized for research in mental health disorders.

Ressler is also a researcher at Yerkes National Primate Research Center.



Barbara Stoll has been elected by the Institute of Medicine to its 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 sciences, health care and public health are elected through a highly selective process.

Paul Root Wolpe has been

elected a Fellow of the Hastings Center, the oldest bioethics institute in America.

Wolpe, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Bioethics, is one of eight elected Fellows. The center draws upon their knowledge and expertise in addressing ethical questions raised by advances in science and medicine.



CREATIVITY CONVERSATIONS

Series has Carter as first political guest

By HAL JACOBS

With 21 books and counting, what's the secret behind former President Jimmy Carter's creativity and productivity? How does he experience the creative process? How have his creative endeavors enhanced his life as a public servant?

On Tuesday, Nov. 10, Carter will share his thoughts with Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of the University, in a public "Creativity Conversation" at 2:30 p.m. in Emerson Concert Hall.

He joins other notable artists and thinkers who have participated in this series of Creativity Conversations at Emory.

"I've heard people at Emory say they've been able to connect with the artists and their work much more readily as a result of the Conversations—as well as connect with their own internal experience of creativity," says Magee. She adds that Creativity Conversations have revealed "how engaged these artists and scientists are in the nitty-gritty details of life."

Leslie Taylor, an associate professor in Theater Studies who also directs the Center for Creativity & Arts, believes Creativity Conversations go to the heart of scholarly activity at a major research university. "The Conversations have contributed to the understanding of the

scholarly nature of creativity, of the research and synthesis involved in creating a new idea, whether it is a composition, a painting, a dance or a scientific theory," she says.

Creativity Conversations have found a large audience at Emory and beyond. The events usually attract standing-room audiences, and the digital versions, available on iTunesU and YouTube, are among some of the University's most popular content. In September, Creativity Conversations were featured on the national iTunesU homepage as "Noteworthy," highlighting it from among all content provided by U.S. universities. During one week alone, they received more than 9,000 hits.

The Creativity Conversation with Jimmy Carter is one among many programmed for the 2009-2010 season. Others will feature the host of public radio's "From the Top" and pianist Christopher O'Riley (Nov. 3), Emory primatologist Frans de Waal and Out of Hand Theater's Ariel deMan (Nov. 15), and Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Musical Director and recently named Emory Distinguished Artist in Residence Robert Spano (April 14, 2010).

The series, directed by Magee, is sponsored by Emory's Creativity: Arts & Innovation initiative.

CAMPAIGN EMORY

\$3 million award will help at-risk children

By CINDY MURPHY-TOFIG

A recent \$3 million award from The Zeist Foundation will help Emory pediatricians improve outcomes for at-risk children in metro Atlanta and throughout Georgia.

The award will fund development of an urban health program in the Department of Pediatrics. Specifically, it 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 pediatrics to oversee Reach Out and Read, an early childhood literacy program conducted at Atlanta's Whitefoord Elementary School clinic and the Grady Neighborhood Health Centers;
- Host conferences and workshops over the next five years to support integration and coordination of primary care activities throughout metro Atlanta.

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. An Emory-Grady urban health

initiative being developed to support all disciplines of medicine from primary to subspecialty care also has received a planning grant from the Woodruff Foundation.

The program will expand school-based health clinics throughout metro Atlanta and Georgia, as well as increase access to and improve delivery of pediatric primary care services for urban-based populations. The program also will advise community leaders and policy makers on the value of coordinated health services for preschool children.

"More than 300,000 of Georgia's children are uninsured and as a result do not have a medical home and have very limited access to routine health care," says Veda C. Johnson, assistant professor of pediatrics at Emory School of Medicine. "Emory's urban health program will increase access to quality health care, enhance the delivery of primary health care services through a holistic and integrated approach, and improve the overall health of Georgia's children."

The Zeist Foundation, established in 1989, provides support to nonprofit organizations with priority given to education, children and youth, community building, health, the arts, environment and wildlife.

TAKE NOTE

‘The People Speak’ tour to visit campus

The People Speak College Tour 2009 comes to campus Nov. 16, sponsored by the James Weldon Johnson Institute (JWJI).

A partnership between the History Channel and the nonprofit educational organization Voices of a People’s History of the United States, 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.”

The campus event features a brief screening and reading of texts from the film by actress Jasmine Guy. JWJI Director Rudolph P. Byrd will facilitate a student-driven discussion.

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

Bike sales extended plus new offerings

Bike Emory is extending its current sale on bicycles and accessories through Nov. 15, according to program director Jamie Smith.

On sale are 2009 models, which will be pulled from the Web site for the 2010 models. Even after the sale, the Emory discount 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 at a traffic light.

Smith notes that the fit of the bike is the most important aspect when buying one. Fuji Bikes, Bike Emory’s partner, has a laser-sizing device for a high-tech way to get a very accurate fit.

For more information, see www.bike.emory.edu.

Outrage focus of brain study

The Emory Center for Neuropolicy is recruiting participants ages 18 to 59 for a study on how the brain reacts when someone perceives that their sacred values are being attacked or diminished. Sacred values are defined as beliefs about religion, government policy and other issues that evoke strong feelings.

“Given the importance of sacred values and the potential for triggering violent conflict, it is important to understand how sacred values become intertwined in decision making,” said Gregory Berns, director of the center and lead investigator. The study is funded by the U.S. Air Force and Navy.

Interested in participating in the study? Contact Brittaney Anderson at 404-727-3087.

SERVICE: Projects are local, global in scope

Continued from the cover

“Emory’s campus is so large and our alumni community so spread out, it’s not easy to bring everyone together. Emory Cares is an ideal way to do not just that, but also give back to the wider community that has been so supportive of us,” Gallo continues.

Students, faculty and staff make up the majority of Emory Cares volunteers in Atlanta, and the partnerships across the University are getting more robust. Volunteer Emory and the EAA have worked together since 2007 to plan and execute Emory Cares in Atlanta. For 2009, nearly a dozen Emory student, campus and administrative organizations and units are teaming up for Emory Cares.

Getting involved as a volunteer is easy. A full list of campus-based volunteer opportunities as well as registration information can be found at www.alumni.emory.edu/campuscares.

Volunteers can register as individuals or as part of a group. Check-in begins at 12:30 p.m. on McDonough Field and transportation will be provided to project sites. For volunteers who arrange for their own transportation, directions to their off-campus project site will be e-mailed to them prior

to Nov. 14. An Emory Cares wrap party — refreshments provided — will conclude the day at 5 p.m. in the DUC.

Beyond campus, projects also are being held in Roswell, Jonesboro and at Oxford College. A full list of these and other Emory Cares projects can be found at www.alumni.emory.edu/emorycares.

The Emory Cares Web site also lists all the cities that are hosting Emory Cares projects, and alumni volunteers, who plan and administer the entire process themselves, bring a lot of passion to their work.

“I love that energy that is created by the fact that the Emory community is doing something worldwide and that you are a part of something much bigger than yourself,” says Kat Hedrick ’89B, project coordinator for a shoreline cleanup at White Rock Lake in Dallas.

If Emory recruits 1,000 volunteers worldwide for Emory Cares, they will likely be helping 10,000 people with their efforts — probably more.

One of the key thoughts of Emory Cares is that the celebration is an “international” service day. And 2009 offers the most projects abroad ever, with alumni in Argentina, Hong Kong, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, South Africa and South Korea hosting Emory Cares projects.

‘Poetry on the Move’ puts senses in motion

By TANIA DOWDY

Can stairwells and shuttle buses be places for poetry? Recognizing that a university campus is a space of constant movement, the Emory Poetry Council is sending poems along for the ride.

The Emory Poetry Council presents its second iteration of “Poetry on the Move,” a project that places poetry in various sites of motion throughout campus.

The goal of the semester-long project is to make poetry more visible, and allow the Emory community to have “informal interaction with poetry,” says Abby Horowitz, Campus Life program development coordinator. “It’s an opportunity for people who don’t run into poetry on a daily basis.”

Passersby can find poems on posters, adhesive strips and magnets in the Woodruff Library, parking deck elevators, and in high-traffic buildings such as Callaway and Candler. To ensure poetry is literally moving, the poem magnets are free for the taking.

“We hope that poetry is popping up in places that people don’t typically see it,” says Bruce Covey, lecturer in poetry. “We want to see exactly what people do with the poems.”

“Poetry on the Move” features works by poets who have appeared in Poetry Council’s



One of the examples of poetry in motion on campus.

SPECIAL

“What’s New in Poetry?” series, such as Jennifer Knox, Sandra Beasley and P.F. Potvin. Made possible with a grant from the Emory College Center for Creativity & Arts, the project includes poetry by creative writing professors Covey and Natasha Trethewey. It also features artwork by Jason Francisco and Laura Noel of the Visual Arts Department and Emory College student Charlotte Watts.

For upcoming Poetry Council events, visit www.college.emory.edu/poetrycouncil.

OMPS: Unity at core of office’s mission

Continued from the cover

Emory’s Unity Month celebration kicks off in November with workshops, discussions and activities developed by students that promote a shared sense of community. Events include the Diwali festival, an international potluck dinner, a networking event for minority undergraduates, Unity Ball and a keynote address on the experience of interracial families in the post-civil rights era by author Elliott Lewis. On Nov. 17, Provost Earl Lewis will lead an informative question and answer session for the University community about diversity and race at Emory. For a full listing of Unity Month events, visit www.emory.edu/multicultural.

“We recognize that our social identities don’t just fall into one category,” says Assistant Dean of Campus Life and OMPS Director Donna Wong. “There’s a whole intersection of identities that we want people to explore and discover to feel empowered about who they are.”

OMPS was originally established in 1979 as the Office of Minority Student Programs to primarily serve African American students, then the largest minority group at the

University representing about 3 percent of the population.

Crawford, now director of Emory’s Office of International Student and Scholar Programs, laid the groundwork for programs that continue today, including a peer mentoring program and what is now the Delores P. Aldridge Excellence Awards, honoring students, faculty and staff for their leadership, service and research in diversity issues.

Today, minority groups constitute more than one-third of the Emory student population and OMPS provides a resource library, intimate discussion groups, diversity workshops and a student theater troupe to raise awareness and stimulate dialogue about race, bias and difference. OMPS also is actively involved in working to retain students of color and support their successful transition to Emory.

While the University has become more integrated in recent years with the support of the administration, the larger society is still playing catch up, says Crawford.

“For the near future,” she says, “we still need to bring students of different backgrounds together so that the negative stereotypes and images can be overcome.”

SNAPSHOT



SPECIAL

Saving energy, 350 bulbs at a time

Did you know that over half the energy consumed by incandescent light bulbs produces heat, not light? As Emory advances its goal of reducing energy consumption by 25 percent per square foot by 2015, students at the Clairmont Campus recently swapped out incandescent light bulbs for compact florescent (CFL) bulbs to help reduce energy on campus.

The light bulb swap was held in conjunction with the International Day of Climate Action Oct. 24, planned by 350.org. Georgia Power donated 350 CFLs to Emory’s Office of Sustainability Initiatives, who worked with the Emory Environmental Alliance to switch the bulbs.

Campus

5

REPORT FROM: Equal Opportunity Programs

A resource for access, equity and inclusion

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.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE ROUNDUP

Employee Council

Following its introductory meeting and the president's State of the University speech in September, Employee Council members in October took a tour of the Emory Inn and Emory Conference Center Hotel, which has had some additions and updates over the last year. Director of Sales & Marketing John Hill gave a presentation on the facilities.

This year's theme is "Diversity Is." During the September meeting, Flavia Mercado, assistant professor of pediatrics in the School of Medicine, presented her "Thoughts from a Bilingual Bicultural Pediatrician." Using PowerPoint, she showed the dis-

parities between health care in the minority populations and how the ethnic make-up of the state is changing. She also noted how the national Commission to End Health Disparities plans to address the discrepancies. The role of Grady Health Systems and the International Medical Center, of which Emory is an integral part, in this effort was explained; an eye-opening 24 languages are spoken in these health care system facilities.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 18 in the Jones Room of the Woodruff Library.

University Senate

The University Senate got a preview of events for Unity Month, which is in November, from Donna Wong, director of the Office of Multicultural Programming and Services. Jocelyn Shieh from housing and resident life and others discussed Volunteer Emory's available opportunities through the end of the semester. University Senate president Ken Carter said members also heard presentations on health issues affecting students, faculty and staff including mental health and counseling services and

H1N1 preparations.

Carter gave the Senate and the Faculty Council, which he also chairs, "homework" around issues the two groups share: Identifying areas of excellence in which the University is a leader, in terms of departments, programs and other aspects. The charge stems from talks to the Senate and Council from Provost Earl Lewis and President Wagner.

The next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 24, in the Jones Room.

Faculty Council

From November through March, the Council will move the meetings to the Jones Room of the Woodruff Library, returning to Room 400 Administration Building for the April 20 meeting. Carter says the Council will no longer distribute hard copies of documents at meetings, and will rely on electronic distribution instead in order to save resources.

The Council provided feedback on the updates to the faculty handbook, which is now solely electronic. Carter

says this "electronic version of a living document" would make the handbook much easier for faculty to locate and access University policies and procedures. He also noted that the Council's and Senate's participation in the investigation of and conversation about the University's areas of excellence will "likely be the theme for the entire year."

The next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 17.

— Leslie King

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'Great Works' illuminates Ten Commandments

By MARGIE FISHMAN

"But if u luv me & obey my laws I will be kind 2 ur families 4 thous&s of generations."

The Bible 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, Hollywood and the Supreme Court. This semester, he is sharing his insights with the larger community as part of the Great Works Seminar series sponsored by the Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry (FCHI).

Goldman, who initially envisioned the class as an undergraduate course, said he began reframing it as a community seminar in 2003 after hearing a BBC special

poking fun at the lack of general knowledge about the Ten Commandments, even among Anglican priests.

"The humanities are under threat," he said. "They don't have a lot of prestige anymore. They don't get a lot of funding. But they're very much needed."

Funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Great Works series invites the community to join Emory's outstanding faculty in studying a great work each semester, such as a pivotal text, symphony or painting. The series kicked off last year with a closed-out seminar on Jane Austen's novels. This year, seminars will explore Henry David Thoreau's "Walden" and the Ten Commandments. "The Arabian Nights" is on tap for late spring.

Developed and led by Emory faculty, the seminars are open free of charge to any member of the Atlanta community, and support the University's strategic theme of "Creating Community, Engaging Society." On Jan. 27, 2010, FCHI will again open its doors to the community at its annual faculty response forum.

"This gives people who are interested in talking about classic creative works a chance to hear from people who spent much of their lives studying them," said FCHI Director Martine Watson

Brownley, Goodrich C. White Professor of English.

On a recent Wednesday evening, about 20 "students" — alumni, community members and faculty and staff from across the University — gathered in a Callaway seminar room with their Bibles in tow, dissecting passages from Exodus to Deuteronomy. The first class in the three-part series examined the Ten Commandments and their relationship to Judaism. Future sessions focus on Christianity, Islam and the commandments' place in artistic and legal traditions.

Goldman began by rattling off some surprising statistics: 40 percent of the U.S. population visits a house of worship weekly. In Israel, however, that number drops to 20 percent.

"You are living in a Biblical country," he stated matter-of-factly.

Known as the Decalogue in the Hebrew Bible, the Ten Commandments are not referred to explicitly as "commandments." Rather, they are called "utterances." There are 613 commandments sprinkled throughout the book, which fit under the rubric of the Ten Commandments, Goldman said. Given to Moses on Mount Sinai, the Ten Commandments receive more weight than the rest in Jewish law, he added, because they are understood



Biblical art at the Carlos complements the class.

SPECIAL

as "covenantal."

Several students lingered after class, including the Rev. Carolyn Mobley, a partner of a Candler student, who said she was "thrilled" by the opportunity to hear Goldman

speak and wanted to heal some of the misunderstandings between Judaism and Christianity.

"If we understood more of the original ideas, the situation could get better," she said.

Online journal grant among Emory College's largest

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 Cady of Arizona State University are Religion Dispatches' executive editors and co-directors. They attribute the magazine's success to growing demand 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 Cady. "It provides a platform for a

variety of voices, from experts to journalists and activists, both secular and religious, to explore the religious dimensions of political and social issues."

Several Emory faculty have become frequent contributors to the magazine, including Arri Eisen, director of the College Program in Science and Society; Shalom Goldman, professor of Hebrew and Middle Eastern Studies; Gordon Newby, professor of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies; Laurie Patton, director of the Center for Faculty Development and Excellence; John Blevins, visiting assistant professor of

pastoral care at Candler School of Theology; and Michael Elliott, associate professor of English. Emory graduate students also have been contributors.

In addition to offering analyses and commentaries on the biggest stories of 2008 — the economy and the presidential election — the magazine has offered extensive coverage of religion and social justice issues, including race, immigration, health, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered rights.

"We are driven by what's happening in the world now, but not only that," says Laderman, 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.

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Forum

FIRST PERSON

Learning basic truths from Nobel Laureates

By HINH LY

The 2009 Nobel Prize announcements undoubtedly stirred up a lot of emotion in the winners; it also brought a lot of excitement for 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 (a joint honor, along with Carol Greider at Johns Hopkins University and Jack Szostak of Massachusetts General Hospital). I worked also with Tristram Parslow, now William Patterson Timmie Professor and Chair of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine at Emory.

My colleague Christine Dunham, who has recently joined the rank of assistant professor in the biochemistry department here at Emory, was a postdoctoral trainee in the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology (LMB) working with Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry (along with Thomas Steitz at Yale University and Ada Yonath at the Weizmann Institute of Science).

Of course, we 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 2006 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 scientists, who were trained with luminary scientific leaders in 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 do not

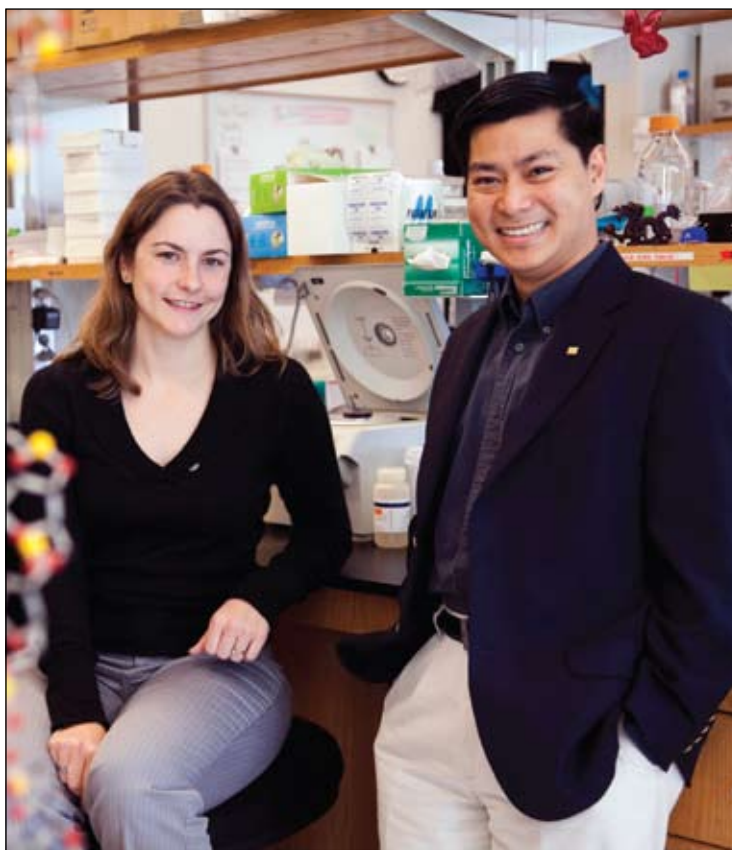
Hinh Ly is assistant professor of pathology and laboratory medicine. Assistant Professor of Biochemistry Christine Dunham contributed to this essay.

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 won the award for her groundbreaking work in the discovery of telomeres, 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 shoe laces and render 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 done 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. Ramakrishnan's work on deciphering the atomic structure of the protein translation machinery in the cell paved the way for understanding how antibiotics render this molecule inactive and ultimately result in cell



Christine Dunham and Hinh Ly are among the Nobel Laureate mentees who now work at Emory.

BRYAN MELTZ

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 if it is unknown how basic cellular processes occur, how can one understand when they are perturbed as 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 work-life 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.

SOUNDBITES

Dramatizing terror can blur fact, fiction

Veena Das, professor of anthropology at Johns Hopkins University, spoke in a Luminaries lecture about the terrorist attacks in Mumbai last year.

She warned that one must hesitate before attempting to fit these attacks into a "story that requires a framework of causes and consequences."

Such spectacular acts of violence, Das said, unhinge the relation between outward expression and emotion.

"There was something unreal, simulated, not quite believable about these events," she said — an effect enhanced by the crowds gathering around the burning hotel, talking on cell phones and cheering on the commandos.

The result, she said, was that the attacks seemed both "news and melodrama, a blurring of fact and fiction."

—Mary Loftus

New twist to ancient tale

"Evolution is a theory that we have more experimental evidence for than any other theory, and yet 50 percent of the population of the United States doesn't accept it," said Chair of Chemistry David Lynn, during a Creativity Conversation with choreographer David Neumann. "Maybe we've taken the wrong path in talking about evolution. In science we do a good job of conveying facts, but not a good job of telling the stories."

Lynn's desire to find new ways to explain science inspired him to serve as an adviser to Neumann as he created a dance about evolution.

"I was deeply influenced by the manner in which evolution operates and using those structures — contingencies and chance operations — in the structure of the dance," Neumann said. "Sometimes when you utilize chance there's a fantastic discovery."

—Carol Clark

Giving context to lynching statistics

Statistical studies of lynchings in the South have been done, including one that showed they were more frequent when the cost of cotton was declining, said professor of sociology Roberto Franzosi. "The problem with statistical explanations is that both the victims and the mob disappear."

As a guest speaker in anthropology, Franzosi described how he is applying "story grammar" methods to analyze the characteristics of lynchings from 1875–1930. He is using thousands of newspaper accounts as his source material. "They are truly gruesome stories," said Franzosi. "When I first started reading them, I was crying most of the time."

Franzosi is the author of "From Words to Numbers: Narrative, Data and Social Science."

—Carol Clark

Global issues central to Halle programs

By LESLIE KING

The Claus M. Halle Institute for Global Learning will bring an international award recipient and diplomatic and political officials for several campus events.

Han Wan-sang will receive the Sheth Distinguished International Alumni Award on International Awards Night on Monday, Nov. 16. The Marion V. Creekmore Award for Internationalization will be given to Juliette Stapanian Apkarian, associate professor of Russia in the Department of Russian and East Asian

Languages and Cultures.

On Friday, Nov. 13, the Halle Distinguished Fellow Program will host Han, for his presentation on "A Peace-Making Pilgrimage in Divided Korea."

The Halle Speaker Series will present the political perspectives of three diplomats from India, Pakistan and Afghanistan, serving in their embassies in Washington, D.C.

Jawed Ashraf, political counselor at the Indian Embassy, will speak Thursday, Nov. 5; Faqir Syed Asif Hussain, minister for political affairs from the Pakistan Embassy on Tuesday, Nov. 10; and Ashraf

Haidari, political counselor, acting defense attaché, and spokesman of the Embassy of Afghanistan, on Thursday, Nov. 12. The presentations will begin at 12:45 p.m. and are by invitation only.

As part of this year's Turkish Lecture Series, The Halle Institute presents Ambassador Melanne Vermeer, President Barack Obama's ambassador-at-large for Global Women's Issues, on Dec. 1.

The Halle Institute is also a sponsor of a conference on U.S.-China relations, which will include former President Jimmy Carter and the China-U.S. Peoples' Friendship

Association plus officials from Nanjing University, for meetings and events on campus and at The Carter Center.

"Emory and Nanjing will launch a visiting scholars program and The Halle Institute will co-sponsor conferences with Nanjing's Institute for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences," says Holli A. Semetko, vice provost for International Affairs and director of The Halle Institute.

For more information, see www.halleinstitute.emory.edu/ as some of the events are invitation-only.

Events

JWJI to honor six in medals ceremony

This year's medalists are author Alice Walker, for literature; women's rights pioneer Gloria Steinem, for journalism; and U.S. Rep. John Lewis and activist Myrlie Evers Williams, for civil rights. Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin and E. Neville Isdell, former CEO of Coca-Cola, will each receive the first-ever Humanitarian Award.

Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 404-727-2515.

PNAS editor to give McCormick lecture

The event will be Thursday, Nov. 5, at 3 p.m. in 110 School of Medicine Building.

The annual lectureship honors the former chair of the Emory Department of Biochemistry, Donald B. McCormick, who currently is professor emeritus in biochemistry.

Series welcomes playwright Hudes

Hudes will give a free reading at 6:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 16, in the Woodruff Library, Jones Room. Her colloquium is on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 3:30 p.m. in N301 Callaway Center.

For information, visit www.creativewriting.emory.edu/series.

TUESDAY, Nov. 3

**"The Scientific World-View
and Vipassana Meditation."**
Paul Fleischman, meditation
teacher, presenting. 4 p.m.
230 Dental Building. Free.
pweddin@emory.edu.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 4

CINEMATHEQUE FILM:
"Olympia II: Festival of Beauty," Eddy Von Mueller,
 film studies, presenting.
 8 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free.
www.filmstudies.emory.edu.

THURSDAY, Nov. 5

"Closer: A Play by Patrick Marber." 8 p.m. Visual Arts Gallery. \$6; \$4, students. lclemmo@learnlink.emory.edu. *Through Nov. 8.*

SATURDAY, Nov. 7

To see all campus events, visit the online Emory Events Calendar at www.emory.edu/home/events.

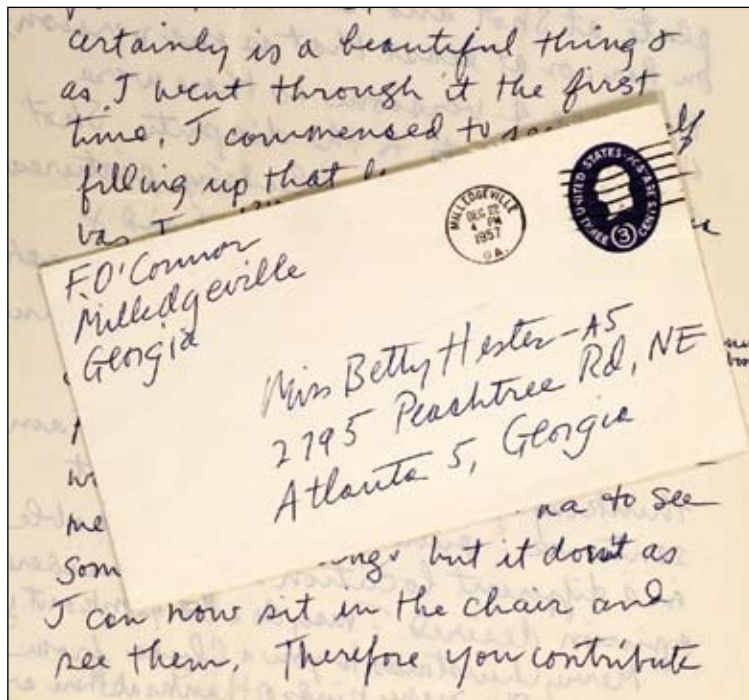
HABITS: O'Connor's life unfolded

Continued from the cover

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

Magee will serve as moderator for the panel discussion, featuring William Sessions, a retired Georgia State professor and a personal friend of O'Connor's; Bruce Gentry, a faculty member at Georgia College & State University and editor of the Flannery O'Connor Review; and Elizabeth Chase, Woodruff Library Fellow.

Washington Post book critic and author Yardley, who reviewed "The Habit of Being" when it was first released in 1979 and again in 2005, will give a lecture titled "Flannery O'Connor's Last Masterpiece."



Emory holds a collection of Flannery O'Connor letters.

KAY HINTON

'Habit' Nov. 5 events

LUMINARIES LECTURE:
"Flannery O'Connor's Last
Masterpiece." Jonathan
 Yardley, presenting. 5 p.m.
 Woodruff Library, Jones Room.

READING: Letters of Flannery O'Connor to Robert and Sally Fitzgerald.
Brenda Bynum, 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, "*Abbess of Andalusia: 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.

Chimpanzee drama inspires 'Hominid'

BY HUNTER HANGER

"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 Lisa Paulsen, and members of Atlanta's Out Of Hand Theater 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

In the new, finished work “Hominid,” conspiracy, murder and suicide unfold in an intriguing real-life drama.

"The story was staring us in the face," says Out of Hand co-founder and project director Ariel de Man '98C. "We drew from Dr. de Waal's very first book, 'Chimpanzee Politics,' and realized that this true story was far better than any story we could ever invent!"

The playwrights gained additional insights and ideas from de Waal's other books and from Dutch documentarian Bert Haanstra's film "The Family of Chimps."

"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



Theater Emory presents "Hominid" Nov. 12-22.

DANIEL WEISS

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.