

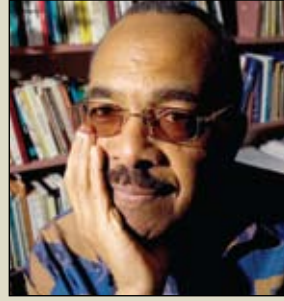
**PROFILE**

“I see good things in the future for physician assistants,” says Marquitha Mayfield. **Page 2**



**FIRST PERSON**

Noel Leo Erskine reflects on the 45th anniversary of King’s “I Have a Dream” speech. **Page 7**



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Kristin Harper

BRYAN MELTZ

## Tracing origins of a deadly disease

By CAROL CLARK

**D**id Columbus and his men introduce the syphilis pathogen into Renaissance Europe, after contracting it during their voyage to the New World? Or does syphilis have a much longer history in the Old World? Graduate student Kristin Harper has taken the first phylogenetic approach to this centuries-old debate, heading up a groundbreaking study that provides new support for the Columbus theory of syphilis’ origin.

The results of the most comprehensive comparative genetic analysis ever conducted on the *Treponema pallidum* family of bacteria related to syphilis were published Jan. 15 in the Public Library of Science’s Journal of Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Please see DISEASE on page 6

## ‘Evenings with Authors’ will be feast for ears

By KIM URQUHART

Life of the Mind, the popular lunchtime lecture series that spotlights Emory’s best and brightest faculty members, is casting a glow on Emory’s authors.

Evenings With Emory’s Authors Series is a collaborative venture between the Office of the Provost and the Academic Exchange designed to recognize recently published authors.

Roughly twice a semester, the community will be invited to attend a reading, discussion, reception and book signing with Emory scholars.

“This is a recognition of the significant time and scholarship involved in generating a new book, and we want to celebrate that,” says Santa Ono, vice provost for academic initiatives and deputy to the provost.

“It’s an opportunity for faculty to come together and cel-

brate one another’s accomplishments as scholars,” adds Academic Exchange Editor Allison Adams.

Ono hopes that students and staff will also attend, as many of the books will be of general interest.

The series begins Jan. 29 with Joseph Crespino, assistant professor of history, reading from “In Search of Another

Please see AUTHORS on page 4

## Founders Week events warm up mid-winter

By CAROL CLARK

Music, theatrical performances, art and museum exhibition openings, scholarly lectures, and a mini-film festival make up the 2008 Founders Week, Feb. 3-10. The series of events will culminate with the Founders Ball and a public lecture by Distinguished Writer in Residence Salman Rushdie, titled “Autobiography and the Novel.”

“The mid-winter festival

of the arts and sciences commemorates the founding of Emory College in 1836 and celebrates the role of the University in promoting inquiry and intellectual life,” says Sally Wolff-King, assistant vice president of the University.

Emory faculty featured during Founders Week include Harvey Klehr, whose topic “Espionage, Informing and the

Please see FOUNDERS on page 4

## LET US SHARE YOUR STORY

Emory Report is starting the new year with a new look, designed to serve you better. Each issue of ER chronicles the accomplishments, endeavors and aspirations of the Emory community, and we wanted to create a design that would best present that story.

We hope you'll tell us what you'd like to see within these pages. Please send your suggestions or feedback to kim.urquhart@emory.edu.

## ABOUT US

Emory Report serves as an informative, lively and comprehensive resource for news and events of vital interest to staff and faculty. The weekly publication highlights the Emory community's accomplishments, endeavors and aspirations that reflect the University's identity and strategic vision.

## SUBMISSIONS

Emory Report welcomes contributions from readers, including "First Person" opinion pieces, calendar items and story ideas in general. Contact the Emory Report staff by phone at 404-727-9507; by fax at 404-727-0646; or by e-mail to kim.urquhart@emory.edu.

## DEADLINES

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## 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

STAFF WRITER  
**Carol Clark**  
carol.clark@emory.edu

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT  
**Leslie King**

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## EMORY PROFILE: Marquitha Mayfield



KAY HINTON

Marquitha Mayfield, assistant professor and academic coordinator for the physician assistant program, was one of the first graduates of Emory's program.

# Building healthy communities

## Physician assistant pioneer chronicles diverse career path

By ALISON AMOROSO

Marquitha Mayfield nearly took her National Merit Scholarship to Georgia Tech to study architecture. She came to Emory College as a freshman with plans to transfer to Tech her junior year to become one of the few minorities and female students on campus. Instead, she became interested in Emory's pre-med curricula and stayed to graduate in 1976 with a Bachelor of Medical Science in Emory's fourth class of physician assistants.

Mayfield hasn't given up her interest in architecture. She and her husband, whom she married while they were both college students, set up a partnership to provide housing for homeless veterans. Over the years, they have built several houses. Mayfield is the construction manager.

Their first construction project involved buying and remodeling a fixer-upper in Decatur, says Mayfield, who pursued a remodeling hobby all the while raising three children, pursuing degrees and working. Mayfield appreciates the options the PA profession affords, and chronicles a diverse career path.

"My first position was in clinical research at Emory Clinic with an outstanding physician, Dallas Hall," she says. "He was involved in clinical research in hypertension, which was becoming recognized as a major risk factor in cardiac disease." At the

time, oral contraceptives were new and hormone dosages were higher, which meant doctors were seeing more women with hypertension. As a PA, Mayfield assisted Hall in his research, performing histories, physical exams and monitoring patients.

"This position gave me clinical skills in gynecology," says Mayfield, "which opened the door to directing a family planning clinic for teens in a community health center. While there I worked closely with the ob-gyn physicians and expanded my clinical skills."

Mayfield's research and clinical experience also landed her a job at the then "new" Morehouse School of Medicine working with the now renowned doctor, David Satcher. Satcher, who was at the time chair of the Department of Family Medicine, once asked Mayfield to give a lecture. "At the end, he said, 'You're a good communicator. You should become more involved in the academic side,' and he encouraged me to teach. So I did."

Years later, one of the physicians left the Morehouse faculty and offered Mayfield a position in vascular surgery. Mayfield says her remodeling experience helped with surgery: "It's the same skill set. You look at something three-dimensionally in your mind's eye, painting a picture about how the wound — or cabinets — should look."

### Mayfield forecasts 'good things' for PAs

"The whole health care environment is changing. As we move closer toward universal health care, we will have to reassess how health care is organized and delivered. There is already a physician and nursing shortage. Also, the population is aging and many Iraq veterans will need life-long services. The demand for medical services will increase.

In addition to making access to health care available, the United States has to have enough providers. I think physician assistants will play a key role in the addressing some of the manpower issues. The M.D.-PA model has proven to be efficient and effective in amplifying the physician's ability to serve more people and to deliver quality services.

I see good things in the future for PAs."

After earning a master's in education, specializing in training clinical professionals, Mayfield returned to her alma mater, of which she is immensely proud. "Emory's PA program was the third program in the nation, and we've been consistently ranked in the top five over the years."

Mayfield is currently assistant professor and academic coordinator for the Emory PA program, where she is course director for clinical medicine courses. She also teaches students physical exam skills and how to evaluate and manage common diseases. "My responsibility is to get students through the didactic curriculum," she says.

Emory's program was one of the first to offer a master's degree for PAs. "As a profession, we have come a long way in a short time — only 38 years," says Mayfield. "Now all programs are graduate level and PAs have more clinical responsibility than ever. We are intimately involved in all specialties, not only diagnosing and treating common disorders but also assisting in the management of extremely ill patients."

"The PA profession provides an enormous amount of personal and professional flexibility along with job satisfaction, diagnosing and treating diseases with physician supervision," adds Mayfield. "I hope that more Emory students will consider becoming a PA."

# Republic of Georgia draws top official from Emory rolls

By CAROL CLARK

Lado Gurgenzidze was a stand-out student when he earned his MBA at Emory in 1993. His academic mentor, Jeff Rosensweig, believed that big things lay ahead for the ambitious young man from the Republic of Georgia, and he was right. After making his mark in international business, Gurgenzidze was chosen as prime minister of Georgia in November.

"Lado not only picks up things very quickly, he thinks very deeply," says Rosensweig, associate professor of finance in the Goizueta Business School. "He could research, analyze issues and write more quickly and productively than most students. This is serving him very well now, because he stepped into a crisis situation in Georgia and has had to draft many speeches and policy documents in real-time."

A former member of the Soviet Union, Georgia is located on the Black Sea and bordered by Russia, Turkey, Armenia and Azerbaijan. While Georgia is small and has limited natural resources, the country enjoys a rich culture and a strategic position in the Caucasus: pipelines across Georgia connect huge oil and gas reserves to ports on the Black Sea.

Emory's long relationship with Georgia includes an exchange program with Tbilisi State University dating back to 1989. Among the early participants were Tamuna Mosashvili Shengelia, a Robert W. Woodruff

**"I had always known of his tremendous intellect but I was so pleased to see him grow into an ethical and superb leader."**

— Jeff Rosensweig, Lado Gurgenzidze's mentor

Scholar and granddaughter of former President Eduard Shevardnadze, who received degrees in anthropology and law from Emory.

Gurgenzidze also came to Emory through the exchange program. After graduating, he worked in New York and London before returning to his homeland to direct the Bank of Georgia, a private-sector institution.

"Lado grew the Bank of Georgia beyond anyone's expectations," says Rosensweig. "He established quite a reputation, not just in Georgia, but throughout Western and Eastern Europe. I had always known of his tremendous intellect but I was so pleased to see him grow into an ethical and superb leader."

Georgia's parliament approved Gurgenzidze as prime minister in November, after political unrest moved President Mikheil Saakashvili to make changes in his government and call for snap elections. Gurgenzidze promised lawmakers that he would deliver a budget surplus for Georgia in 2009, establish an international



Lado Gurgenzidze, left, beams at his 1993 Emory graduation ceremony with his proud mentor, Jeff Rosensweig, associate professor of finance.

finance center and address the needs of vulnerable populations in the country.

Ken Walker, a professor in the School of Medicine, who for 15 years has directed a consortium of Atlanta institutions — including Emory — that is helping Georgia develop its health care system, believes Gurgenzidze has

what it takes to help the country move to the next level.

"Lado is bright, he's charismatic and he's committed," says Walker, who also served as a mentor to Gurgenzidze. "He's been an immensely successful businessman, and now he's taking all his abilities and moving into the political arena."

## ACCLAIM

Sander Gilman was inducted as an honorary member of the American Psychoanalytic Association at the association's winter meeting in New York. APsA is a professional organization of psychoanalysts throughout the United States.



Gilman, distinguished professor of the liberal arts and sciences, is director of the ILA's psychoanalytic studies program.

The Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium awarded the 2007 MMRC Center of the Year Award to Emory University and Sagar Lonial, associate professor of hematology and oncology at Emory's Winship Cancer Institute.



The award recognizes the outstanding efforts of an MMRC member institution and its respective principal investigator in advancing the field of multiple myeloma research and drug development.

Carolyn Meltzer, chair of Emory's Department of Radiology, has been elected as a fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.

The nonprofit organization is a professional society dedicated to advancing the scientific understanding of, and facilitating communication about, disorders of the brain and behavior in order to advance their prevention and treatment.



Charles Nemeroff, Reunette W. Harris Professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, was elected president of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.



Nemeroff has served on the AFSP's national board of directors since 1999 and recently served as chair of the foundation's scientific council.

The AFSP is a national nonprofit dedicated to understanding and preventing suicide through research and education, and to reaching out to people with mood disorders and those affected by suicide.

"Acclaim" recognizes the accomplishments of faculty and staff. Listings may include awards and prizes; election to boards and societies; and similarly notable accomplishments at Emory or in the wider community. Emory Report relies on submissions for this column. Contact: kim.urquhart@emory.edu.

## Witte's commitment to rights honored



John Witte

By KIM URQUHART

John Witte Jr. joined the ranks of former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Prime Minister of Great Britain Tony Blair when he received the 2008 National First Freedom Award. Presented by the Council for America's First Freedom, the award recognized Witte's contributions to advancing religious liberty in the United States.

The Jonas Robitscher Professor of Law and director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion was selected for his "extraordinary commitment to the preservation and protection of the principles of religious freedom,"

said Robert Seiple, council president. Upon accepting the award on National Religious Freedom Day, Jan. 16, in Richmond, Va., Witte delivered brief remarks on the "Superstition of Church and State in America."

"The metaphor of the 'wall of separation' between church and state has held popular imagination so firmly that many have not noticed that separation of church and state is no longer the law of the land in America," Witte said.

After describing landmark Supreme Court cases and the many shades of interpretation of the First Amendment, Witte concluded: "It is a challenge for peoples of all faiths, and of no faith, to take their place at the table

and to engage in deep, direct, candid and cogent conversation not only about legal and political technicalities, but also about the weightier matters of the law."

A specialist in legal history, marriage and religious liberty, Witte holds a law degree from Harvard University and has published extensively in several languages. He has been selected 10 times by the students at Emory Law as the "Most Outstanding Professor" and has won dozens of other major awards for his teaching and research.

The Council for America's First Freedom is dedicated to increasing understanding and respect for religious freedom in diverse communities worldwide.

## NEWSMAKERS



"Building non-traditional partnerships — that's what you need to have if you want more and more people to cycle."

— Fred Boykin ('72C), owner of Bicycle South, which offers mobile bicycle repair on campus as part of the Bike Emory program, as quoted in Bicycle Retailer & Industry News, "Emory University Builds Campus Bike Culture," Jan. 4.

## TAKE NOTE

### Sorting new mail vendors

With key mail services contracts expiring this summer, Emory is in the process of preparing an RFP to select one mail services vendor for the entire enterprise.

Emory's mail services currently cover 275 mail stops in 10 delivery routes, serves approximately 33,000 end users and delivers to 13 zip codes, in addition to its own unique zip code, 30322. More than 30 million pieces of inbound mail are received annually.

The mail services function is both complex and large, with service effectiveness dependent on clear division of labor between multiple internal and external parties, including the U.S. Postal Service. Consolidation from the current three outside vendors to one vendor will enable better coordination and management of the operation, says Mike Mandl, executive vice president for finance and administration.

While the vendor consolidation is a large part of enhancing service, other elements of the operation will be addressed as well, such as updating mail stop codes for personnel who move locations on campus and reconsidering Emory's "bulk mail" acceptance policy.

The RFP for a new mail service vendor will be issued and due in February, with the final selection expected in April.

### Piedmont Project sprouts new courses

Enhance your teaching and engagement with environmental and sustainability issues by participating in the seventh Piedmont Project this summer. Faculty applications are due Feb. 8.

For details, visit <http://college.emory.edu/news/enewsletter/PPCall08.doc>.

### Recycled paper closes 'loop'

Emory will begin using only 100 percent post-consumer recycled paper for its University stationery, including letterhead, envelopes and business cards.

"We are completing the 'recycling loop' when we purchase 100 percent post-consumer recycled paper," said Ciannat Howett, director of sustainability initiatives. "This paper is the byproduct of the paper we each recycle daily at our desk."

Manufacturer Mohawk Fine Papers' products and paper mills are certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. The process chlorine free paper is made using non-polluting, wind-generating energy.

Emory is expected to consume 11 tons of this recycled paper annually. According to Mohawk, that equates to the elimination of 19,545 pounds of greenhouse gases, the discharge of 89,712 gallons of wastewater and the planting of 686 trees.

REPORT FROM: Office of Information Technology

## Kindle fires up digital readers

Looking back over the last 10 years, there has been a dizzying parade of devices and approaches that announce themselves as the ultimate solution to reading in the digital age. Yet the reading public has resoundingly rejected these innovations in favor of the more tried and true physical book.

As one who loves books, I participated in that rejection of the early e-book text and e-book reader. I was like many readers thinking, "who could possibly want a dialog box that says their text has just run out of power if I could have a physical book that would always be on?"

Recently I had a chance to extensively use Amazon's new portable e-book reading device, Kindle, and it changed my view. For the experience of reading from Kindle is to understand that the reading public has been asking the wrong question about these devices. For many, the rise of the e-book

begs the question, "what is happening to the physical book in our digital culture?" The Kindle refocuses that question in a more tangible way, instead asking "what is happening to the act of reading?"

Amazon's answers to these questions are by far the most intriguing and compelling of any e-book initiative up to this date. Kindle is the first to include a "free" (part of the initial purchase price) built-in high speed cell service that allows for fast downloads of more than 90,000 texts that Amazon has prepared for sale.

In addition, Kindle offers daily and weekly paid subscriptions to national and international magazines and newspapers so that a morning cup of coffee with The Wall Street Journal is just a download away. Provided you have left the cell service in Kindle with available power, the text arrives while you sleep and is ready to read on waking.

I say "ready to read" deliberately, for Kindle's implementation of digital ink is the finest of any e-book reader commercially available. In a variety of lighting conditions, varying from direct sunlight to the dim lighting of an airplane seat, the text was incredibly legible and offered no problems with glare. The controls, though quirky, offer full and agile access to a download as hefty as a Sunday New York Times.

Surprisingly, where Kindle falls down is in its ability to fully support reading on the Internet. One would have suspected that Amazon would have focused its efforts most strategically in this area, for what is most revolutionary about the device is that it acknowledges that the act of reading online has become as important as reading a physical book. Instead, Kindle offers access to a limited subset of blogs, all by paid subscription, and allows limited surfing of the Web

through a built-in browser that is truly first generation and nearly unusable.

In the evolution of technologies, one often looks for that moment when the device or the approach matures such that it is not only ready for adoption, but also that the likelihood exists that it actually will be adopted. No e-book device or approach preceding Kindle excited the reading public, but Kindle is different. The user interface behind this device is relatively easy to use, a huge range of content is easy to access, the reading experience is the best it has ever been for e-books, and the device is lightweight and easy to carry.

If it is not the future, it surely offers the shape of the future to those of us reading both online and off.

*Alan Cattier is director of Academic Technology Services in University Technology Services.*



Aerial view of Glenn Memorial circa 1941

## FOUNDERS: Week spotlights heritage

Continued from the cover

Movies: Hollywood's Communist Problem" will elucidate "My Son John" and "On the Waterfront," shown during the mini-film series; William Brown, whose exhibition will open with the gallery talk, "Trying to Make Art with a Camera: Photographic Strategies and Traditional Media," accompanied by the Emory Saxophone Quartet; and Oded Borowski, who will speak on "Archaeology of Destruction: Daily Life in Ancient Judah as It Emerges from Ruins."

Visiting lecturers include Philip V. Bohlman and Christine Bohlman of the University of Chicago, who will perform "The Silence of Transcendence"; Sean Kirkland of DePaul University, speaking on "The Tragic Foundations of Aristotelian Ethics"; and Horace Newcomb of the University of Georgia,

who will address "Television in Transition: Chaos, Confusion and Promises."

The Michael C. Carlos Museum will launch a new exhibit, "Lost Kingdoms of the Nile: Nubian Treasures from the Museum of Fine Arts Boston," and unveil the new installation of the museum's permanent collection of sub-Saharan African art.

The musical lineup includes Mika Yoshida — a marimba player from Japan — with the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta; the Emory Annual Jazz Fest Concert and Big Band Night; the Atlanta Bach Ensemble; Wu Man — who plays the pipa, a lute-like Chinese instrument — and the Kronos Quartet.

For more information, refer to the full listing of events in this issue of Emory Report, or visit [www.emory.edu/founders](http://www.emory.edu/founders).

### Founder keeps tradition alive

Sally Wolff-King recently began a new chapter in her long career at Emory — in the new role of assistant vice president. She will be a member of the University administrative team, and one of her key duties will be to help launch a book series about the history of Emory.

"I am a loyal alumna of Emory and am simply delighted to see its rapid and powerful recent development and am glad for the opportunity to work in this new area," Wolff-King says.

Wolff-King earned a Ph.D. in Southern literature from Emory in 1983. She joined Emory College in 1989, when she began her work as an assistant and then associate dean, in addition to helping establish Founders Week.

In her new post, Wolff-King will be involved in the planning and administration of Convocation, Commencement and Founders Week. She will also continue to serve on the Traditions and History Committee and work closely with Vice President Gary Hauk in establishing the book series.

In the coming months, plans will be firming up for the series, in which history will be presented through the lens of the University's strategic themes. "The volumes will tell the stories of some of the more remarkable members of the Emory faculty and the achievements of the University, since the founding of Emory College," Wolff-King says.

— Carol Clark

## Authors: Hear works of broad appeal

Continued from the cover

Country: Mississippi and the Conservative Counterrevolution." Free and open to the public, the event begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Woodruff Library's Jones Room.

"Joe's topic is immediate," says Adams. "The rise of Southern conservatism is something we are going to be looking at pretty intensely in the next few months given the elections."

As Crespinio's book demonstrates, the readings are designed to appeal to a broad audience, Ono says, and may also feature staff or student authors.

The initiative builds on the Feast of Words author celebration the Academic Exchange hosts each year at Druid Hills Bookstore, and addresses Year of the Faculty conversations that called for "the need to honor publicly and frequently the scholarly accomplishments among our faculty," Adams says.

"This is a very busy campus and it's easy for us to get caught up in our immediate work. I think it's good for everyone to step back, look at the bigger picture and see the incredibly rich variety of accomplishment across the board," Adams says.

For more information about the series as it continues, call the Office of the Provost at 404-727-6055.

# Campus

# 5

February 3-10, 2008

# Founders Week

## Sunday 2.3.08

4:00 p.m.  
**"Musical Offering"**  
by the Atlanta Bach Ensemble  
Schwartz Center, Emerson Concert Hall

## Monday 2.4.08

8:00 p.m.  
**Film screening: "My Son John"**  
White Hall 205

## Tuesday 2.5.08

6:00 p.m.  
**Lecture by Oded Borowski: "Archaeology of Destruction: Daily Life in Ancient Judah as It Emerges from Ruins"**  
Callaway Center S-319

6:30-8:00 p.m.  
**Transforming Community Project Experiencing Race at Emory Panel Discussion: "Three Part Harmony: Listening to the Voices of Emory, Morehouse and Grady"**  
Cannon Chapel

8:00 p.m.  
**Film screening: "On the Waterfront"**  
White Hall 205

## Wednesday 2.6.08

Noon-2:00 p.m.  
**Lecture and Musical Performance by Philip V. Bohlman: "The Silence of Transcendence"**  
Michael C. Carlos Museum Reception Hall

6:30 p.m.  
**Issues Troupe Reception and Play: "A Beautiful Disaster"**  
Dobbs University Center, Winship Ballroom

8:00 p.m.  
**Lecture by Harvey Klehr: "Espionage, Informing and the Movies: Hollywood's Communist Problem"**  
White Hall 205

## Thursday 2.7.08

4:15 p.m.  
**Lecture by Sean D. Kirkland: "The Tragic Foundations of Aristotelian Ethics"**  
White Hall 206

5:30-7:30 p.m.  
**Opening Reception and Gallery Talk: William A. Brown: "Trying to Make Art with a Camera: Photographic Strategies and Traditional Media"**  
Emory Visual Arts Gallery

6:00-8:30 p.m.  
**Sustainability Summit on Food**  
Cox Hall Ballroom

8:00 p.m.  
**Lecture by Horace Newcomb: "Television in Transition: Chaos, Confusion, and Promises"**  
White Hall 205

## Friday 2.8.08

Noon  
**Lecture by Gary Hauk: "Twice Upon a Time: The Founding and Re-founding of Emory"**  
Woodruff Library, Jones Room 311

5:30 p.m.  
**Open House for Educators**  
Michael C. Carlos Museum

7:30 p.m.  
**Movie Mania Film Series: "Lady in the Dark"**  
White Hall 205

## Saturday 2.9.08

10:00 a.m.  
**Exhibition Opening: "Lost Kingdoms of the Nile: Nubian Treasures from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston"**  
Michael C. Carlos Museum

**Sub-Saharan Galleries Reopening**  
Michael C. Carlos Museum

10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
**Sustainability Summit on Food**  
Cox Hall Ballroom

8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.  
**Founders Ball**  
Emory Conference Center Hotel  
Tickets available at the Dobbs University Center and at the door on the day of the event.

8:00 p.m.  
**Kronos Quartet with Wu Man, pipa**  
Schwartz Center, Emerson Concert Hall  
Tickets available at [www.arts.emory.edu](http://www.arts.emory.edu)

## Sunday 2.10.08

5:00 p.m.  
**Lecture by Salman Rushdie: "Autobiography and the Novel"**  
Glenn Memorial Auditorium  
Tickets available Jan. 10 at [www.emory.edu/events](http://www.emory.edu/events)

**Ongoing Exhibitions**  
**"Democratic Vistas: Exploring the Danowski Poetry Collection"**  
Woodruff Library, Schatten Gallery  
Jan. 15-May 19

**"From the Poet's Desk: An Exhibition of Poems in Process from MARBL's Literary Collections"**  
Woodruff Library, Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL)  
Jan. 15-May 21

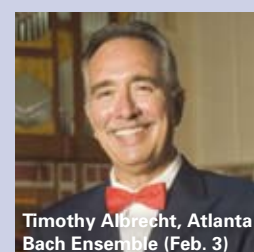
**"Robert Rauschenberg's Currents: Features and Surface Series"**  
Michael C. Carlos Museum  
Closes Feb. 17



Temple Descending  
by William Brown  
(opening Feb. 7)



Issues Troupe (Feb. 6)



Timothy Albrecht, Atlanta Bach Ensemble (Feb. 3)

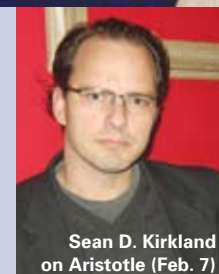


Wu Man with pipa (Feb. 9)



© 1969 Columbia Pictures Corp.

Screening of "On the Waterfront" (Feb. 5)



Sean D. Kirkland on Aristotle (Feb. 7)



"Lost Kingdoms of the Nile: Nubian Treasures from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston" (opening Feb. 9)

Lecture by Salman Rushdie (Feb. 10)

Ann Borden Emory Creative Group



Gary Hauk on the Founding of Emory (Feb. 8)



## Founders Ball

Saturday, February 9  
8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

# Celebrating Emory University

For detailed schedule, visit [www.emory.edu/founders](http://www.emory.edu/founders)

## COVER STORY



"I love research that tells a human story," says Kristin Harper as she sorts through piles of ancient human bones. The graduate student is heading up a groundbreaking study of syphilis.

BRYAN MELTZ

*Treponema* bacteria cause different diseases that share some symptoms but have different means of transmission. Syphilis is sexually transmitted, but yaws and endemic syphilis are tropical diseases transmitted through skin-to-skin or oral contact.

One hypothesis is that a subspecies of *Treponema* from the warm, moist climate of the tropical New World mutated into the venereal subspecies to survive in the cooler and relatively more hygienic European environment.

The phylogenetic analysis of 26 pathogenic *Treponema* strains indicated that yaws is an ancient infection in humans while venereal syphilis arose relatively recently. The study results are especially significant due to the large number of different strains analyzed, including two never-before-sequenced strains of yaws from Guyana – the only known active site of yaws infection in the Western hemisphere.

"By studying historical diseases, you can learn about trends in current ones," says Harper, whose interest on the evolution of syphilis brought her to Emory to work with Armelagos. "I love research that tells a human story."

"I've been teaching for 40 years and Kristin is one of the most talented students I've seen," Armelagos says. "She seems so quiet, and yet you're just so blown away by what you see her producing in the laboratory. Everything she does is just top notch."

Harper is now studying a gene identified in the phylogenetic analysis that appears to be linked to the sexual transmission of syphilis. "We believe it could be used as a diagnostic tool," she says. "When a child contracts a treponemal disease, in addition to treating it with penicillin, you could determine if the child may have been the victim of sexual abuse."

She is simultaneously working on several other research papers, including one involving an outbreak of treponemal disease among baboons in Tanzania, which could provide another important genetic clue to how the disease is transmitted in humans.

## DISEASE: On the trail of a killer mystery

Continued from the cover

"We concluded that the closest relative of the modern syphilis strains of bacteria were strains collected in South America that cause the treponemal disease yaws," says Harper, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute predoctoral fellow in Emory's Population Biology, Ecology and Evolution program. "That supports the hypothesis that syphilis – or some progenitor – came from the New World."

The preliminary results of the study won the Earnest A. Hooton Prize when Harper presented them at the 2006 American Association of Physical Anthropologists meeting.

"Syphilis was a major killer in Europe during the Renaissance," says George Armelagos, chair of the Department of Anthropology and a member of the research team. Armelagos is a skeletal biologist whose research put him at the forefront of the syphilis debate 30 years ago. "Understanding its evolution is important not just for biology, but for understand-

ing social and political history. It could be argued that syphilis is one of the important early examples of globalization and disease, and globalization remains an important factor in emerging diseases."

Soft-spoken and petite, Harper sorts through piles of ancient human bones as she explains the tell-tale marks of treponemal disease to visitors to the anthropology lab. "It's sad to think of how painful this must have been," she says, indicating a lesion in a thigh bone.

While it is generally agreed

that the first recorded epidemic of syphilis occurred in Europe in 1495, controversy has raged ever since over the origin of the pathogen. Most of the evidence in recent years has come from bones of past civilizations in both New World and Old World sites, since chronic syphilis causes skeletal lesions.

In many cases, however, skeletal analysis is inconclusive, due to problems with pinpointing the age of the bones and the lack of supporting epidemiological evidence. Further complicating the research is the fact that

## Eye Center trial envisions change

By JOY BELL

Emory Eye Center is the first U.S. site to conduct an innovative clinical study on patients with keratoconus. The condition causes a bulging or steepening of the cornea that can lead to, in some cases, scarring of the cornea, or corneal ectasia, a similar condition that can occur after refractive surgery.

The new treatment, a minimally invasive, quick procedure, involves riboflavin eye drops that are applied to the patient's cornea and activated by an ultraviolet light. In European studies, the treatment has been shown to increase the amount

of collagen cross-linking in the cornea, thereby strengthening it. A stronger cornea will not tend to steepen in the way that a diseased cornea steepens.

The new trial, which will include about 300 patients, may "revolutionize the practice of cornea and ophthalmic external disease treatments," says R. Doyle Stulting, a cornea specialist at Emory Eye Center and principal investigator, who will treat the very first patients in the United States with this new procedure at the Emory Eye Center.

The clinical trial is now enrolling patients; for more information call 404-778-6155.

## Study debunks myths of slow recovery for obese patients

By ASHANTE DOBBS

Obese patients undergoing rehabilitation at an acute rehabilitation hospital recovered faster than patients of normal weight, according to a study by an Emory researcher.

The findings, reported in the January 2008 American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, debunk previous assumptions that the obese or overweight have a slower recovery than do those who are normal weight.

"The study's findings are the opposite of what you might expect," says David T. Burke, lead study author and chair of Emory's Department of Rehabilita-

tion Medicine. "After several analyses of the data, we continued to get the same results — even across various diagnostic categories. We can't deny that this is a real phenomenon."

The study assessed the association of body mass index with the functional independence measure scores of 1,077 inpatients admitted to the medicine service of an acute rehabilitation hospital.

The study also examined whether the association between patients' BMI and FIM was different across motor and cognitive skill categories.

The results showed that from the time of admission to the re-

habilitation hospital to the time of discharge, median gains and the speed of the gains in FIM scores were highest among the most obese group.

All obese patients progressed faster than did those who were in the normal weight and underweight categories.

"While this study shows us that obese patients can tolerate exercise and physical activity, and in fact recover more quickly than normal weight patients, it didn't answer the question of why this is the case," Burke says. "We are currently engaged in studies that will help us understand these results."

## Forum

## FIRST PERSON

## Remembering Martin Luther King Jr.

By NOEL LEO ERSKINE

At the Democratic primary held in New Hampshire, Sen. Hillary Clinton claimed that Sen. Barack Obama made too much of words, because he calls on his audiences to hope for and to dream a new America. She observed that Obama, who is skilled in the art of rhetoric, was influencing and inspiring his audiences with speeches, and that people should note that words and speeches are inadequate tools for change. Words should give way to deeds, Clinton argued, as the test of words is their capacity to be transformative.

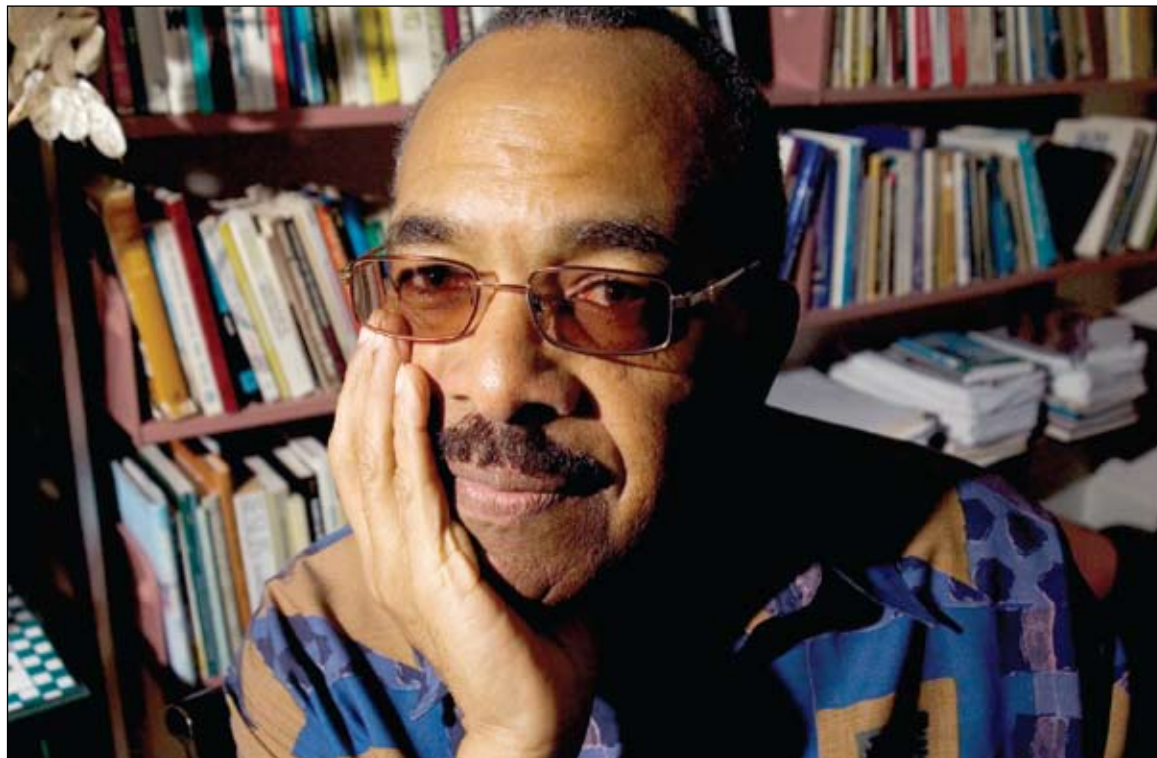
In responding to Clinton, Obama appealed to Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech, and noted how impoverished the human family would be without the inspiration and vision that words engender. He suggested that words are the tools with which King fashioned a new world.

Of course, what neither senator noted is that for King, to hope or to dream was not a theoretical postulate unrelated to the world in which people struggle for meaning, but hoping and dreaming were metaphors signaling the divine presence accompanying persons in their struggle to change the world. King's confidence of the divine presence in the midst of a community struggling and agitating for change allowed him to conjoin word and deed, theory and practice.

This conversation between the senators reminds me that 2008 is very significant in reflection on the life and thought of Martin Luther King Jr. This year the world celebrates his 79th birthday, and as one who lives and works in Atlanta, I am very proud that his first steps and words were in this city that "is too busy to hate." Further, April 4 will be the 40th anniversary of his assassination, and later Aug. 28, the 45th anniversary of his "I Have a Dream" speech.

Because this literary gem has influenced so many persons, long before Obama's "Audacity of Hope," I would like to suggest in the context of a new year that there are three steps I plan to take in reflection on, and in celebration of, the 45th anniversary of King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

My first commitment is to dare to dream a new world. King suggests that a part of what it



KAY HINTON

Noel Leo Erskine, associate professor of theology and ethics, is author of "King Among the Theologians." His remarks about Martin Luther King Jr. most recently appeared in a book/CD set, "Voices: Reflections on an American Icon Through Words and Song."

means to be human is to dream, and he was not thinking of night dreams but day dreams. According to King, dreams are the stuff of which we are made.

I dream of a world in which poverty will be eliminated. I dream of the day when every home in the world will have access to clean water. This means a willingness to share resources in a more equitable way. It has been pointed out that although the United States comprises about 6 percent of the world's population, we consume more than 40 percent of the world's resources.

One way in which we could translate dream into a new reality in which there would be less famished children is to link the dream of a new world to justice-making. If I may paraphrase Clinton's question: How are dreams translated to changed circumstances for the poor?

One aspect of the answer is to link dream of a new world to justice-making on behalf of the poor. King states: "Now is the time to make real the promises of [economic] democracy; now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice; now is the time to lift the nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood; now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's

children." The dream of a new world must be linked to justice-making for all of God's children.

My second commitment is to dream a new church. Like Martin Luther King Jr. I am a son of the church and serve as theologian and pastor within the church. During the early 1980s I had the pleasure of team-teaching a course at the Candler School of Theology on King's theology with Coretta Scott King. Occasionally, students would write papers on King as philosopher or on King as theologian, and invariably Coretta would point out that King was first and foremost a minister of the church.

In his "Letter From the Birmingham City Jail," King beckons the community to join him in dreaming a new church: "I must honestly reiterate that I have been so greatly disappointed with the church. I do not say this as one of the negative critics who can always find something wrong with the church. I say it as a minister of the gospel, who loves the church; who was nurtured in its bosom. . . . In the midst of blatant injustices inflicted upon the Negro, I have watched white churches stand on the sideline and merely mouth pious irrelevancies and sanctimonious trivialities."

King beckons us to dream a new church in which divisions of race, class and gender make room

for a new humanity. King expected the church to model the joining of hope and justice-making, dream and reality, thus enabling the church to represent sacred space in which all God's children are celebrated.

My third commitment is to invite you to dare to dream a new you and for me to dream a new me. A new self that is open to dreams of brotherhood and sisterhood. One of the themes that runs through King's speeches is: "I cannot be all that I can be until you are all that you can be. And you cannot be all that you can be, until I am all that I can be." We are fashioned "in a single garment of destiny." We belong to the family of God.

Elsewhere I have said of my mentor and teacher: "King was always concerned about those who were excluded from the table of brotherhood and sisterhood. It did not matter if they were young, old or on the margins of society. His passion was to bring all people together in a symphony of love. He referred to this coming together of all of God's children as reconciliation. Reconciliation was the main key in which his advocacy for excluded persons was set. He understood the love of God as the power of reconciliation that unites races and fractured communities."

Let the celebration begin.

## SOUNDBITES

## How global trends impact economy

Where is the global economy headed, and what does it mean to business and individuals? Professor Jeff Rosensweig, director of the Global Perspectives Program at Goizueta Business School, addressed this topic at a recent Evening MBA "Bring Your Boss to Breakfast" event.

Rosensweig said the crystal ball has rarely been so clouded. "The economy is buffeted by concerns regarding geopolitics, terrorism, wars, along with the unfolding credit crisis. No one really knows whether financial problems set off by the subprime mortgage mess will throw the economy into recession," he said. "I do see positive economic and demographic trends longer-term, so I remain optimistic — beyond a volatile 18 months ahead.

"Given the risks, I recommend maximum diversifying of everyone's wealth."

— Kim Urquhart

## Putting humanism in context

Humanism has suffered from its insensitivity to abuses perpetuated in its name related to racism and sexism and its tendency to neglect social inequalities and multiculturalism, said Thomas Flynn in his "Life of the Mind" lecture Jan. 16. The Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Philosophy concluded that these problems don't mean that humanism should disappear.

"Contextual thinking is what I think humanism has to learn. And I think its challenges are contextual," he said. "But that doesn't mean, as one of my professors used to say in graduate school, that we should be so open-minded that our brains fall out. One can have a certain sense of what principles one is committed to."

— Carol Clark

## Political expert on campaign trail

"The Political Brain: The Role of Emotion in Deciding the Fate of the Nation," by Professor of Psychology Drew Westen, has been generating interest for its assertion that emotion is more important than logic in determining how people vote.

Westen appeared on "Dan Rather Reports on Politics," a live broadcast from the Jan. 8 New Hampshire primaries on HDnet.

In one comment, Westen pointed out a psychological aspect that may have factored into Hillary Clinton's surprise comeback: when she teared up at an event in Portsmouth, N.H. "To a lot of people what it said was, wow, she's a person after all and she actually has feelings after all," Westen said. "That was I think a tremendously important moment."

— Kim Urquhart

## EMORY VOICES



"Martin, the racial landscape of America has changed radically in the past 40 years! You would be utterly astounded at the change. Your heart would rejoice at the evidence of your leadership and that of others. ....[but] the battle is not over....The more challenging task is still before us: to change hearts and attitudes, as well as create a milieu that does not give root to such attitudes in the first place."

— Woodie White, bishop-in-residence at Candler School of Theology, who each year writes a "birthday" letter to Martin Luther King Jr. about the progress of racial equality in the United States. *Courtesy of United Methodist News Service.*

Items are compiled from the University's master calendar, Events@Emory, and from individual submissions to Emory Report. Submit events at least two weeks prior to the publication date at [www.events.emory.edu](http://www.events.emory.edu) or [christi.gray@emory.edu](mailto:christi.gray@emory.edu). Listings are subject to space limitations.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

### Rushdie lecture tickets on sale

Salman Rushdie, celebrated author and Emory's Distinguished Writer in Residence, will deliver a public lecture titled "Autobiography and the Novel" at 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10 at Glenn Memorial Auditorium. Tickets, which are \$10 (\$5 with Emory ID), are available now at [www.emory.edu/events](http://www.emory.edu/events).

"The lecture will be an examination of how the lives of writers intertwine with their work, and in what ways, if at all, the life can be said to be the best explanation of that work," said Rushdie of the presentation.

### Current issues in special collections

Current issues in special collections is the focus of a Feb. 1 symposium hosted by Emory University Libraries.

"New Covenants in Special Collections: A Symposium on Obligations and Opportunities," will address how the special collections community can best serve its myriad audiences and prepare for new challenges. Emory's Ronald Schuchard, Rudolph Byrd and Erika Farr are among the featured presenters.

The conference wraps up with an informal conversation between Distinguished Writer in Residence Salman Rushdie and Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of the University.

The conference is free and open to the public and will be held in the Jones Room of the Woodruff Library. The Rushdie conversation is scheduled for the reception hall of the Carlos Museum.

For more information, contact Donna Bradley at 404-727-7620.

### CDC chief kicks off lecture series

A new seminar series presented by Emory's Institute for Advanced Policy Solutions, in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, premieres with a Jan. 30 seminar, "The Healthiest Nation," by CDC Director Julie Gerberding. The inaugural event begins in the Woodruff Library's Jones Room at 4 p.m. Seating is limited; RSVP by Jan. 25 to [policyinstitute@emory.edu](mailto:policyinstitute@emory.edu).

The institute and the CDC created the Health System Transformation Seminar Series as a forum to discuss health system transformation, health care reform and health policies. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, currently the executive director of the Center for Health Transformation, is the invited speaker for the next seminar in March.

## Athletics

Friday, Jan. 25

**Men's and Women's Basketball v.s. University of Rochester.** 6 p.m. Woodruff P.E. Center. Free. 404-727-6547

## Film

Thursday, Jan. 24

**KING WEEK: "Soul of Justice: Thelton Henderson's American Journey."** 6 p.m. Harland Cinema. Free. 404-727-4148.

Friday, Jan. 25

**"The Lives of Others."** 7:30 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-727-5886.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

**"Golden Rule Politics."** 7 p.m. 311 Bishops Hall. Free. 404-727-6350; [dkey@emory.edu](mailto:dkey@emory.edu). Panel discussion following.

## Performing Arts

Tuesday, Jan. 22

**"Rainbow Timbres: Recital by Emory Faculty Percussionist Michael Cebulski."** 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. Free. 404-727-5050. [www.arts.emory.edu](http://www.arts.emory.edu).

**KING WEEK: Concert and Birthday Cake Celebration.** Voices of Inner Strength, performing. 8 p.m. Coca-Cola Commons, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-5355.

Thursday, Jan. 24

**"Faculty Dance Concert."** Gregory Catellier and George Staib, directing. 8 p.m. Performing Arts Studio. \$12; \$6, over 65 and under 12, professional artists and students. 404-727-5050; [box\\_office@emory.edu](mailto:box_office@emory.edu). Also Jan. 25-26.

**KING WEEK: Jazz Vesper Service.** 7 p.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6153.

Friday, Jan. 25

**"Mika Yoshida, marimba, and Emory Chamber Music Concert."** 8 p.m. Emerson Hall, Schwartz Center. \$20; \$15 under 18 and over 65 and other discount category members; Free, students. 404-727-5050; [box\\_office@emory.edu](mailto:box_office@emory.edu).

## Religion

Tuesday, Jan. 22

**KING WEEK Ecumenical Celebration.** Eugene Emory, psychology, speaking. Interdenominational Choir and Voices of Praise, performing. 7 p.m. Old Church Chapel, Oxford. Free. 404-784-8392.

Thursday, Jan. 24

**KING WEEK: Chapel Service.** Rev. Gina Stewart, Christ Missionary Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., preaching. 11 a.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6153.

Sunday, Jan. 27

**KING WEEK: University Worship.** Bevel Jones, Emory retired United Methodist, preaching. 11 a.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225. Reception to follow.

## Seminars

Tuesday, Jan. 22

**"G Protein-Coupled Receptor Heterodimerization: A Role in Signaling and Drug Development."** Lakshmi Arehole Devi, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, presenting. Noon. 5052 Rollins Research Center. Free. 404-727-5983.

**AntiquiTEA: "Recent Acquisition, an Acrolithic Head of the Greek Goddess Demeter."** Jasper Gaunt, Carlos Museum Curator of Greek and Roman, presenting. 4 p.m. Reception Hall, Carlos Museum. Free. [www.carlos.emory.edu](http://www.carlos.emory.edu).

Wednesday, Jan. 23

**"Ser/Thr Phosphatases, Are They Even Better Targets for Antitumor Drug Development Than Their Kinase Counterparts?"** Richard Honkanen, University of South Alabama, presenting. 2 p.m. Ground Floor Auditorium, Whitehead Research Building. Free. 404-727-5960.

**KING WEEK: "Women Talking with Women: Reflecting on Race, Ethnicity and Culture."** Pamela Epps, Emory Counseling Center, moderating. 4 p.m. Center for Women Conference Room, Cox Hall. Free. 404-727-2001.

**KING WEEK: "Boys to Men: An Intergenerational Dialogue."** 6 p.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-6211.

Thursday, Jan. 24

**"Bacterial Proteins Modulate the Surface Expression of CFTR."** William Guggino, Johns Hopkins University. 9 a.m. 600 Whitehead Research Building. Free. 404-727-7401.

**"Luminaries in Science Lecture: 'Order and Disorder in the Emotional Brain.'"** Richard Davidson, University of Wisconsin-Madison, presenting. Noon. 311 Bishops Hall. Free. 404-727-3990.

Friday, Jan. 25

**"International Student Coffee Hour Panel Discussion: 'Civil Rights Within the International Community.'"** David Key, Baptist studies, facilitating. 11:30 a.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-3300.

**KING WEEK: Keynote Lecture: "There Goes the Neighborhood: Race, Ethnic and Class Tensions in Four Chicago Neighborhoods."** William Wilson, Harvard University, presenting. 4 p.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6328.

## Special

Tuesday, Jan. 22

**Volunteer Emory Service Trip Orientation.** 7 p.m. Harland Cinema. Free. 404-727-6268.

Wednesday, Jan. 23

**KING WEEK: Readings: "Words That Changed the World."** Emory students, faculty and staff, reading. Noon. Coca-Cola Commons, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-4265.

**Candler School of Theology State of the School Address.** Jan Love, dean, presenting. 11 a.m. 311 Bishops Hall. Free. 404-727-6322.

**KING WEEK: Community Service Awards and Lecture: "Balancing the Scales: Social Justice on the Forefront."**

Isaac Farris Jr., The King Center, speaking. 4 p.m. Boynton Auditorium, Goizueta Business School. Free. 404-727-7697. Reception following.

Sunday, Jan. 27

**Curries and Kabobs: Indian Cooking Class for Kids.** 2 p.m. Carlos Museum. \$15; \$12 members. 404-727-0519. Preregistration required.

## Visual Arts

Now Showing

**"Images of Reconciliation: Visual Reflections of the 2006 Journeys of Reconciliation trips to South Africa and India."** Dobbs Center Main Gallery. Free. 404-727-6225; [bridgette.young@emory.edu](mailto:bridgette.young@emory.edu). Through Jan. 31.

**"Noodle Noodle: New Work by Sang-Wook Lee."** Visual Arts Gallery. Free. 404-727-5050. Through Jan. 26.

**"Robert Rauschenberg's Currents: Features and Surface Series."** Carlos Museum. 404-727-4282. Through Feb. 17.

**"Democratic Vistas: Exploring the Danowski Poetry Collection."** Schatten Gallery, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-5050; [www.arts.emory.edu](http://www.arts.emory.edu). Through April 23.

**"From the Poet's Desk: An Exhibition of Poems in Process from MARBL's Literary Collections."** Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Woodruff Library. Free. [marbl.library.emory.edu](http://marbl.library.emory.edu). Through May 21.

## SNAPSHOT



Pictured left to right: Collin Richardson, Professor Timothy Albrecht, Marena Vittorio, Rachael Peyton-Cushing and Heather Paisar.

KAY HINTON

## Organists celebrate music of Messiaen

On Jan. 12, University organist Timothy Albrecht, graduate organ alumni, and current organ studio members presented a full day of events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the birth of 20th-century French composer Olivier Messiaen (1908–1992). The day featured two lectures by Albrecht, a reception and a performance of Messiaen's organ music, including the composer's first and last organ compositions.