Tracing origins of a deadly disease

By CAROL CLARK

Did 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 celebrate 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 Wolf-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
EMORY PROFILE: Marquitha Mayfield

By ALISON AMOROSO

Marquitha Mayfield nearly took her National Merit Scholar- ship 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 mi- norities and female students on campus. Instead, she became in- terested in Emory’s pre-med cur- ricula 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 stu- dents, set up a partnership to provide housing for homeless vet- erans. Over the years, they have built several houses. Mayfield is the construction manager.

Their first construction proj- ect involved buying and remod- eling 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 chroni- cles a diverse career path.

“My first position was in clin- ical research at Emory Clinic with an outstanding physician, Dallas Hall,” she says. “He was involved in clinical research in hypertension, which was becom- ing 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 clini- cal skills in gynecology,” says Mayfield, “which opened the door to directing a family plan- ning clinic for teens in a commu- nity health center. While there I worked closely with the ob-gyn physicians and expanded my clinical skills.”

Mayfield’s research and clini- cal experience also landed her a job at the then “new” Morehouse School of Medicine working with the new 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’ve a good communicator. You should be- come more involved in the aca- demic side,’ and he encouraged me to teach. So I did.”

Years later, one of the physi- cians 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 some- thing three-dimensionally in your mind’s eye, painting a pic- ture about how the wound — or cabinets — should look.”

Building healthy communities

Physician assistant pioneer chronicles diverse career path

By KAY HINTON

Mayfield forecasts ’good things’ for PAs.

Mayfield forecasts ’good things’ for PAs.

The whole health care en- vironment is changing. As we move closer toward universal health care, we will have to re-examine how health care is or- ganized 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 ac- cess to health care available, the United States has to have enough providers. I think phy- sician 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 abil- ity 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 train- ing clinical professionals, May- field 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 coordina- tor 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 stu- dents through the didactic cur- riculum,” 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 spe- cialties, 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 physi- cian supervision,” adds Mayfield. “I hope that more Emory students will consider becoming a PA.”

EMORY REPORT JANUARY 22, 2008
Republic of Georgia draws top official from Emory rolls

By CAROL CLARK

Lado Gurgenidze was a stand-out student when he earned his MBA at Emory in 1993. His academic mentor, Jeff Rosenweig, 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, Gurgenidze was chosen as prime minister of Georgia in November.

“Lado not only picks up things very quickly, he thinks very deeply,” says Rosenweig, 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 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 Tamara Monashvili Shengelia, a Robert W. Woodruff

Witte’s commitment to rights honored

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 John Ronachter 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 “Superposition 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 that “it is a challenge for people 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.

“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.

NEWSMAKERS

ACCLAIM

Sander Gilman was inducted as an honorary member of the American Psychoanalytic Association at the association’s winter meeting in New York. Alfah is a professional organization of psychoanalysts throughout the United States. Gilman, distinguished professor of the liberal arts and sciences, is director of the IAS’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 Neuroradiology and Neuropharmacology.

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, Raunette 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 ASPF’s national board of directors since 1999 and recently served as chair of the foundation’s scientific council.

The ASPF is a national nonprofit dedicated to increasing understanding and preventing suicide through research, 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.
Sorting new mail vendors

With key mail services contracts expiring this summer, Emory is in the process of preparing an RFP to select one new main vendor for the entire enterprise. Emory services currently cover over 250 mail stops in 10 delivery routes, services approximately 33,000 end users and delivers to 13 zip codes, in addition to its 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 the mail services internal and external partners, including the U.S. Postal Service. Consolidation from the current three outside vendors to one vendor will enable better coordination and maximize the benefits of the consolidation, 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

For years, Emory's 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://colleges.emory.edu/news/enewsletter/PPCAI0010.doc.

Recycled paper closes 'loop'

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

"We are completing the 'recycling loop' when we purchase 150 percent post-consumer recycled paper," said Ciamant Hewett, director of sustainability initiatives.

"This paper is the byproduct of the paper we use each day, recycled directly at our desk."

Manufacturer Mohawk Fine Papers introduced recycled paper as being made from paper fibers that were previously recycled and are certified according to the Forest Stewardship Council. The recycled paper is chlorine free.

"Emory is expected to consume 50 tons of this recycled paper annually. According to Mohawk, this will result in the elimination of 15,545 pounds of greenhouse gases, the discharge of 88,712 pounds of wastewater and the planting of 696 trees.

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 surprisingly 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 dial-up 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. Amazon has said in public that they have been asked 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 point. Kindle is the first to include a 'free' (part of the retail purchase price) built-in high speed cell service that allows for fast downloads of more than 90,000 texts that Amazon has made available.

In addition, Kindle offers daily and weekly paid sub-scriptions 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 the Kindle cell service, Kindle has available power, the text arrives while you sleep and is ready to read on your way.

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 airline seat, the text was incredibly legible and offered no problems with glare.

The cost of Kindle is a worthy purchase, offer full and agile access to a downloadable library as a Sunday New York Times.

Surprisingly, where Kindle falls down is its ability to fully support reading on the Internet. One would have supposed that Amazon would have focused its efforts most strate-gically in this area, for what is most revolutionary about the device is that it acknowledges the fact that reading online has become as important as reading a physical book. In access to a limited subset of blogs, all by paid subscription, and all limits limited the Web through a built-in browser that is truly first generation and not very user friendly.

In the evolution of technologies, one often looks for that moment when the device or the approach matures such that it is not new, not ready for adoption but also that the likelihood exists that it will actually be adopted. No e-book device or approach preceding Kindle excelled 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 light-weight 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 Catter is director of Academic Technology Services in University Technology Services.
Founders Week
February 3-10, 2008

Sunday 2.3.08
4:15 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"
Wilder Hall 206

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"
Calloway Center 5-319
8:30 p.m.
Transforming Community Project Experience 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"
Wilder Hall 206

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 206

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 Talks: William A. Brown: "Trying to Make Art with a Camera: Photographic Strategies and Traditional Media"
Emory Visual Arts Gallery
8:00-9:00 p.m.
Sustainability Summit on Food
Cox Hall Ballroom
8:00 p.m.
Film screening: "On the Waterfront"
Wilder Hall 206

Friday 2.8.08
5:30 p.m.
Lecture by Gary Hauk: "Twice Upon a Time: The Founding and Re-founding of Emory"
Woodruff Library, Jones Room 211
5:30 p.m.
Open House for Educators
Michael C. Carlos Museum
7:30 p.m.
Movie Mania Film Series: "Lady in the Dark"
Wilder Hall 206

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.
Kronos Quartet with Wu Man, pipa
Schwartz Center, Emerson Concert Hall
Tickets available at www.arts.emory.edu

Sunday 2.10.08
5:00 p.m.
Glenn Memorial Auditorium
Tickets available Jan. 10 at 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

Sunday, February 9
8:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.
Kronos Quartet with Wu Man, pipa (Feb. 9)

Saturday, February 9
8:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
"Lost Kingdoms of the Nile: Nubian Treasures from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston" (opening Feb. 9)

Celebrating Emory University
For detailed schedule, visit www.emory.edu/founders
DISEASE: On the trail of a killer mystery

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 understanding 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 easy it is to miss these things," 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 Treponema strains are currently engaged in studies that will help us understand and eventually treat this disease.

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 Rehabilitation 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 between patients' BMI and FIM was different across motor and cognitive skill categories. The results showed that from the time of admission to the rehabilitation hospital to the time of discharge, median gains and the speed of the gains in FIM scores varied among the most obese group.

One hypothesis is that a subspecies of Treponema from the warm, moist climate of the tropical New World mutated into the venerable 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-seen 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 social and political history. Syphilis brought her to Emory to work with Armelagos. "I love research that tells a human story."

"We've been together for 40 years and Kristin is one of the most talented students I've seen," Armelagos says. "She seems so quiet, and yet you just sort of let go with 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."

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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.
Words should give way to deeds, very significant in reflection on words, because he calls on his audiences to hope for and to dream a new America. But he also 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, which 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 beginning. Speaking, writing, and living were metaphors signaling the divine presence accompanying persons in their struggle to change the world. King's confidence in the divinity preserved in the midst of a community struggling and agonizing for change allowed him to conjure word and deed, theory and practice. The conversion 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 90th 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 August 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 his “I Have a Dream” speech.

My first commitment is to dare to dream a new new world. King suggests that a part of what it 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, it consumes 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 right the wrongs of one negro Jesse Jackson by another negro Jesse Jackson.”

I refer to this as the “myth of the day when my brother can see me for who I am.”

Our 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 us to dream a new church in which all God's children are fashioned “in a single garment of destiny.” We belong to the family of God.

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. He 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 God's children as reconciliation. Reconciliation was the main key in 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.

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 thoughts 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.

SOUNDBITES

How global trends impact economy

Where is the global economy headed, and what does it mean to business and individuals? Professor Jeff Rosenweig, director of the Global Perspectives Program at Gannon University Business School, addressed this topic at a recent EMORY REPORT dinner: “Bringing Your Boss to Breakfast” event.

Rosenweig said the crystal ball has rarely been as clouded. “The economy is buffeted by concerns regarding geopolitics, terrorism, wars, along with the unfolding credit crisis. No one really knows how financial problems set off by the subprime mortgage crisis will throw the economy into recession,” he said. “I do see post-economic growth, as demographic trends longer-term, as 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 of persons, its name related to racism and sexism and its tendency to neglect the importance of natu- ralism and multicultralism, said Thomas Flynn in his “Life of the Mind” lecture Jan. 16. The Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Religious Studies concluded that these problems don't mean that humanism should disappear.

“Contextual thinking is what is required to learn. And I think its challenge is contextual,” he said. “But that doesn't mean, as one of my professors used to say in graduate school, that we should be so unmanned 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.


In one comment, Westen pointed out a psychological aspect that may have factored into Hillary Clinton's surprise comeback: when she was addressing a gathering in Portsmouth, N.H., “It is a lot of people what it said was, ‘Woo, 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
**Current issues in special collections**

Current issues in special collections is the focus of a Feb. 1 symposium hosted by Emory University Libraries. "New Countries 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 Schibaud, Rudy 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 Magor, 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 series of lectures presented by Emory's Institute for Advanced Policy Solutions in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, begins 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. 26 to policies@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.

**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 8 p.m. on Jan. 28 in Glenn Memorial Auditorium, tickets, which are $4.50 with Emory ID, are available now at 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.

**Athletics**

**Seminars**

Tuesday, Jan. 22

**"G Protein-Coupled Receptor Heterodimerization: A Role in Signaling and Drug Development"**

Lakshmi Ananth, Vanderbilt University. 6 p.m. Woodruff Center. Free. 404-727-6437.

Wednesday, Jan. 23

**"Voices of Inner Strength: The Power of a Patient's Story"**

Pamela Epps, Emory Counseling and Developmental Services, Buffalo Center. 4 p.m. Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-6328.

**"How Does the Community Affect the Health of an Individual?"**

Jasper Gaunt, Carlos Museum. 6 p.m. Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-6384.

**"Luminaries in Science Lecture: 'Order and Disorder in the Emotional Brain.'"**


Friday, Jan. 25

**"International Student Coffee Hour Panel Discussion: 'Civil Rights Within the International Community.'"**

David Key, Baptist students facilitating. 11:30 a.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-3300.

**"Keynote Lecture: 'There Goes the Neighborhood: Race, Ethnic and Class Tensions in Four Chicago Neighborhoods.'"**

William Wilson, Harvard University. 4 p.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6328.

**"Golden Rule Politics."**

7 p.m. 311 Bishops Hall. Free. 404-727-5886.

**"Boy's to Men: An Intergenerational Dialogue."**

6 p.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-6211.

**"Bacterial Proteins Modulate the Surface Expression of CTRF."**

William Guggino, Johns Hopkins University. 4 p.m. 600 Whithead Research Building. Free. 404-727-7401.

**"From the Poet's Desk: An Exhibition of Poems."**


**"Noodleoodle: New Work by Sang-Wook Lee."**

Visual Arts


**"Rushdie Lecture: "Images of Reconciliation.""**

Emory's Ronald Schuchard, chair, facilitating. 11:30 a.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-6328.


**"Noodleoodle: New Work by Sang-Wook Lee."**

Visual Arts


**"Rushdie Lecture: "Images of Reconciliation.""**

Emory's Ronald Schuchard, chair, facilitating. 11:30 a.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-6328.

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