Lights, camera, action

By LEA McLEES

Scholarship goes online with electronic theses program

By LEA McLEES

Archive enhances civil rights research

By ELAINE JUSTICE

Eddy Von Mueller, a lecturer in film studies, leads Emory's first-ever narrative filmmaking class in critiquing a student film shot "old school" on Super 8mm.

By PAIGE PAVLIN

Film studies adds an action track to classes in theory, history, and criticism

Growing up, Uriel Kitron was fascinated by bugs, maps and world explorers. Page 2

Carol Gee salutes strong women during Women's History Month. Page 7

Emory is tapping into a national trend that has been gaining momentum among top research universities with the creation of a university-wide repository of student research. Beginning in fall 2008, all graduate students will submit their doctoral dissertations and master's theses in electronic form for the University's Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) database. Undergraduates completing honors theses will contribute to the online, searchable repository beginning in 2009.

"Theses and dissertations are among the most important intellectual works of the University. Sharing them can raise the profile of the University in the United States and abroad," says Lisa Tedesco, dean of the Graduate School. "Putting our scholarship online is a strategic way to maximize and extend Emory's reputation for producing leading-edge research." The campus benefits from ETD in numerous other ways. Many students will find their work online just a few weeks after they leave the Emory campus as graduates. Through ETD, they will find it easier to include audio, video, computer animation, data sets and other materials with their submissions.

From the Graduate School's perspective, processing theses and dissertations will become more efficient since the new submission system provides automated management tools for submission and processing.

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Please see FILM STUDIES on page 6

Please see aRCHIVE on page 4

Please see DISCOVERY on page 6

Please see FORuM: on page 6

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March 17, 2008 / Vol. 60, No. 23
EMORY PROFILE: Uriel Kitron

By CAROL CLARK

Growing up in Jerusalem, Uriel Kitron was fascinated by bugs, maps, and world explorers. He has managed to combine all three interests in his academic career. As a specialist in spatial epidemiology, Kitron uses geographic information systems (GIS) to create maps that pinpoint disease agents and their vectors, including insects, ticks, bats and other creatures.

“My father worked in the Israeli justice department, but I didn’t want to be a suit and tie guy,” says Kitron, who joined Emory in January as professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Studies. He never needs to pack for his global fieldwork, which involves everything from catching birds in mist nets to tracking the dreaded assassin bug. He even has to trap the occasional skunk.

“It helps if you put a piece of cloth over the cage,” Kitron advises anyone involved in skunk removal. “When it’s dark, a skunk usually will not spray you.” He adds that you should work in a group, just in case. “If it happens to everybody, you don’t notice it as much. It’s like eating garlic.”

Kitron comes to Emory from the University of Illinois, where he was co-director of the Center for Zoonoses Research. His ongoing projects include studies of Lyme disease and West Nile virus in the U.S., malaria and schistosomiasis in Kenya, malaria and filariasis in Papua, New Guinea, dengue fever in Peru; and Chagas disease in Argentina.

“I’m especially interested in learning why we have a disease here and now and not there and then,” he says, summing up the ecological approach to his work. Chagas disease, for instance, is caused by a parasite transmitted to humans and other animals mainly by the blood-sucking assassin bug, which lives in the thatched-roofed homes of some indigenous communities.

On his computer, Kitron demonstrates how his research team solved the mystery of why Chagas disease returned to a remote village in northern Argentina, after a bug-spraying program had eliminated it. The researchers used GIS technology to combine satellite photos of the village with other data and developed a multi-layered picture, including every livestock corral and house, along with the number and location of people and animals.

“In a way, we mapped every dog, every pig — every bug, even,” Kitron says. Through the database, they could trace the return of the disease through the village and pinpoint the origin of the “super spreaders” — a pig corral. Further investigation determined that after the homes were sprayed, some of the bugs retreated to the corral where they managed to survive and regroup.

The researchers developed new parameters for bug-spraying campaigns by the local health authorities, to include animal corrals as well as homes and extend one-half kilometer around the village. “Our goal is to come up with disease intervention strategies that make the best use of limited resources,” Kitron explains. A key part of his work is forming good relationships with the communities where he works, he adds. That means understanding the culture and helping people improve their lives in ways that fit their means, he adds.

“I feel that there is a big gap in disease study, in terms of the medical and natural sciences and the social sciences,” he says. “We really need to develop more interdisciplinary approaches.”

**Putting bugs on the map**

**Professor tracks ‘assassins,’ traps skunks**

By ERIC RANGUS

Turman honoree to donate award

By LEONARD BRYMAN

The J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award honors Emory graduates who give back to their alma mater through service. On March 7 in the Miller-Ward Alumni House, it was the Emory Alumni Association that gave back in presenting the 2008 Turman Award to Phil Reese 66C-’76MBA-’76L.

When accepting the award, Reese said his relationship with Emory had come full circles — from student to alumnus to honoree. During his alumni years, Reese has contributed leadership, advising, mentoring and more, across the Emory enterprise. As a graduate student, Reese worked to help create Emory’s JD/MBA program, from which he was the first graduate.

President Jim Wagner, in presenting the award, noted that Reese’s core reason for engagement with Emory was that the University gave Reese a chance when it didn’t have to. “It’s as simple as that,” Wagner said. “Emory gave him an opportunity to excel. He did. And he has never forgotten. And Phil Reece’s long memory and deep gratitude are still being felt across our University more than 40 years after he first stepped onto our campus, and it will continue to be felt long into the future.”

Reese intends to donate his $25,000 award (along with a match) to Goizueta Business School to support its leadership fellowship program. The Turman Award, Emory’s highest alumni award for service has been presented annually by the EAA since 1998.
Casting mushrooms in a new light

By MARY CATHARINE JOHNSON

When Linda Armstrong is not teaching classes or working on an exhibition in her sculpture studio in Grant Park, the director of the Emory Visual Arts Program may be found hiking through the woods with the Mushroom Club of Georgia, clutching a well-worn copy of the Audubon Society’s “Field Guide to North American Mushrooms.” Some of what the club members find on their excursions becomes an evening’s dinner; Armstrong uses her findings in art exhibitions.

Armstrong’s exhibition, “Collecting Excursions,” is a culmination of many years of environmental research and experimentation within Georgia, as well as an exploration of tree bark and mushroom specimens she collected while participating in a residency at the Caversham Centre for Artists and Writers in South Africa.

“Transporting foreign bark and mushrooms back to the United States can be tricky,” she says. “I sometimes feel like an artist outlaws.”

In addition to the specimens from South Africa, the exhibition includes a dead tree that Armstrong found in Grant Park. “The tree was a victim of Atlanta’s recent drought, but through bandages and a symbolic healing ritual, I will give gallery visitors the opportunity to experience a revitalized tree in a way they have never seen before.”

“Collecting Excursions” is Armstrong’s first exploration of bronze casting. She created molds of mushrooms she collected, and then handed them over to a master caster and mold builder in Utah to capture the delicate nuances and patterns of the original molds. This process is very expensive, particularly for the bronze itself, and she says she would not have been able to do it without the support of a University Research Council grant this year.

“The results are temporary mushroom blooms solidified in bronze, making them timeless,” she explains. “I am thrilled with how they turned out, and am extremely grateful to the URC for facilitating this unique form of research.”

Linda Armstrong’s mushroom molds were cast in bronze, “making them timeless,” said the director of the Visual Arts Program.

Julie Hale: Electrician comes full circuit

By CAROL CLARK

Julie Hale dropped out of college after her first semester to “take a break.” She never dreamed that break would last more than 20 years. Now project manager for engineering services in Emory’s Facilities Management, Hale is also on the verge of getting her college degree. You could say she took a circuitous route.

She was one of the first women to become an apprentice in the Atlanta chapter of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), during the late 1970s. Apprenticeship did the grunt work at the electrical contracting firm where she trained, including thatching bundles of rigid electrical conduit that weighed 100 pounds. Hale weighed 115 at the time, and some of her male colleagues told her she would never suc-

ceed because she was too small. One day they gave her the task of bending a 1.5-inch diameter piece of metal piping by hand. They gathered around to watch as she attempted the task.

One day they gave her the task of bending a 1.5-inch diameter piece of metal piping by hand. They gathered around to watch as she attempted the task. Only later did Hale learn it was a trick; hydraulic benders were usually brought in for piping that thick. “I still run into guys I used to work with who tell me that was the funniest day they ever had on the job,” Hale says.

Hale stuck with the rigorous apprenticeship, despite the harassment. She even had energy left over to moonlight as a professional belly dancer at the Imperial Fez restaurant, before joining Emory.

During her 12 years here, she’s become a true “insider,” exploring and mapping electrical circuits and elevators mechanical rooms throughout the campus. She currently heads up main-tenance of all of Emory’s eleva-tors, emergency generators, fire alarms and sprinkler systems.

Hale has retired from perfor-mance belly dancing, but retains her love for Middle Eastern cul-
ture. About a decade ago, she began taking classes at Emory College as a special student, eventually focusing on Arabic language. “After 9/11, it was a very peaceful thing to do in the face of a lot of pain and fear,” she says. “I felt I was doing something for the world.”

Hale is now just a few credits shy of an undergraduate degree in Middle Eastern Studies.

On view

“Collecting Excursions,” an exhibition by Linda Armstrong, director of the Visual Arts Program, will be on view in the Emory Visual Arts Gallery from March 20 through April 24, with an opening reception on Thursday, March 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be a special Earth Day reception for Emory Friends of Visual Arts on April 22 at 7 p.m., featuring an artist talk and music by Klimek.

For more information, visit www.visualarts.emory.edu.
TAKE NOTE

Sage Hill graduate complex taking shape

By DAVID PAYNE

Site preparations are under way for the new graduate student housing complex on Briarcliff Road near the Sage Hill Shopping Center, being built in partnership with Campus Apartments Inc. The development will be built on land that previously housed an apartment complex, a condominum complex and an empty lot. Campus Apartments Inc. will construct and manage the facility.

The graduate student housing complex will have an EarthCraft certification. Rendering subject to change.

By KIM URQUHART

Is suicide bombing an unqualified evil? Like many questions posed at the conference “Wrathful God Religious Extremism in a Comparative Perspective,” this one by keynote speaker Bruce Lawrence of Duke University “opens up a Pandora’s box of alternative perspectives and new questions,” Lawrence said.

The much-debated issue—suicide bombing—will be on the classroom and on the scholars’ minds when the SCLC archives are opened to scholars and the public.

“The process could take as long as a year, but every effort is being made to make the material available to scholars and students as quickly as possible,” said Lewis. The provost, a social historian, pointed out that some 50 to 60 years after the height of the civil rights movement, “we’re realizing that a generation of individuals who were so key to changing the tone and texture of America are themselves dying.” Preserving those moments, documenting that past, said Lewis, is critical.

For pre-registration and more information on the conference and other events, visit online: http://it.emory.edu/security_conference.

By JENNIFER SMITH

Sage Hill graduate complex taking shape

The development will comply with all of the University’s applicable tree-loss policies and Campus Apartments Inc. has committed to achieving a “green” residential EarthCraft certification for the facility.

The graduate student housing complex will have an Earth-Craft certification. Rendering subject to change.

ARCHIVE: Preserving SCLC’s story

"Included in this archive are materials that document some of the most significant moments and elements of the country’s civil rights history.” — Provost Earl Lewis

Continued from the cover

Dr. Lowery and other SCLC leaders who guided this organization through one of its most challenging periods of activism.

Thanks to efforts of the Atlanta History Center, the archive is in excellent shape, said Steele. But what touched him about the need for preserving the SCLC archive, he said, is that without proper preservation, some of the materials were in danger of fading away.

“We fell down on the job in telling our story,” he said. “Around the world, people are asking: Teach us the alternative to violence. We changed the world and we never fired a shot.” The SCLC’s history as a nonviolent social movement for human rights needs to be preserved and told, said Steele.

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Scholars compare religious extremism

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**ETD: Multimedia options, easier tracking, more access**

*Continued from the cover*

ETD offers multimedia options, making it easier for students and faculty to track and access theses and dissertations. The ETD repository will be fully searchable, allowing researchers to access and retrieve information more easily. This initiative is a part of the efforts to make academic tracking in the libraries efficient and user-friendly.

**University garners top scores on surveys**

Emory is in the top 10 on three different rankings for quality of life in education.

For postdoctoral

In The Scientist magazine’s “Best Places to Work for Postdocs” 2008 survey, Emory was cited for its strong training and mentoring programs, rating it as the second best academic institution nationally and the seventh best institution overall. Emory was one of only two academic institutions in the top 20 in the survey, which is published in the March issue.

After receiving their postdoctoral degrees, many life sciences graduates often launch their research careers by working for several years as postdoctoral fellows in the laboratories of established scientists, and are available for families with annual incomes of $100,000 or less.

**Goizueta’s undergraduate program**

BusinessWeek’s third annual ranking of undergraduate business programs puts Goizueta Business School’s program at number 5. It is one of only three to be ranked in the top five all three years of the survey.

**Best value in higher education**

Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine ranks Emory ninth among 100 best values in private universities.

“Our exclusive rankings showcase a range of schools with strong academically, generous financial-aid policies,” the magazine said about its annual private school rankings, which will be in the April issue.

Emory was selected from a pool of more than 1,000 private institutions and ranked according to academic quality, which accounted for two-thirds of the total score, and affordability.

Emory was one of the first schools in the nation to announce generous tuition breaks when Emory Advantage was launched in January 2007. The program reduces debt for families with annual incomes of $100,000 or less, and a $15,000 loan cap is set for families with incomes of up to $100,000.

--- Leslie King

**Bike Share offers free ride**

Need to borrow a bike—and for free? The first two Bike Emory Bike Share locations are now open near the security office at the Peavine Parking Deck and in the Plaza 1000 lobby of the 1762 Clifton Road building. More locations are opening soon. To learn more, visit bike.emory.edu.

**REPORT FROM:** Office of International Affairs

**Cartooning: Front row at Kenya conflict**

Although the violence and conflict that erupted from December’s disputed elections in Kenya garnered international interest, East and Central Africa’s most syndicated cartoonist, Godfrey Mwampemwba (Gado), has been living in conflict since his career began.

“Editorial cartooning is a confrontation art, as a cartoonist is always in conflict with either the authorities or the society at large,” said Gado during the public lecture “Cartooning in Conflict: Can Cartoons Help Bring Peace to the Political Crisis in Kenya?” in February. Sponsored by The Claus M. Halle Institute for Global Learning, Gado’s visit was a continuation of the “Cartooning for Peace” forum held at Emory in November. That week-long event featured 10 acclaimed cartoonists from around the world for a series of public panels, class visits and public lectures. More than 100 of their cartoons, including 17 from Gado, were on display at the Schatten Gallery.

Born in Tanzania, Gado works as a freelance cartoonist in Nairobi, Kenya. Although his work explores a wide range of topics from corruption and terrorism to deforestation and HIV/AIDS, his most recent cartoons offer commentary on the characters and issues surrounding the presidential elections.

During times of conflict, said Gado, it is critical that a cartoonist carefully examine the issues at hand before drawing a cartoon.

As much as cartoonists want to arrogantly give their opinion, it is always a situation where you really have to weigh the issues, and consider to what extent do you consider them,” he noted. “Cartooning is not only a conflict of interest, but a conflict of my very existence.”

During his visit, Gado attended classes hosted by Emory professors where he spoke about his career as an editorial cartoonist, the political situation in East Africa, censorship, where to draw the line, and more.


Gado joined the Ardhi Institute in Tanzania to study architecture in 1991, but left one year later to become the editorial cartoonist and illustrator of Nation Media Group, the largest media house in East and Central Africa. Gado has also published three books: “Abumwassai,” a short story comic book and “Democracy!” and “The End of An Error, and the ‘Beginning of A New One!’”, both collections of his editorial cartoons.

The brainchild of Le Monde’s editorial cartoonist Plantu, “Cartooning for Peace” was first held at the United Nations headquarters in New York in 2006.

Alma Freeman is communications specialist for the Office of International Studies.

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Log on

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Pumping new life into math

"Even mathematics has a heart," says Alessandro Veneziani, an assistant professor of mathematics and computational sciences who solves human blood flow problems. Veneziani says. But it was not until the past decade or so, he adds, that advances in computing and diagnostic imaging put fluid dynamics at the cutting edge of medicine.

Emory offers Veneziani an opportunity to expand his cardiovascular math research, drawing from the resources of the School of Medicine and a math department already involved in biomedicalicine. "My dream is that numerical simulation will become part of the daily routine of medical doctors," he says.

He is currently focused on complex equations involving brain aneurysms — tears in blood vessels that create balloon-like bulges — to predict their likelihood of rupture. The resulting data could help doctors determine whether to operate on a patient, or forego the risky brain surgery and simply monitor the aneurysm.

"People think I'm crazy when I tell them these equations are beautiful, but I see the underlying structure, and the potential benefits," Veneziani says. "The harder the problem, the more exciting it is for me to work on it."
By CAROL GEE

Growing up, I can still recall overhearing my mother discussing women in our community who was going through some personal problems. She would remark to her acquaintances, when she was speaking, “Well, she is a strong woman.”

So whenever life throws me a curve ball, as life so often does, I am reminded of those women who so often suffered more serious afflictions than those two laugh lines that recently showed up with an encore, all of whom have now taken up residence around my eyes and mouth.

Recently celebrating several milestones—over three decades of marriage to the same man, several articles published in national magazines, and the publication of a chapter in a well-renewed Emory scholar’s baby-boomer book—I suddenly realized that my journey into womanhood was borne on the shoulders of many so-called “strong” women.

In my veins flows the blood of women filled with cultural pride, who told me great stories about women like Maggie Lena Walker, the first woman in the United States to become president of a local bank, and Madame C. J. Walker, who turned dressing women’s hair into a mega-business, proving that women could be financially independent with hard work and a passion to succeed.

Some of my role models were alone by choice, others by death or other happenstance. A few remained with men who saw them only as bastions for their own wounds. Too soon these women believed the world’s wry tale that “you make your bed you have to lie in.” Because they had long learned to keep their pain hidden, friends failed to detect it. For some scars could not be seen by the naked eye. Having known all these women gave me the courage to fully explore life—and to dream. Learning from their traps and pitfalls taught me how to avoid them, or at the very least how to navigate around them. Having known them gave me the courage to find my own truth.

Today, I continue to find myself surrounded by women of extraordinary strengths and characters: my former administrative assistant, who as a single woman in her early thirties with a small daughter of her own, became the legal guardian of her two nieces, one of them already a teenager when their sole parent died. There is my sister raising a man-child alone in a world where every day black males live in fear of their own humanity. For sadly, not only are my sister’s lectures to Michael about respecting women important need a hand to hold.

Recently, while chatting with a couple of women, one of them remarked how well I appeared to be doing after a recent health scare. Immediately the other remarked, “I am not surprised, as she is a strong woman.” You see, long ago I realized that while life can be tough, I am tough. Thus the torch has been passed. I have become a member of a select group of women, to become the woman that you see standing before you, a fearless woman, a confident woman, a strong woman.

But act when or if he is ever stopped by those who took an oath to protect and to serve. All my life I’ve enjoyed what I call amazing acts of friendship. Like the time I was asked to help decorate the reception hall when a friend’s daughter got married. How could she have known that, not having a daughter of my own, helping to make her daughter’s big day a day to remember touched my tender woman’s heart? Then there were the women who came to my aid when I broke my ankle some years ago. Generous in spirit, these women fetched and carried the entire three months that it took from surgery to rehab before I fully recovered from my adventures in breakdancing.

As I think back to all the women who have been and still are so much a part of my life, I am humbled by their unwavering support. So during National Women’s History Month, I salute them.

Beyond their years we are my sisters and my dream shapers. Confident in their own abilities, they also acknowledge that sometimes even strong women need a hand to hold. Recently, while chatting with a couple of women, one of them remarked how well I appeared to be doing after a recent health scare. Immediately the other remarked, “I am not surprised, as she is a strong woman.” You see, long ago I realized that while life can be tough, I am tough. Thus the torch has been passed. I have become a member of a select group of women, to become the woman that you see standing before you, a fearless woman, a confident woman, a strong woman.

Ceremony to mark fifth year of Iraq war

By CAROL CLARK

University groups that hold regular campus vigils over the Iraq war will join forces to mark the fifth anniversary of the war at a special event March 19.

The ceremony, which begins at 12:30 p.m. on the grassy area between the Dobbs University Center and Cox Hall, will feature Korean drumming, some scarves could not be seen by the naked eye. Having known all these women gave me the courage to fully explore life—and to dream. Learning from their traps and pitfalls taught me how to avoid them, or at the very least how to navigate around them. Having known them gave me the courage to find my own truth.

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**ADVANCE NOTICE**

**Alice Walker reads at Glenn March 25**

In celebration of her archive’s arrival, author Alice Walker will give a public reading at Glenn Memorial Auditorium at 6 p.m. March 25. Tickets go on sale March 17 by phone at 404-727-5050 or online at www.arts.emory.edu with a $3.50 handling charge for phone and online orders.

Tickets for Emory faculty, staff, alumni and students are free but until the allotment is sold out; then the cost will be $10, the same as for general public tickets. There is a limit of four tickets per person.

Sponsors include Emory Libraries, the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, the James Weldon Johnson Institute and the Creative Writing Program.

**Town hall topic is excellence**

President Jim Wagner and Mike Mandl, executive vice president for finance and administration, will lead a conversation about developing and maintaining excellence at Emory for the Employee Council Town Hall meeting.

This year’s event is March 20 from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Tull Auditorium of the Eberly Science Center. Refreshments will be served, and staff members will have the opportunity to ask questions.

**Get book tips at publishing forum**

Register now to attend “Academics as Authors: A Symposium on Book Publishing” on April 11 at the Emory Conference Center. University Press editors in history, religion and the humanities, science, social science and medicine will speak on trends in publishing at 9 a.m. Editors with commercial presses and literary agents will address writing for broader audiences at 10:15 a.m.

The event is open to the Emory community. To register, e-mail Alyssa Stalsberg at astalsberg@emory.edu by March 25. For details visit http://www.emory.edu/PRO- VOST/facultydevelopment/medianetworkdevelopment/events.php.