Carter calls IRA a ‘damaging mistake’

BY ERIC RANGUS

At his annual town hall meeting, former President Jimmy Carter is known for not ducking any question, no matter the subject. Some, in fact, devours. Like this one: “If you could change one thing about American foreign policy, what would it be?”

Carter wasted no time with his answer. “I would have someone in charge other than George W. Bush.” A standing ovation lasted more than half a minute followed. When it quieted down, the crowd eagerly awaited expansion of the answer. Carter merely looked over at Senior Vice President for Campus Life John Ford, who was reading the questions, with a casual expression that implied, “next.”

That exchange aside, the 23rd annual Carter Town Hall, held Sept. 22 in the P.E. Center was not as Bush-centric as in recent years, but what it lacked in election-year fervor it more than made up for in variety.

The first question of the night was a doozy. How do you feel about gay marriage? “I can’t bring myself to endorse gay marriage,” said Carter, a Sunday school teacher in his spare time. “But communications between people of the same sex should be blessed,” he continued, adding that no one should be condemned or lose rights based on his or her sexual orientation.

After that, Carter answered questions regarding whether free trade could help Latin America (yes, but trade should include provisions that would help work- ers in developing countries), whether he had been to the

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

EmoryLink looks for Emory-wide IT solutions

BY DONNA PRICE

A new initiative, EmoryLink, sponsored by the offices of the provost and the executive vice presi- dent for finance and administration, is taking a broader look at the University’s information technology (IT) infrastructure with the goal of defining a common IT communication platform for University-wide e-mail, calendaring and collaboration.

For most people in the Emory community, reliance on IT resources for teaching, research, scholarship, health care, business and administrativa- tions, and social communications is as taken-for- granted as the sunrise.

But like every other univer- sity, the infrastructure supporting the extraordinary IT evolu- tion of the past decade—and on which everyone now depends—was built, like post-Civil War Atlanta, in service of immediate needs rather than on a comprehen- sive master plan. And, like navigating the streets of Atlanta, IT users must negotiate a labyrinth of systems built from a mix of technology prod- ucts, services and technology platforms across schools, departments and divisions.

“A common platform is essential if we are to achieve the vision of the University,” said Don Harris, chief informa- tion officer and vice provost for information technology. “The goals of collaboration, interdisciplinary partnerships and academic community are made easier when technical barriers are reduced.”

The EmoryLink advisory group is made up of 17 representatives from the academic divisions and schools, the finance division, Faculty Council/University Senate, Employee Council, Student Government Association, College Council, Information Technology Division (ITD), Network Communications and Emory Healthcare.

“The charter of our group is to develop a list of options,” said John Ellis, director of technical services for ITD. “This is not an implementation group; that’s why we have this make-up. It’s not all technical people; it’s more end-user.”

One of those end-users is Sharon Strochia, chair of Faculty Council and one of the early drivers of the effort that led to EmoryLink. “Developing a common IT platform would remove barriers to collaborative ventures, especially across schools,” Strochia said. “One basic example is in graduate teaching. Students enrolled in the professional schools use local versions of LearnLink or Blackboard. When they take courses offered by the graduate school, they don’t have ready access to electronic course materials, or to the e-mail of fellow students. As Emory moves more toward cross-discipli- nary teaching and scholar- ship, the problem becomes magnified.”

To learn more about cross-platform problems like this, as well as gain the essential feed- back needed to move forward with the project, the group has organized a Technology Showcase for Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Cox Hall ballroom, where the Emory community will have the opportunity to test-drive and provide feedback on some of the best new integrated IT communication solutions.

“This is a way for people to get involved, see what the tech- nology can do and how it will help them in their day-to-day tasks and work environments,” said team leader Karen Jenkins of ITD Client Services Development. “At the end of the show- case, there will be an exit inter- view.”

Systems on display will include solutions for e-mail messaging, calendaring, directo- ry lookups, collaboration and remote access (web, PDA, etc.). Vendors include Microsoft, IBM, Novell, FirstClass and Scilix. Thirty-minute vendor presentations will begin hourly from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“We are really interested in gathering community feed- back,” Ellis said.

For more information and to participate in an online sur- vey, visit www.emory.edu/EMORYLINK.
Correction

In the Sept. 20 issue of Emory Report, a report on the President’s Commission on Race and Ethnicity (PCORE) meeting implied Provost Earl Lewis suggested approving this program, to ensure high administrative quality. Lewis reviewed and approved this program, but did not suggest it. Emory regrets the error.

Genes—that’s rather like science fiction, isn’t it? I was recently at a confer-
ence in Great Britain and took a side trip to Edinburgh to stroll the Royal Mile and see the dark castle and the palace of Holyrood. I stayed in a tea-
house for a pot of “Old English” and a scene with Jamie of Rome.

There I met an outgoing and friendly couple from Boston who was visiting London. Both in their late 50s, they had come to Edinburgh for the weekend. We struck up a conversation and, after exchanging pleasantries, they asked what had brought me to Great Britain. I explained that I was attending a scientific meeting about the genetic aspects of madness (the biological process that creates eggs and sperm).

At that point, the woman’s eyes lit up, and she began asking me about genetics and disease. That’s when she asked me the question linking genetics to science fiction.

Legal social issues generally gave me an opportunity to unravel some of the mystery of DNA, bring it out of the realm of fiction and into this woman’s world of reality. I love questions like this because they give me a chance to talk about how genes influence different aspects of life and health. I suppose my love of sponta-
enous scientific conversation with strangers is an extension of my love for teaching, manifest outside the traditional classroom setting. This experience, I imag-
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bility to help develop or clarify an understanding of genetics and its related technologies. This informed public is a well-educat-
ed one and, in the years ahead, many issues concerning DNA-testing, technology and treat-
ment will be debated, evaluated and (perhaps) regulated. So, somewhat selfishly, I want as many well-informed people as possible to engage in the discus-
sion.

Nearly everyone I talk with bar at least some knowledge of DNA—the somewhat mystical double helix that gives each of our cells the instructions to carry out specific actions and duties. Most also understand that DNA is passed from parent to child through sperm and egg. This is our reason for the discussion.

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firstperson

NEIL LAMB

Genes and tea leaves

部分原因是我们可能有伟大基因的年轻孩子或祖父的红头发。

Thanks to the popularity of television programs such as “CSI,” many people realize that DNA obtained from saliva, semen, hair follicles and so forth can be used to identify each person on our planet (unless, of course, that person happens to have an identical twin, in which case the situation gets a bit more complicated, but I’ll leave that to the genomics in the soap opera).

Beyond this level of knowledge, however, the understanding of genes and their function often gets murky for even the most well-educated individual.

In general, most of us ascribe too much power to the DNA strands found inside our cells, believing our genes pro-
vide the sole influence on our appearance, health and behav-
ior. Often I hear this summed up along the lines of, “All the answers are found in our DNA, and in the near future we will be able to predict the precise course of our lives based upon the information.”

A similar, equally popular scenario describes a husband and wife looking over a “menu” listing specific characteristics they may desire for their future children. Part of the reason we might have great-grandma’s lanky build or grandpa’s red hair.

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Looking over Ben Freed's shoulder is a pair of crowned lemurs, one of the two species of lemurs he studied during his dissertation work and reconnected with during a 10-week trip to Madagascar. Diego Suarez, isn't the name of the artist who painted the canvas, which hangs on the empty wall above the anthropology building. It's the name of the man who lived here.

In Madagascar, Ben Freed is a rock star. As much as a guy who studies non-human primates can be a rock star, anyway.

The lanky, 6-foot-7-inch anthropology lecturer already cuts a pretty distinctive figure, but in Madagascar—an island nation 248 miles off the southeastern coast of Africa where the average height of its inhabitants is 5 feet 4 inches—he's a giant.

From January 1989 through November 1991 Freed, then a doctoral student at Washington University at St. Louis, lived in a tent in the middle of a rainforest on Mt. D'Ambre (Amber Mountain) in the northern part of the country. He was studying the habits of a group of lemurs—crowned and Sanford's lemurs.

While there was no concerted effort on Freed's part, he made a name for himself. In some places he may have made the jump to legend status.

This past summer, during Madagascar's winter, Freed returned to the country to take his dissertation research in a slightly different direction. He wanted to explore other lemur areas, review their living conditions and also collect information that could be used by conservation groups looking to protect the habitats of the 32 species and subspecies of lemur that are native to Madagascar—all of which are endangered.

He spent 10 weeks in Madagascar doing just that, funded by a grant from the Institute for Comparative and International Studies (ICIS). While in country, he would walk past strangers, some of them children, who would stop, turn, point and yell, "Ben!" When Freed returned to his old dissertation site on Amber Mountain, he found that it had been renamed "Camp Ben.

"Every place I went, it was just utter, pleasant shock," said Freed, who had not been back to Madagascar since 1991. Much of the fun this time was reconnecting with some of the Malagasy he had met during his first visit. But the emotions that came with his return to Camp Ben were more than he imagined.

"There must be muscle memory, because there were footpaths I remembered," he said. "I knew the footpaths by heart even though the areas had overgrown; we found the exact same trees. We even saw groups of lemurs in roughly the same places."

Lemurs live for about 30 years in captivity, although their lifespan is unknown in the wild—findings that are out of the range Freed continues to research them. So it is possible that Freed may have seen some of the same lemurs he first observed some 13 years ago.

"I'd like to think I did," he said. "One of the groups moved right from a tree exactly the time I thought they would."

Freed began studying lemurs as almost an afterthought while a undergraduate at Duke University. A computer science major, he was looking to double major, and anthropology shared the building. Duke's primates center had a number of lemurs; Freed gravitated toward them and continued his work as a doctoral student.

"They were three of the best years of my life; I was really fortunate," Freed said, recalling his earlier fieldwork, in which much of his duties entailed, literally, sitting and watching the lemurs do what they do from dawn to dusk. While Freed returned to the United States at the end of 1991, the data were so numerous that his dissertation was not completed until 1996. For the last six months of Freed's time in the rainforest, he was joined by his wife Rose Anne, an IT professional by trade but an amateur lemurologist shared the building. It's the name of the man who lived here.

But returning to Camp Ben was only a small part of his summer trip. Freed spent most of his time exploring smaller forests in northern Madagascar, many of which had not been researched previously. To do that, he and his group spent a lot of time hiking (often in the downpours). It wasn't easy, either. With full backpacks, Freed estimated he hiked about 625 kilometers over the 10 weeks. Despite eating relatively well, Freed lost 45 pounds.

"But we had a blast," he said. "It was just incredible to do this. You meet a lot of people, and you see fantastic scenery." Freed and his group trudged from rainforest to savannah to the rocky coast and back again. His only tools of observation were a notebook and camera—not even a digital one.

While lemurs are endangered and not very large (a grown lemur is a foot long plus tail and weighs between three and five pounds), they are social creatures, so observing them isn't difficult. They can be an arm's length from a human and completely go about their business.

"I've got friends who work with other primates, and it takes them several days, months—or even years, in the case of gorillas—to habituate them; mine were, like, five minutes," Freed said.

Lemurs are a somewhat understudied member of the primate family; research was first conducted on them in the 1960s. They are considered "lower" primates, meaning that they are most similar to the earliest primates. Lemurs have different brain organization than monkeys, apes and humans; yet they are socially complex creatures, some living in small, monogamous groups, others in large groups.

Although it is known that all lemurs are endangered, researchers and conservationists don't agree about how many are left. Crowned lemurs and Sanford's lemurs, for example, range between 10,000 and 100,000 per species, although Freed believes the number is closer to the lower end.

Current research, he said, extrapolates the relatively high number of lemurs that live close to humans and assumes those numbers are similar in remote areas. This belief is one of the reasons Freed wanted to visit remote areas to study.

What he found was surprising. In the larger rainforests, the highest densities of lemurs were found in heavily populated areas (Madagascar, with a population of 17 million, hasn't become overly urban, but cities have begun encroaching on the rainforest), but the interiors did not show commensurate numbers.

However, in smaller forests, which had long been ignored by conservationists, lemurs are thriving. The key, Freed said, is the local populations' relationships with the lemurs.

"The lemurs are protected by local traditions," Freed said. One legend Freed learned during his dissertation work is that, during colonial times when the French colonists would move through the mountains, the crowned lemurs would give a distinctive call warning the townspeople. "People don't eat them and they don't trap them," he said.

Freed doesn't intend to wait another 13 years for his next visit to Madagascar. Encouraged by how quickly he was able to pick up where he left off, Freed hopes to return next summer—this time with students from Emory and Madagascar's University of Antsiranana as company, provided he can find the funding. Specifically he hopes to investigate the crowned and Sanford's lemurs' social organization.

He already has taken the next step with his most recent research. He passed his finding on to conservation groups in Madagascar and hopes to present it to other wildlife groups with the intent of establishing some long-term research efforts there.

Freed's interests extend beyond non-human primates. He likes the human ones, too. A Crystal Apple Award winner, Freed devotes a great deal of time and energy to his teaching on the Emory campus. Off campus he mentors about a half-dozen high school students and tries to help them with ecology. Freed also guest talks for honors and advanced placement biology classes in east Cobb County, where he lives. He brings in examples from his field research and shows them how science relates to what they see every day.

His work has an activist edge as well. In 2002, in response to efforts to remove the word "evolution" from biology teaching, Freed—along with faculty from other area colleges and concerned parents and teachers—co-founded Georgia Citizens for Integrity in Science Education (GCISE) to promote scientific literacy and excellence in science education.

While GCISE's work to count plans to change the way evolution is taught in schools (the plan never was enacted) may make the newspapers, most of the organization's work is of the grassroots variety. The group does community outreach. Freed himself has met with Cobb County's director of science instruction to design creative ways to get students interested in science.

"What GCISE is trying to do is protect good science education, facilitate these opportunities and put out a voice when science is questioned," said Freed, who has an 8-year-old daughter. "Providing opportunities for parents to hear voices of people who deal with science every day is important. What is science, and what meaning does it in everyday life? These are things that we try to bring to teachers, administrators, parents and students."

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I n its first meeting of the academic year, held Sept. 21 in 400 Administration, the Faculty Council welcomed new members and outlined its broad goals for the 2004-05 year.

Chair Sharon Strocchia began by revisiting the council’s history. It was founded in conjunction with the University Senate in 1964, she said, and no significant changes have been made to the council’s bylaws since 1982. Strocchia won­dered, in light of the many other groups and initiatives launched in the two-plus decades hence, whether the current environment of University-wide planning is a good one to re-examine the council’s charge and determine whether changes are warranted.

To that end, she identified five key areas over which the council has responsibility: teaching, research, grievance processes, faculty governance and faculty development. Over the year, at least one council meeting will be centered on discussing each of these issues. “We have gaps on one hand and redundancies on the other,” Strocchia said of the relation­ship between the council and other campus groups and projects. “At best, this situation means we may not be using our resources most efficiently, and at worst we are just con­fusing ourselves.”

Attending his first meeting as Emory’s provost, Earl Lewis introduced himself to the group and briefly described the many issues facing the campus this year. Chief among these is the strategic planning process, for which Lewis serves as co-chair. He explained his main goals is to identify cross-cut­ting themes and issues that tie the University’s various parts together.

Lewis said at least two searches for deans will be ongo­ing (Goizueta Business School and Oxford College), and he also hopes to find a permanent dean for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. John Noe has been serving as interim dean since June 2003.

Another goal, Lewis said, is to look for new ways to use Emory’s endowment to fund academic growth and progress even before the University begins to see returns from the upcoming comprehensive campaign. Finally, he said he is looking at changes in his office, possibly adding two vice provosts to oversee academic planning and faculty develop­ment, and issues of campus diversity.

John Ellis, co-director of academic technologies for the Information Technology Division, briefed the council on the EmoryLink project (see story, page 7) and encouraged mem­bers to attend this week’s technology showcase, set for Thursday, Sept. 30, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The project’s ambi­tious task is to look for new technology solutions to create a campus environment oriented toward email, calendaring and electronic collaboration. Ellis pointed the council to the showcase and the EmoryLink website (www.emory.edu/ EmoryLink), which reports the progress.

Reporting for the Faculty Life Course Committee, the medical school’s Nanette Wenger presented the results of a survey of new faculty conducted last year. As the main prob­lem reported by new faculty across the schools was a difficul­ty in getting “up and running” within the Emory system, Wenger suggested that developing a way for new faculty to fit information from Human Resources before they arrive on campus could save “time, frustration and money.”

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Lowrey said alumni research was confidential until the end of the academic year. With two varsity soccer teams playing this fall, the Emory Avenue was moved to the featured soccer activity. This is the second year Clairmont has played a role, and it is the second year the P.E. Center will be a hub of Homecoming activities. This is the second year Clairmont has played an important role in Homecoming activities.

“Many of the alumni have never seen the Clairmont Campus. With the swimming pool, it’s great for children and families; there is just a lot to do,” said Dan Magee, director of communications. “Many of the alumni have never seen the Clairmont Campus. With the swimming pool, it’s great for children and families; there is just a lot to do.”

To close out Saturday, the Homecoming concert and barbe­cue at 5 p.m. will feature rock musician Howie Day. “Some peo­ple might participate in the run or take a swim in the pool, but the concert really ties everything together,” Magee said.

For a full listing of Home­coming activities, including school-specific events and admiss­ions prices where applicable, visit www.emory.edu/alumni/
Plan from page 1

The Genomic Revolution: 8-EVIP program meeting customer needs at 95% rate

BY DEBRA BLOOM

Imagine starting a new business—within the first six months of operation, 95 percent of those who have had their needs met. Even better—now imagine those customers are Emory employees and their families. This “new business” actually is a service that provides rapid access to Emory’s Family Medicine and is exclusively for University and Emory Healthcare employees and their families.

Tagged 8-EVIP (Employee VIP), the special phone number Emory employees use to get an “ASAP” appointment with an Emory physician connotes that they are important patients to the clinic. While not every 8-EVIP (the full number is 404-778-EVIP or 8-8487) caller needs a same-day appointment, 95 percent of those who have followed the scheduling process have had their appointment needs met, either by having an appointment expedited or employees being answered for them. For Chief Operating Officer Don Brunn and other clinic administrators and physicians, the 95 percent figure is encouraging but not surprising.

“We created the 8-EVIP program for two reasons,” Brunn said. “We want our own faculty and staff to have access to the very best medical care available when they need to see a doctor. You are the best, you work for the best—we want you to come to the best providers for your health care needs. And we want to schedule the requested appointment as quickly as medically necessary. We strive to please 100 percent of our employees’ needs, and we knew with this program we had a winner.”

“Frankly, at times, there has been the perception that appointments were tough to get at the clinic,” Brunn continued. “We’re changing that and giving employees the extra attention so they can schedule an appointment quickly—at least within a medically appropriate timeframe.”

When making a physician appointment, employees are asked to call the appropriate clinic section scheduler directly. “We want employees to tell the appointment scheduler that they are Emory employees,” Brunn explained. “If the employee doesn’t receive an appointment within a timeframe that he or she thinks is medically appropriate, then 8-EVIP is the next step.”

The 8-EVIP number goes directly to HealthConnection, and the call is answered by a nurse who can assist the employee in making an appointment that could even be sooner than originally thought.

“It is evident that the vast majority of Emory employees call the section scheduler directly,” said Lori McLelland, director of HealthConnection. “Our schedulers know to give appointments to them as soon as is possible and medically appropriate.”

So far this year, Emory’s first permanent provost Michael Johns, executive vice president for health affairs, has lent its name and staff to have access to the exhibit and host roundtable discussions in the museum’s café. The lectures began on Sept. 14, when Rob DeSalle, molecular biologist and exhibition curator from the American Museum of Natural History in New York, gave an address, “Welcome to the Genome.” The Tuesday-evening lectures, all of which will be held at 7 p.m. in the Fernbank auditorium, are free and open to the public, but tickets are required. The remaining slate includes:

• The Genomic Revolution: Understanding the Basics, by Neil Lamb, assistant professor of human genetics and director of the Center for Medical Genetics (see First Person, page 2).
• What Are You? Genes and Identity, by Arni Eisen, senior lecturer in biology and director of the Program in Science and Society, Oct. 19.

• Genomic Healing for Cancer, by Jonathan Simons, director of the Winship Cancer Institute, Nov. 30.

Also upcoming is a pair of evening café discussions, like-wise held on Tuesday nights, at which experts will be encouraged to discuss issues with Emory scientists and ethicists while sipping coffee and networking. Tickets are $10 for Fernbank members, $15 for nonmembers.

What else is titled:
• Is It Natural? Humans and Plants as Genetically Modified Organisms, featuring Eisen and Kirk Ziegler, professor of microbiology and immunology, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.
• Babies by Design: The Ethics of Genetics Enhancement, featuring Paul Fernhoff, associate professor of pediatrics, and Kathy Kinlaw, associate director of the Center for Ethics. Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.

“We’re going to be looking at a variety of questions,” Kinlaw said, “particularly related to whether there’s an important distinction to be made between genetic enhancements that help individuals deal with disease—therapeutic interventions to decrease the expression of a disease—versus enhancements that are often seen as more elective, like choosing the color of eyes or hair, or increasing one’s height.” We’ll also be looking at the motivations of parents, and whether that makes a difference in the ethical choices that are made,” she continued.

Not only are the roundtables and the exhibit itself is interactive, as computer kiosks quiz visitors on their knowledge of genetics, and there is even a hands-on laboratory in which people can conduct genetic experiments of their own.

“The Genomic Revolution” runs through Jan. 2, 2005. To make reservations for the lectures or café discussions, call 404-929-6400. Emory employees and students receive $2 off admission to the exhibit (normally $12 for adults) and $4 off combination museum/IMAX theater admissions. For information about Fernbank, call 404-929-6300 or visit www.fernbank.edu/museum.
L ast summer, theater stud- ies Chair Leslie Taylor, with collaborator Associate Professor Alain Middleton, an_decided to offer a new course to stretching the resourcefulness of students. "We plan not only to stretch the Seminar: Creativity and approach from four disciplines course atlas that could handle pus. On top of that, the faculty learned even one discipline, directly and indirectly, from drawing inspiration, both music, dance and the visual ing part, as artists from theater, that wasn't the most challenging part, as artists from theater, music, dance and the visual arts often find themselves drawing inspiration, both directly and indirectly, from each other's work.

The tricky part would be introducing this world of inter-disciplinarity to Emory College freshmen before they have learned even one discipline, let alone made friends and found their way around cam-pus. And, top of that, the faculty needed to find a place in the course atlas that could handle such an innovative curriculum approach from four disciplines combined under one roof. But thanks to the efforts of many individuals, the project is now up and running. It goes by the name of "First Year Seminar: Creativity and Collaboration."

"The course is ambitious plan not only to 'stretch the ears' of students, as Everett wrote in his syllabus, but also to stretch the resourcefulness of the college in engaging arts students early on in their aca-demic careers."

Senior Associate Dean Rosemary Magee first raised the idea of a multidisciplinary arts course on creativity at a meeting of the Arts Steering Committee more than two years ago. At the time, the committee was discussing ways to encour-gage a greater spirit of collabora-tion in preparation for the Schwartz Center opening. Everett loved the idea of a joint class on creativity and expanded it to include collabora-tion. One of the first things she did was to invite fellow committee members, Teague and Everett to form a partnership. Together, they applied to the Center for Teaching and Curriculum for a summer grant to develop new classes, as well as cover the costs of guest lecturers and sup-piles. Taylor modestly describes herself as “the default person in terms of planning meetings, ask-ing for money, etc.”

"This is really an important curricular innovation," Magee said. "It's an opportunity for students to immediately under-stand the importance of collabora-tion and also the centrality of creativity to their academic life. This course in the arts can be a foun-dation for subsequent work."

Magee then described the ideas for the course were developed, Joanne Brzinski, associate dean for undergraduate education in the college and organizer of the freshman seminars, played a key role in handling the logistics of cross-listing the class. That’s where things got tricky.

"We had no idea how many students would be interested," said Brzinski, "or if they would be evenly divided between the four fields that were offering seminars.

For instance, Nathaniel Green showed up for class the first day expecting to join the music section. But after the four professors gathered the stu-dents (a total of 48 between the four sections) and asked them to try something new (as well as help create evenly divided sections), Green opted for visual arts. A month later, he’s satisfied that he made the right choice.

“The course has kind of energized me into thinking of a sketchbook as something that’s part of my everyday life,” Green said.

Amushka Gupta opted for the music section, where she has discovered new kinds of sounds and recording tech-niques. “All my other classes are more theoretical,” said Gupta. “This is different—and fun.”

Early this semester, the instructors are meeting separa-tely with their assigned class-es of about 12 students each. Occasionally, the classes gather together, as they did recently for a guest presentation by mini-malist painter Edda Renouf and composer Alain Middleton, who shared their thoughts and expe-riences from more than three decades of collaboration.

After midterms, each sec- tion will swap places to learn more about what students from other areas are doing. By the end of the semester, each stu-dent will have played synthesiz-ers in Everett’s music studio, emoted in Taylor’s theater lab, glided through Teague’s dance space and sketched in Mitchell’s visual arts studio. For their final project, they will team up to form “pods,” one student from each section, to collaborate on a joint performance piece.

The Creativity and Collaboration freshman seminar is one of more than 50 courses stressing experiential and exper-imental work from which fresh-men could choose this fall (another popular choice is MATH 190: “Games, Sports and Gambling”). About 100 freshman sem- inars are offered each year. The program began in 1999 with the goal of giving first-year students an early taste of what a liberal-arts education is all about—that is, interactive, small-group, aca-demic experiences.

Magee believes the Creativity and Collaboration seminar will broaden the view of its participants in several ways. “No matter what major and minor our seminar students eventually select—which it is chemistry, business, French or the arts, their view of innovation and collaboration has been broad-ened,” Magee said. “In the future, they will have a better appreciation of the valuable research that takes place on stages and in studios.”

Grady project screens for domestic violence

Debra Houry from emergency medicine says a year-old program at Grady Hospital has screened more than 1,000 patients for evidence of depression, suicidality, post-traumatic stress disorder and domestic vio-lence, and been able to offer help to those who need it.

A unique, computerized project designed to tar-get and screen emergen-cy room patients for depres-sion, suicidal tendencies, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and domestic violence is under way and succeeding at Grady Hospital, Debra Houry, assistant professor of emergency medicine in the School of Medicine, is principal investiga-tor of the kiosk project, which has screened more than 1,000 patients 18-55 since it began last fall.

Three days each week, patients are able to use one of two computerized kiosks to complete 13-minute surveys related to high blood pressure and exercise and eating habits. A resource list of local health clinics, primary care doctors, smoking cessation and substance abuse programs is given to all patients.

“What’s great about this is that anything patients screen positive for, they get targeted resources and an information sheet when they complete the exercise,” Houry said. “We added the general health ques-tions as a service to our patients. With our preliminary data, we’re finding that it is making a big difference in patients’ lives.”

According to Houry, several female patients have left violent relationships, more than 50 per-cent have developed safety plans, and almost all have kept and used their resource lists. All interviews with violence victims are scheduled and conducted at a predetermined time before they leave the hospital.

The $1.6 million project is funded in part by a three-year grant from the CDC and a five-year grant from the National Institute of Mental Health. The CDC portion specifically targets the safety of screening for domestic violence and the fol-low-up on all reported victims; the NIMH grant examines men-tal health symptoms and the prevalence of domestic violence.

“I have been so surprised at the amount of depression and PTSD in our patient popula-tion,” Houry said. “I think a lot of that has to do with the ongoing challenges our patients have on a daily basis: poverty and being surrounded by violence much of the time. There is a sig-nificant correlation with domes-tic violence and suicidality, PTSD and depressive symptoms.

Yet I am pleased that giving patients much-needed interven-tion, like resources and identify-ing them as victims, has really improved their quality of life.”

Of the patients enrolled in the study, Houry said 38 percent were domestic-violence victims, with 39 percent of males report-ing themselves as victims. Twenty-nine percent of males reported being perpetrators. Of all patients, 27 percent experi-enced moderate to severe depression, 15 percent reported having moderate to severe PTSD symptoms, and 7.5 percent were suicidal.

If a patient is suicidal, he or she is immediately taken in for treatment. “So far, there have been no adverse outcomes, and it seems that even with brief intervention, we’re able to affect our patients’ lives,” Houry said.

“In terms of domestic vio-lence,” she continued, “many patients didn’t realize they were victims until we told them that being beaten is not a normal relationship behavior. A lot of them now are taking more own-ership and feeling more empower-ed, and that’s something I’m very pleased with. I hope this kiosk is something all of our patients, especially those suffer-ing from mental health issues, can benefit from.”
One night, two stellar string quartets at Schwartz

BY SALLY CORBETT

A t a time when many classical musicians work to increase public interest in the genre, the Turtle Island String Quartet (TISQ) and the Ying Quartet have set out on a collabor-ative national tour providing their audiences with an experience that could change the way they think about chamber music.

The two quartets, Emory Coca-Cola Arts in Residence, opened the Flora Glenn Candler Concert Series in the Schwartz Center’s Emerson Concert Hall on Thursday, Sept. 30, with a free lecture-demonstration at 2:30 p.m. and a ticketed concert at 8 p.m.

These divergent ensembles are both award-winning quartets in their second decade, with extensive credentials as touring and recording artists. Each group has become highly regarded as music educators through outreach in settings from juvenile prisons to the White House, and through residencies with organizations including the Eastman School of Music, Harvard University and New York’s Symphony Space.

Both quartets are committed to making music central to everyday life and to introducing audi-ences to the best of chamber music, new and old. Their con-cert includes Felix Mendelssohn’s Quartet in E-Flat Major, Op. 44, No. 3 and Darius Milhaud’s La Création Du Monde. Works written by TISQ members on the pro gram are Mark Summer’s Julie-O (1998) and David Balakrishnan’s My Garden Of Felix Delius (2002).

The program concludes with a 10-minute improvisation on the title of ‘battle of the bands,’ chamber music-style. Audience members can cheer their favorites as selections from each group, performed by Evan Price’s Variations on an Unoriginal Theme (2002). Price’s composition is a journey through chamber music genres and peri-ods, from Haydn to Cuban mambo.

Siblings Timothy, Janet, Phillip and David Ying are natives of Chicago. They began their ensemble career in the early 1990s in Jessup, Iowa, winning the first National Endowment for the Arts grant in support of chamber music in a rural area. The talents of this internationally acclaimed ensemble are matched by their ultra-lavish attitude illustrated by their edgy, cartoon website (www.ying4.com).

Greeted by a monkey mascot, visitors to the site can listen to Ying recordings and browse a list of the Ying’s favorite Chinese restaurants. TISQ (David Balakrishnan, violin and baritone violin; Evan Price, violin, Mads’Dilling, viola; and Mark Summer, cello) formed in 1985, borrowing their name from a myth shared by many cultures. The myth speaks of a “sky woman’s” fall to earth, her rescue by turtles and the for-mation of a land, purported to be North America.

But TISQ’s success is any-thing but mythical. World-renowned violinist Yo-Yo Ma called them “names you should hear” that truly breaks new ground, authentic and passionate, a reflection of some of the most creative music-making today.” Among the quartet’s passions is the renewal of centuries-old improvisational and compositional chamber tradi-tions. TISQ has collaborated with famed clarinetist Paquito D’Rivera, saxophonist Branford Marsalis, The Manhattan Transfer, dance ensembles, and orchestras.

General admission to the quartets’ show is $48, Emory faculty, staff, alumni and discount groups $36; Emory students $5. Discount subscriptions for Candler Concerts are also available. For tickets (reserved seating), call 404-727-5050 or visit www.arts.emory.edu or the Schwartz Center’s box office (open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.).

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Supreme Court to meet the chief justice’s request. Yes, he had been to the Supreme Court, but he had never argued a case; “I’m not a lawyer,” said Carter, who studied nuclear physics at

Emory University.

Former President Jimmy Carter

Tech. “I think that’s part of the reason I was president”), and even about his favorite movie (Casablanca). A question from Sasha Yan, a freshman from Homewood, Ala., gave Carter an opportunity to score some points at home. “What is the greatest thing you have ever done in your life?” she asked.

“Marrying my wife, Rosalynn,” Carter replied, his wife beaming from the front row. “I’ve had more than 58 years to think that over.”

Carter’s comments about his wife were not the only quotable lines he dished out. Calling the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq one of the “most disappointing mistakes our country has ever made” was right up there as well. One questioner referred to comments United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan made earlier this month when he called the invasion of Iraq “illegal” in terms of the U.N. charter. Carter said, technically, Annan was right. “But there is no way the United Nations could punish the United States,” he added, and continued to discuss the war.

“We have substantially aban-doned the war against terrorism,” he said. “There was an unprecedented outpouring of support after 9/11, and we have wasted all that support. We are the most unpopular country in the world. Even friends have turned away.”

Carter balanced that criticism with comments on a question about issues he would focus on he were running for office in 2004. “We live in the strongest, most powerful nation on earth,” he said. “My proposal to the American people would be to make our nation worthy of the title of ‘superpower.’”

In a speech of a future time when the whole world could look at this country as a champion of peace, freedom and democracy, Carter added, “There is no doubt that the United States should be a champion of environmental quality. We should be at the forefront of the fight against global warming. “And I would like our country to be a place where we would break down the barriers between rich and poor.”

Even with the serious ques-tions, Carter was able to maintain his sense of humor. Early on dur-ing the 40-minute question and answer session, fresh man J.C. from Short Hills, N.J, inquired whether he is asked to pose for a lot of pictures, whether he bothered him, and whether he could have a picture together.

Carter answered quickly. “Yes, yes, and yes. Yes, I get asked for a lot of pictures. Yes, it bothers me, and yes, I will have my pic-ture with you.”

Later, as Carter walked off stage to another standing ovation, he stopped, put his arm around Zalk, and smiled as the flashbulbs fired away.

“While I have substantially abandoned the war against terrorism.”

---Jimmy Carter
TUESDAY, SEPT. 28
Crusades in Cinema Film series: King Richard and the Crusaders. David Butler, director. 7:30 p.m. 101 White Hall. Free. 404-727-6354.

European Art Cinema series: The Color of Pomegranates (Sayat nov). Sergei Parajanov, director. 8 p.m. 206 White Hall. Free. 404-727-6761.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29
The Wonderful World of Color film series: Rain. Akira Kujiraoka, director. 7:30 p.m. 205 White Hall. Free. 404-727-2196.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 30
Flora Glenn Concert Series: Turtle Island and Ying String Quartet, performing. 7 p.m. Williams Hall, Oxford Campus. Free. 770-784-8389.

MONDAY, SEPT. 27
Visitors to Italy: The Arts as Healing Tools. Kempler, ArtReach Foundation, presenting. 7 p.m. ICIS, 1385 Oxford Rd. Free. 404-727-6476.

VISUAL ARTS

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This week’s issues:

- Visual Arts: *Emory Report* contains a daily list of events and other happenings on campus, including those mentioned above.
- Lecture Series: Several lecture series are mentioned, such as the Marietta and Perugia Lecture Series, which features speakers on a variety of topics.
- Religious Services: A variety of religious services are mentioned, including Taize services, Zen meditation, and other church activities.
- Cultural and Social Events: Events such as social gatherings, film screenings, and talks on current topics are included.

The Emory Report provides updates on events, workshops, and other activities happening on campus.