

Selected Academic Highlights

Fall 2003

National and International Recognition

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) selected **Stephen T. Warren**, William P. Timmie Professor of Human Genetics, and Chair of Genetics in Emory's School of Medicine, for its Hall of Honor. Warren was recognized for his contributions to "advancing knowledge and improving maternal and child health" and was one of fifteen scientists honored in a ceremony in October at the National Institutes of Health. Warren led an international research team in the discovery of the gene responsible for fragile X syndrome, a common cause of autism.

NICHD of the National Institutes of Health chose Emory as one of five sites to study the scope and causes of stillbirths in the U.S. The School of Medicine and Rollins School of Public Health will collaborate with a consortium of six Atlanta hospitals and scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Coprincipal investigators for the study are **Barbara Stoll**, professor in the Department of Pediatrics, and **Carol Hogue**, professor in the School of Public Health. Stillbirths account for a large proportion of perinatal mortality in the U.S. One area of investigation will be the extent to which access to prenatal care might be associated with stillbirths.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science elected **Raymond Dingledine**, Chair of the Department of Pharmacology, and **Keiji Morokuma**, the William Henry Emerson Professor of Theoretical Chemistry, as Fellows. Members of AAAS elect their peers as Fellows to honor contributions to science and applications deemed scientifically or socially distinguished. As one of the nation's leading molecular pharmacologists, Dingledine's work has contributed to the understanding of seizure in brain cells and the development of new approaches to drug therapy for epilepsy. He also has led researchers investigating drugs that could reduce the impact of strokes. A world-renowned quantum chemist, Morokuma's research is used extensively in biological and nanoscience modeling.

Godfrey P. Oakley, Jr., visiting professor of epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health, was elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academy of Sciences. Election to the IOM is one of the highest honors possible in medicine and health. Nationwide, there are 1,382 members in the IOM; Emory now has thirteen. Members are chosen for their contributions to the advancement of the medical sciences, health care, and public health. Dr. Oakley's work focuses on the prevention of birth defects resulting from folic acid deficiencies. He has been recognized by others for his

work on the role of folic acid in reducing the incidence of neural tube defects. His advocacy to add synthetic folic acid to grain products was supported by the Food and Drug Administration in the mid-1990s, which marked the first change in the federal Food Additive Law since the 40s.

Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, Eleonore Raoul Professor of the Humanities, was among the ten individuals who received the National Humanities Medal in a White House ceremony in November. The Medal honors those whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities and helped preserve and expand access to resources in the humanities. Fox-Genovese is the founding director of Emory's Institute of Women's Studies. Her scholarship is in comparative women's history; the antebellum South; and cultural, literary, and intellectual history. She is author of six books, including *Women and the Future of the Family* (2000), "*Feminism is Not the Story of My Life*": *How Today's Feminist Elite Has Lost Touch with the Real Concerns of Women* (1996), and *Within the Plantation Household: Black and White Women of the Old South* (1988). Fox-Genovese is the editor of *The Journal of The Historical Society*. In addition, she is an elected member of the American Antiquarian Society and the Society of American Historians, and she serves as a member of the National Council of the Humanities which oversees the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Corinne Kratz, Associate Professor of African Studies and Anthropology, was awarded the Collier Prize in November by the Society for Visual Anthropology, a section of the American Anthropological Association. The prize recognizes work that exemplifies the use of still photography for research and communication of anthropological knowledge. Kratz received the Collier Prize for a body of work of the Okiek people of Kenya from 1974 to the present, for a traveling exhibition of those photographs shown in Kenya and the U.S., for the process by which the choices of photos and captions were made, and for her book, *The Ones That Are Wanted: Communication and the Politics of Representation in a Photographic Exhibition*.

A study presented at the Society for Neuroscience annual meeting by lead scientist and Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences **Michael Davis** received extensive national media coverage. Davis and research team colleagues **Barbara Rothbaum**, director of the medical school's Trauma and Anxiety Recovery Program, and **Kerry Ressler**, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, tested a tuberculosis drug on a small group of people with a fear of heights to help relieve their phobia. Results of the study suggest that the drug Seromycin used along with therapy sessions may help acrophobics unlearn their fear.

Programmatic Development

Three new documentary filmmaking courses, funded by an anonymous grant to Emory, will be offered in the **Urban Documentary Film Program**, which will become part of the two-year-old Kenneth Cole Fellowship Program in Community Building and Social Change. The courses are designed to teach students the use of new technology. George King, an award-winning documentary filmmaker will teach in the undergraduate

program. When students have completed the program, those with a long-term interest in filmmaking will have acquired the experience for entry into any graduate program.

A four-year \$263,560 grant from the Frederick Gardner Cottrell Foundation was awarded Emory's School of Medicine to establish the **Cottrell Fellowships Program**, a new postdoctoral program for outstanding biomedical graduates. The fellowships will provide stipend support for postgraduate research training as well as support for personal research expenses for six fellows for two years each. The Cottrell Foundation, formed in 2001, recognizes the founder of Research Corporation, which helped commercialize promising technologies from U.S. universities and other research institutions.

A new pilot project developed in Emory College, **Scholarly Inquiry and Research at Emory** (SIRE), will provide monetary support for independent research to undergraduate students. Approximately fifteen individual grants of up to \$2,500 will offer students an opportunity to improve their research skills early in their college careers. Faculty will serve as mentors and oversee students' work. Grants can be used for study abroad or to complete an honors thesis. Other support programs are already available in the sciences. SIRE will expand undergraduate research in the humanities and social sciences.

The **Manuscript Development Program**, begun a year ago as a pilot, has provided selected Emory faculty with a developmental editor to help prepare book manuscripts for publication. As a result of its success, the program, directed by **Amy Benson Brown**, will continue and also will offer colloquia on subjects such as approaches to revising dissertations to books. One of the first recipients of the program, Leslie Harris, Associate Professor of History, revised her dissertation to a published book, *In the Shadow of Slavery: African Americans in New York City, 1626-1863* (see "Scholarship"). Another participant, **Paul Courtright**, professor in the Department of Religion, is completing his third book, *The Goddess and the Dreadful Practice*, to be published by Oxford University Press.

The *Research at Emory* report, published in the fall, is the product of a two-year university-wide inquiry into the nature of research, including ethical dimensions, the researchers, and the research infrastructure at Emory. Based upon four guiding principles, specific recommendations were developed regarding faculty growth, faculty responsibilities, graduate education, research infrastructure, and fiscal resources. These recommendations and associated measures of progress are directed at the larger Emory community, including its faculty and administrative leaders. One of the main aims of the report is to contribute to Emory's reputation as a destination university, where research and scholarship thrive, in order to expand the horizons of our knowledge and to contribute to the well-being of society.

New Resources

Emory has been awarded a total of \$319.1 million in **sponsored research funding** in fiscal year 2003, an increase of 14 percent for research funding over FY02. Over the past five years, sponsored research funding has grown more than 93 percent, making Emory

one of the fastest growing research universities in the nation. Federal funding provided more than 75 percent of the FY03 total, with funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) making up 61 percent of the total. The top ten departments for funded research in the university were Medicine, Neurology, Psychiatry, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics (School of Medicine); Behavioral Sciences and Health Education, and Epidemiology (Rollins School of Public Health); Yerkes National Primate Research Center Division of Administration, and Yerkes Department of Microbiology and Immunology. The funding supported collaborative research with other universities and interdisciplinary research within Emory as well as the work of individual researchers at Emory.

Announcements of some significant research grants awarded to Emory over the last several months include the following:

Emory is part of the Southeast Regional Center of Excellence for Emerging Infections and Biodefense, a consortium made up of six schools. The Center will receive more than \$45 million over five years from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to develop new vaccines, diagnostic tests, and drugs for the prevention of emerging infections, such as SARS, and to treat potential bioterrorist threats such as smallpox, anthrax, and plague. Emory's **Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center** will receive \$12 million as its share of the funding.

The School of Medicine received a four-and-a-half year \$16 million grant from NIAID for research on the immune system's response to bioterrorist agents and to understand better how successful vaccines work in order to design strategies to enhance their efficacy. The grant is part of an \$85 million NIAID award. Emory will lead one of five national Cooperative Centers for Translational Research on Human Immunology and Biodefense. Principal investigator of the Emory grant is **Rafi Ahmed**, director of the Emory Vaccine Center.

A \$7 million grant from the Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism branch of the NIH is funding a five-year study on the relationship between chronic alcohol abuse and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), which affects as many as 150,000 people every year in the U.S. and has a mortality rate of nearly 50 percent. The study is a collaborative effort by investigators in medicine, physiology, and pediatrics. **Marc Moss**, Associate Professor of Medicine, Grady Hospital, is principal investigator for the patient-oriented component of the study. Colleagues are **David Guidot**, Associate Professor of Medicine, V.A., principal investigator, and **Lou Ann Brown**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics. They are examining whether alcoholism predisposes someone to factors that contribute to ARDS and hope to identify a predictive marker for the development of ARDS.

A team of researchers won a \$7.6 million grant from the National Cancer Institute for a project to study the mechanism for prostate cancer bone metastasis. **Leland Chung**, a Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Scholar, who is director of urological research in Emory's Department of Urology, is leading the investigators from the School of Medicine, Winship Cancer Institute, and the Rollins School of Public Health. Researchers

from four other institutions will collaborate on the project whose goal is to develop new diagnostic, prognostic, and treatment options, as well as therapies for advanced forms of prostate cancer.

The federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) gave \$375,775 to support a collaborative study by the Emory Center on Health Outcomes and Quality and the Emory Center for Health in Aging to minimize falls of nursing home residents. The two-year project will continue a previously AHRQ-funded project that developed educational materials and standardized reporting forms. The new project, which could create a model program for national use, will disseminate the fall-related products and tools from the previous program to selected Georgia nursing homes. Improving the management and reporting of falls can have an impact on both quality of life and health care costs. **Kimberly Rask**, Associate Professor, Health Policy and Management in the School of Public Health, and **Joseph Ouslander**, Professor, Division of Geriatrics in the School of Medicine, are the coinvestigators.

A nearly \$2 million grant to create a new initiative to strengthen training in geriatric medicine was awarded Emory's **School of Medicine** from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation. Emory is one of ten sites, and one of only twenty such programs funded by the foundation in the U.S. The school plans to integrate training in geriatrics into medical student and residency training and also to increase geriatric medical knowledge among its teaching faculty. The unique training initiative will help keep Emory physicians on the forefront as specialists in geriatrics care.

Emory's **School of Law** received an anonymous gift of \$600,000 to fund a loan repayment assistance program for students. The money will help graduates who have chosen to work in low paying government-related or public service jobs pay off their student loans. Without the "forgivable" loans, graduates could not afford to pursue or devote themselves to public interest work. Of 220 law students surveyed, over half indicated they would seek public interest work if relieved from law school debt.

Researchers from **Emory University**, Georgia Tech, University of Georgia, Georgia State, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were awarded a \$600,000 grant by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the philanthropy devoted to the nation's health care. Led by **Howard Frumkin**, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health in the Rollins School of Public Health, the researchers will collaborate on a two-year project to study urban neighborhood parks as sites for physical activity. All share an interest in promoting exercise as a way to combat the health problems caused by obesity and type 2 diabetes. The researchers want to learn how a park's design features attract users or act as a barrier to physical activity. They will observe user differences in age, sex, ethnic mix, and income level. Other participants include representatives from city and county parks. The project reflects a common interest between the public health community and those who design the "built" environment. At the end of the study, the researchers will offer policy recommendations for new and existing parks.

Emory University received a \$247,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to expand a graduate fellowship program whose goal is to develop the professional teaching skills of graduate students and also increase undergraduate recruitment for academic careers. The fellowship program also aims to further strengthen ties in the Southeast among liberal arts colleges, research universities, and historically black colleges and universities with whom Emory already is a partner. Competitive fellowships, which will center on teaching in host schools, will be available in fall 2004 to Emory Ph.D. candidates who have completed their teacher training.

The Association of University Technology Managers annual survey of **earnings from the commercialization of research inventions** listed **Emory University** among the Top 10 universities in the U.S. Emory collected \$29.6 million in the survey year—fiscal 2002. Emory's program in research commercialization has expanded. In 2001, licensing revenues earned Emory \$3.6 million. FY02 licensing revenues came mainly through three licensing arrangements for antiviral technology. A goal of the university's technology transfer program is to bring results of biomedical research more quickly to patients by moving discoveries to the marketplace.

Emory's Woodruff Library acquired literary papers, letters, tape recordings, and photographs of Nobel Prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney. Emory's collection represents the most complete archive of Heaney's work available to scholars. The papers span a forty-year period of Heaney's career and include correspondence from many other poets already in **Emory's Special Collections**. Heaney's lectures published as "The Place of Writing," which he delivered in 1988 at Emory, are already part of the collection.

Research Awards

A team of **Emory School of Medicine** scientists was one of ten recipients awarded \$200,000 for Innovation in Clinical Research by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation to develop AIDS-related tools to care for patients in resource-poor areas of the world. The Emory investigators will collaborate with Ethiopian AIDS researchers to develop tests to monitor patients with HIV/AIDS by adapting commonly used tests to accommodate the finances of countries with limited resources. Lowering the cost of essential monitoring tests is imperative to enable HIV-infected individuals to derive benefit from antiretroviral therapies. Professor of Medicine **Mark Feinberg** and Assistant Professor of Medicine **Frances Priddy** are coinvestigators for the two-year project; the Emory team also includes Associate Professor **Angela Caliendo** and Assistant Professor **Silvija Staprans**.

Scholarship

An excerpt from Charles Howard Candler Professor of Psychology **Frans de Waal's** *My Family Album: Thirty Years of Primate Photography*, published by the University of California Press, was featured in the Oct. 3rd *Chronicle of Higher Education*. The book documents nonhuman primates' social lives through photography and illustrates what makes up primate group life. According to de Waal, who also is director of the Yerkes

Living Links Center, a goal of his photography is to capture “social” moments and confirm our close relationship with other primates. Mindful of some photographers who portray nonhuman primates as comical, de Waal tries to convey apes and monkeys with the same dignity accorded to human subjects.

A study by **Sarah Brosnan** and **Frans de Waal** at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center was published in the Sept. 18 issue of *Nature*. In an experiment, capuchin monkeys appeared to respond negatively to “unequal” food-related rewards for work. Their behavior suggests that these nonhuman primates have an emotional sense of fair treatment. The finding raises the question of whether the sense of fairness found in human societies is a learned or perhaps an innate behavior fostered by the genes. According to Brosnan, a Biological/Biomedical Graduate Division student, the sense of fairness in a nonhuman primate implies that it is an evolved behavior. The monkey research is part of a long-term effort by evolutionary biologists to study the genetic basis of social behavior.

The Oct. 2 issue of *The New England Journal of Medicine* published results of a collaborative study on a new vaccine to reduce the incidence of pneumonia in children. **Keith Klugman**, Professor of International Health and Professor of Medicine, was principal investigator of a clinical trial conducted from 1998 through 2001 on 40,000 children in Soweto, South Africa. Emory physicians teamed with Johns Hopkins University, Witwatersrand University, and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals to create the vaccine against nine strains of the disease. The vaccine significantly reduced the incidence of invasive pneumococcal disease caused by antibiotic-resistant strains and also the incidence of disease in both non-HIV-infected and HIV-infected children. No other vaccine reported has prevented disease in children infected with HIV. The study provides evidence to support the use of the vaccine to prevent invasive pneumococcal disease in all children.

The findings of a study on long-term immune memory after smallpox vaccination, led by **Rafi Ahmed**, Emory Vaccine Center Director, were published in the Nov. 15 issue of the *Journal of Immunology*. The study revealed that immunity after vaccination persists in individuals for at least fifty years. Thus individuals vaccinated before smallpox vaccinations ended in 1972 may still retain some protection against the virus. In addition to helping understand the mechanisms of effective vaccines and the stability and longevity of immune memory in the absence of revaccination, the findings could be useful for decisions on reinstating a smallpox vaccination program.

Thomas Burns, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of History, is author of *Rome and the Barbarians: 100 B.C.-A.D. 400*, published in the Ancient Society and History series of Johns Hopkins University Press. Burns applies anthropological and sociological methodology to his historical analysis of the evolution of the interactions between the Romano-Barbarian societies. His book was featured by the History Book Club and the Discovery Book and Readers Subscription Clubs for its appeal to scholars and history buffs.

Other Department of History faculty authored books:

•**Marcus Collins**, Assistant Professor, published *Modern Love: An Intimate History of Men and Women in Twentieth Century Britain* (London: Atlantic). Collins concentrates on modern British history with a particular emphasis on gender, sexuality, and the construction of modern love.

•**Leslie M. Harris**, Associate Professor, published *In the Shadow of Slavery: African Americans in New York City, 1626-1863* (University of Chicago Press). Her book is a history of African Americans from the arrival of the first slaves in 1626, through the years before emancipation in 1827, to the horrific display of racism in the U.S.--the New York City Draft Riots of 1863.

•**Mark Ravina**, Associate Professor, recently completed a biography of nineteenth-century statesman Saigo Takamori entitled *The Last Samurai: The Life and Battles of Saigo Takamori*, published by John Wiley & Sons. Saigo was the inspiration for the character Katsumoto in the new film also entitled *The Last Samurai*. Ravina has been invited to appear as a “guest expert” on two History Channel programs: “History vs. Hollywood” and “The Samurai.”

•**Jeffrey Lesser**, Professor, edited a volume, *Searching for Home Abroad: Japanese-Brazilians and Transnationalism*, to be published by Duke University Press (2003). The volume brings together a number of perspectives on modernity, globalization, diaspora and transnational identity from sociologists, historians, anthropologists, and ethno-musicologists.

Mel Konner, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Anthropology, published *Unsettled: An Anthropology of the Jews* (Viking Compass), a study that aims to describe the culture and experience of a range of Jews. The book chronicles the history of the Jewish people from its origins of the Hebrews in ancient Egypt to the Jewish Diasporas of Europe, Russia, China, India, and medieval Spain. A favorable review of Konner’s book in the Sunday, Dec. 14, *New York Times*, says his “openness—to sources, to ideas—remains an overwhelming strength” and characterizes the study as “fresh and alive” concluding that “the result is nothing less than inspiring.”

Faculty in the Department of Philosophy authored books:

•**Ann Hartle**, Professor, published *Michel de Montaigne: Accidental Philosopher* with Cambridge University Press. Hartle’s book is the first to treat de Montaigne as a serious thinker in his own right. Her work is a major reassessment of an admired but underestimated thinker whose description of himself was as “an unpremeditated and accidental philosopher.”

•**Jack Zupko**, Associate Professor, published *John Buridan: Portrait of a Fourteenth-Century Arts Master* with University of Notre Dame Press. Buridan was the most famous

philosophy teacher of his time. Zupko's new two-part book is the first systematic exposition of the philosopher's thought available in any language.

Leadership Appointments and Achievements

Edie Murphree, former Associate Vice President for Administration, was named the new vice president for finance, effective Nov.1. She succeeded Frank Huff who retired after serving over eighteen years (see "Comings and Goings"). Murphree oversees grants and contracts, the controller's office and student services, accounts payable and payroll, and debt and cash management.

Senior Vice President, Institutional Advancement (IA), **William Fox** will step down from his position, which he has held since 1991, to take on a new role, as senior vice president for external affairs. Fox will serve as a "university ambassador at large" and continue to maintain and build relationships with individuals and organizations important to Emory's programs and events. Fox began his career at Emory over twenty years ago as Dean for Campus Life before moving to head IA.

Exhibitions and Symposia

A **photography exhibit**, "12 Black Classicists," was on view at Emory's **Candler Library** in November. The exhibit featured twelve African-American scholars noted for outstanding achievements in academia in the period following the Civil War. Included among the group in the photos were the first black faculty members at several institutions, the earliest black member of the Modern Language Association, four university or college presidents, and diplomats.

Two Emory School of Medicine physicians, Professor **Nanette Wenger** and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, **Flavia Mercado**, are featured in "Changing the Face of Medicine," a National Institutes of Health exhibit at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland. The exhibit, which opened in October and will run to April 2005, honors the achievements of outstanding American women physicians. Wenger, who is chief of cardiology at Grady Hospital, was among the first physicians to focus on heart disease in women and to evaluate risk factors of coronary disease in women and men. Mercado, who is associate director of multicultural affairs at Grady, teaches medical students the importance of understanding cultural differences and the problems that can arise in acute care when English-speaking health care providers treat non-English-speaking patients.

Emory's **Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion** held a public forum-- "What Happens to Children in Peril?"--its second of the 2003-04 Family Forum Series, and part of a three-year study, "The Child in Law, Religion and Society." Speakers were former President **Jimmy Carter** and **Martin Marty**, Robert W. Woodruff Visiting Professor of Interdisciplinary Religious Studies and codirector of CISR's project. The

project draws on insights from law, theology, and the humanities in discussions focused on issues of children in crisis.

Former U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights and former president of Ireland Mary Robinson delivered the eighth annual **Rosalynn Carter Distinguished Lecture in Public Policy**, sponsored by the Department of Women's Studies and cosponsored by the Emory Institute of Human Rights and the Fifty Years of Women at Emory College Celebration. The annual lecture's theme focuses on women who have played a prominent role in shaping public policy. Robinson, a lawyer, has argued landmark cases before the European Court of Human Rights. Former first lady Rosalynn Carter, a distinguished fellow of the Emory Institute for Women's Studies, established the Rosalynn Carter Programs in Public Policy.

Community Service and Awareness

The Carlos Museum was the site for a project sponsored by Atlanta Public Schools Head Start and Reading is Fundamental (RIF) to expose students to educational resources and promote Emory in the wider community. Last October, Emory deans and administrators and Carlos Director **Bonnie Speed** participated in introducing 200 children, divided into four groups, to the museum collections. The children were also read several different stories relevant to a particular museum gallery. The idea for the program came from Associate Professor of Medicine **Neil Shulman** and was organized by **Elizabeth Hornor** who is director of education programs at the Carlos, along with Jody Goldfarb of RIF.

Emory student sorority and fraternity members took part in a drive to help the American Red Cross in Atlanta by donating platelets, the clotting factor in blood. By participating, donors helped increase the platelet supply to avert a potential crisis for the Red Cross, which supplies Atlanta hospitals with platelets used for surgical and trauma patients.

Comings and Goings

One of the nation's leading trial advocacy professors, **Paul J. Zwier**, joined Emory Law School in September as professor of law and director of the advocacy program, including the Kessler-Eidson Trial Techniques Program. Zwier was professor and director of the Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution at the University of Tennessee Law School. He is author of numerous books and articles and has taught advocacy skills nationally and internationally to lawyers and judges.

Frank Huff, Vice President for Finance, retired after over eighteen years at Emory. Huff has served as vice president for finance and university treasurer since 1985. When Huff began his career at Emory, new systems for ledgers and payroll were being implemented. He was chair of the university's Y2K committee formed to deal with Year 2000 (known as Y2K) computer system problems.