

EMORY CONFERENCE CENTER SUBVENTION FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST  
SUMMARY OF AWARDS 2007-08

The Emory Conference Center Subvention Fund had an exciting year in 2007-2008, and its award program continues to attract an interesting and wide array of applicants. With each year the Subvention Fund makes possible a vibrant collection of yearly events, helping to bring renowned scholars and experts to campus while at the same time showcasing Emory and our own esteemed faculty and professionals.

**Women's Anniversary Forum, October 2007**

Thirty years of women's scholarly achievement and advances across the Emory campus were celebrated at this two-day symposium. The Department of Women's Studies, the Center for Women at Emory, and PCSW joined together to present an array of panels, exhibits, readings, and reflections. The keynote address was given by Nancy Cantor, the chancellor and president of Syracuse University, and Emory's own Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, Natasha Tretheway, presented a reading of her work. The event focused on three key points: Women and Health, Women in Culture and Society, and Women in the Professions.

**Autism Spectrum Disorders, September 2007**

The fund made a small contribution to this two-day event in which researchers in the field were introduced to ADOS, a "semi-structured interactive assessment and interview" technique now considered the "gold-standard" for accessing characteristics associated with autism.

**Career Benchmarking, January 2008**

Professionals from over 30 universities gathered to share information and "best practices" regarding career services at the University level. The National Benchmarking Group meets annually to discuss emerging trends and how best to improve the "quality of services to students and stakeholders" at their respective schools. Some of the schools represented at this year's conference were Rutgers, Georgetown, Howard University, University of Colorado, and Indiana University.

**When Cultures Clash: Embracing Differences in Ethical Decision Making, Feb-March 2008**

This was a shared effort, hosted by The Center for Health, Culture and Society, The Religion and Health Collaborative, and the Center for Ethics. Part of this conference, which focused on cultural awareness and issues faced in medical decision making, was a presentation by Anne Fadiman, the Francis Writer in Residence at Yale University and award-winning author of *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*. Arthur Kleinman, professor of Medical Anthropology and Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, was also on hand to speak on culture and health care. This event attracted scholars and practitioners from diverse fields such as religion, medicine, health law, social work, health care administration, and anthropology.

### **46<sup>th</sup> Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, March 2008**

The SCSS is “the strongest regional affiliate of the leading interdisciplinary organization of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.” National and regional scholars presented close to 122 papers in 25 different panel sessions on topics as diverse as making sense of war, “vignettes from the Russian Soviet Past,” and violence and delinquency in modern Russia. Part of a long list of presenters included Hubert Tworzecki from Emory, Svetlana Corwin from Emory, Anita Kondoyanidi from Georgetown University, Beth Holgrem from Duke, and Olena Yatsunska from National University of Shipbuilding in the Ukraine. The keynote address was presented by Dr. Ronald Suny (University of Michigan), a leading scholar of the Russian Revolution, Stalinism and the Caucasus. It has been many years since this conference was held in Atlanta, thus holding it now at Emory has helped to increase Emory’s visibility among Slavists and area experts.

### **Academics as Authors, April 2008**

This conference brought together literary agents and editors from (mostly) university presses for a day of panel discussions and one-on-one meetings with faculty authors. The panels focused on publishing trends and realities, and the individual meetings were designed to allow authors to discuss their books and projects and in some instances make specific “pitches” to specific editors and agents. Some the university presses represented were Oxford, Columbia, and Johns Hopkins. Agents included Henry Dunow from Dunow, Carlson and Lerner, and Miriam Goderich from Dystel and Goderich. Another agent who was scheduled for attendance but unable to make it, Susan Rabiner, later conducted phone meetings with Emory authors who signed up to speak with her.

### **Immunobiology and Pathogenesis of Influenza Infection, June 2008**

This international symposium brought together leading investigators to discuss the latest advances in studies of influenza viral pathogenesis and immunology. Topics included “virus-cell interactions assembly of the viral genome, determinants of viral host range, and immune responses in humans and experimental animals.” Keynote speaker for this event was Dr. Nancy Cox, Director, Influenza Division, CDC. Other speakers included Rafi Ahmed, Ph.D, Director, Emory Vaccine Center; Dr. Hnas-Dieter Klenk, Institute for Virologie, University of Marburg, Germany; Sir John Skehel, Ph.D, National Institute for Medical Research, London UK; and Dr. Tristram G. Parslow, Professor and Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Emory School of Medicine.

### **What’s at Stake in the Ethnography of Human Experience?: Phenomological and Psychoanalytic Perspectives, October 2008**

An array of leading scholars and junior researchers will assemble to discuss issues surrounding experience-oriented anthropology: Mainly, what “ethical and/or epistemological quandaries have emerged...and how might these challenges be addressed?” Focus will be on how to best represent “human experience and subjectivity in more valid and non-reductive ways without sacrificing the rigor of anthropological research.” Slated Emory participants include Bradd Shore, department of anthropology; Sander Gilman, Psychoanalytic Institute; Laurie Patton Religion Department. Invited

guests include Unni Wikan, University of Oslo; Michael Jackson, Harvard Divinity; and Jamie Saris, University of Maynooth, Ireland.

### **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Jewish Historical Society, November 2008**

Two years prior to this conference a joint decision was made by Emory development officers, faculty members of the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, and members of the college and library administrations, to host this particular annual meeting of the Southern Jewish Historical Society. The scheduled conference coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1958 bombing of Atlanta's Hebrew Benevolent Congregation thus providing an opportunity for "scholarly examination of this historic event." Civil rights scholar, Clive Webb, is the keynote speaker, and panel discussions will focus on the 1958 bombing in the historical context of the civil rights movement. Literature in the field of Southern Jewish History will also be discussed.

### **Network of Migration and Disease, Fall 2008**

Although funding is not typically granted to recipients from the previous year, there are exceptions when warranted. This event is one of those exceptions because it was the actual outgrowth of another conference we funded: "Migration and Cardiometabolic Risk." As a direct result of that event the Network of Migration and Disease (NOMAD) was created. NOMAD is a network of domestic and international researchers unified in their study of migration and health. The recent NOMAD conference was a kick-off gathering of experts to share pilot studies, new methodologies and results.

For more information about the ECC Subvention Fund:

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See our website at:

<http://www.emory.edu/PROVOST/facultydevelopment/subventionfund/index.php>