Ozzie Harris, newly appointed senior vice provost for community and diversity

Ozzie Harris, formerly director of Dartmouth College’s Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity, has been named Emory’s first senior vice provost for community and diversity. He will begin the new position March 1.

“Ozzie Harris has dedicated his professional life and much of his personal life to exploring matters of diversity and building community, and we are delighted that he will lead this important part of Emory’s future,” Provost Earl Lewis said. “His past success in engaging dialogue, while respecting dissent and honoring intellectual discourse, will allow Emory to create new structures and envision new possibilities for community.”

Harris will be charged with three broad areas of concern at Emory: building community through existing programs on campus in academic affairs, student life and presidential commissions; working with academic units to transfer theory to practice in the Atlanta community; and creating meaningful opportunities for interaction on campus.

“Emory has identified five broad themes on which to build its future, and building community and engaging society is fundamental to the success of the institution,” President Jim Wagner said. “Building community may begin with individuals, but it expands from there to encompass building community among health sciences and humanities, business and law, science and religion.”

Emory already has most of the building blocks necessary to create a vibrant community, Lewis said, but true community requires more than having many different kinds of people in one place. “It’s not just enough to have different faces on campus,” he said. “It is our job to create safe, respectful places for meaningful engagement with one another.”

“I was delighted when Provost Lewis offered me the appointment,” Harris said. “The search process was so well managed and people I met were so supportive of the position, I knew immediately that Emory was the place for me.”

Salman Rushdie and President Jim Wagn9er flip through an early draft of “Midnight’s Children,” part of Rushdie’s archive being catalogued at Emory following a press conference in the Rare Books Library.

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Salman Rushdie and President Jim Wagner flip through an early draft of “Midnight’s Children,” part of Rushdie’s archive being catalogued at Emory, following a press conference in the Rare Books Library.

Rushdie arrives on campus as Distinguished Writer in Residence

See Harris on page 5

Salman Rushdie with President Jim Wagner during a press conference

I n the first week of Salman Rushdie’s monthlong stay on campus, the celebrated writer and human rights champion has been the guest of honor at a welcome reception, the subject of a press conference with major media, and the center of attention of 17 slightly-in- awe graduate students.

Emory’s new Distinguished Writer in Residence seemed to relish his role as professor, observed Mark Schmidt, a student in Rushdie’s graduate seminar “Contemporary World Literature.” He noted that Rushdie “stayed 10 or 15 minutes late even though it was a three-hour class.”

“I was surprised by how approachable and amiable he was,” said Schmidt, an English major who is writing his dissertation on depictions of upward mobility in American literature and popular culture.

Schmidt said that the opportunity to learn from Rushdie will provide an important world perspective to his research, but added “it’s worth it just for the experience to be able to work with someone who is as learned as he is.”

According to Deepika Bahri, director of Emory’s South Asian Studies Program and associate professor of English, “The presence of this eminent writer on the Emory campus allows students to access a living resource. Rushdie’s formidable erudition, committed stance on issues of great public significance, and deeply humanistic sensibility constitute a living library of wisdom and understanding for our students.”

Yet the on-campus presence of the author of “The Satanic Verses” and other major works of fiction will not be confined to the classroom. On Sunday, Feb. 25, Rushdie will deliver the 2007 Annual Sheth Lecture at 5 p.m. in Glenn Memorial Auditorium. Rushdie noted the “serendipitous” connection between his lecture, “The Composite Artist,” and “Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting” exhibit on display in the Michael C. Carlos Museum.

Domains of Wonder also complements Rushdie’s research on 16th century Indian history, art and culture for his next novel, a work-in-progress set partly in India and Renaissance Italy.

In a press conference at Emory, Rushdie said he “couldn’t be more pleased” about his first extended relationship with a university. Emory’s Manuscript, Archives and Rare Books Library is the new home of Rushdie’s collected archives, nearly 100 boxes of materials spanning a career that has earned him recognition as a master of world literature.

While he joked that “being surrounded by one’s past in manuscript form is kind of like undressing in public,” Rushdie said he will now find his holdings far more accessible than before. Until now, the materials have been stored in sealed cardboard boxes at a lock-up facility in England.

The archive includes Rushdie’s private journals, personal correspondence, notebooks and computers, photographs, and manuscripts of all of his writings, including early unpublished work. Journals written while under the fatwa issued by Ayatollah Khomeini are currently closed to researchers. Rushdie said he plans to use this material to write a memoir about his life in hiding.

“We look forward to Rushdie being one of the first users of the archive,” said MARBL Director Stephen Enniss. A sampling of items from the Rushdie collection are on display in a small exhibit in MARBL’s 16th floor office in the Woodruff Library.

“Rushdie embodies courage and hope in the face of tremendous challenges,” Bahri said. “His writings speak to all of us who have suspected that life is stranger than the fictions that borrow from it.”

The Sheth lecture is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required, but seating is limited.

Carter, Albright to discuss Middle East

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will speak on the prospects for lasting peace in the Palestinian territories at The Carter Center on Thursday, Feb. 22, from 7–8:30 p.m.

Both Carter and Albright have longstanding involvement in the region. Carter, who negotiated peace between Israel and Egypt in the Camp David Accords during his presidency, has remained deeply involved in Middle East affairs since leaving the White House. His recent book “Palestine Peace Not Apartheid” has stirred debate across the world.

After serving as the 64th secretary of state, Albright continued her involvement in global affairs as principal of The Albright Group LLC, a global strategy firm, and as chair of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, as well as serving on other boards and foundations. The Carter Center Conflict Resolution Program Director Matthew Hodes will moderate this event, which will also be webcast live on The Carter Center’s Web site at www.cartercenter.org.
Learning to lead

She believed my strengths might be better applied in other ways. Although throwing requires more complicated techniques than running, she convinced me to try.

My first day of throwing felt so natural because, at starting off from square one and teaching me the traditional styles of throwing, Coach Heather Atkinson was flexible and helped me find a style that was natural for me. I must admit that not having orders barked at me felt unfamiliar in the beginning. In fact, I wondered if I was learning anything at all. But after I qualified from a Divi- sion I final on my third day of throwing the javelin, we figured we were on to some- ething.

Coach Atkinson was a leader who remained open to possibilities, was patient even when I became frustrated, and was willing to collaborate with me to find solutions. I’d never seen myself as a thrower, but she did, and because of her leadership style, she pulled capacities out of me that I was unaware of.

My classroom experience followed a similar pattern. You’ll remember my initial approach to college learning with books on tape. You could say that I was still using a need-based approach — in which I attempted to fill in knowledge gaps with facts and figures.

The professors at Emory have taught me that learning is not a one-way street and for my health, it is certainly not memorizing piles of information in a freshly-painted stairwell!

It is thinking about and applying theories in a fresh way.

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It is thinking about and applying theories in a fresh way.
A corkscrew, a pair of scissors and a can of aerosol: Emory School of Law employees Wayne Fishell, Keith Miller and Jonathan Wagner can conjure music from even the most unconventional of sources. Their band, the wayne fishell experiment, transforms these objects into instruments and draws on guitars, mandolins, drums and various other sounds to create what is perhaps best described as “musical art.”

The group has just released its first CD, “optimistically hopelessly,” featuring 10 tracks of what they call “gay-acoustic-indie-folk-pop.” Fishell offers this definition of the hybrid description: “Gay, because we’re gay artists and want to identify as such; acoustic, because it is not electronic or dance music; indie, because we are independent artists; and folk and pop because our sound contains elements and draws on more of a pop influence. “As a project, I wanted to make a CD with all 10 songs, while tied together, would sound different. That’s why it is hard to categorize exactly what genre we fall into, when one song sounds bluesy and another song sounds very folk,” says Fishell, the “titular leader” of the wayne fishell experiment, who composes all the songs and vocals.

Keith Miller, percussionist, is the newest member of the band. He first met Fishell when they were both working as program coordinators in the law school. “I found out we had a lot of outside interests in common, music among them,” recalls Wagner, “and after that we discussed playing together.” Wagner, who has played rhythm and lead guitar for many blues and rock bands, taught himself how to play the guitar at age 14. Because he is a recent addition to the group, Wagner’s guitar wizardry is not on the new album that took more than two years to record.

It was a long process, Fishell explains, the result of juggling full-time jobs at Emory with weekend studio sessions, and a collaborative recording process with other local artists. Fishell points out that “optimistically hopelessly” was recorded on an analog machine once owned by Isaac Hayes. “The reel-to-reel was later transferred onto digital,” says Fishell, “but it gives it a warmer sound than all-digital.”


Fishell met Miller when Miller was still a temp in the dean’s office at the law school. Miller, who began playing drums at age 10 and said he has “been beating things ever since,” seemed a perfect match to expand Fishell’s sound. Miller soon adopted the stage name “big peaches” — “I have terrible stage fright so being in character helps me to be more comfortable,” he explains — and the wayne fishell experiment was born.

Fishell is more at home in the spotlight. He’s played guitar since he was a child, was classically trained for five years, and took “countless” voice lessons, but admits he hated to practice. Wagner, assistant director of the law school’s registrar’s office, is the newest member of the band. He first met Fishell when they were both working as program coordinators in the law school. “I found out we had a lot of outside interests in common, music among them,” recalls Wagner, “and after that we discussed playing together.” Wagner, who has played rhythm and lead guitar for many blues and rock bands, taught himself how to play the guitar at age 14. Because he is a recent addition to the group, Wagner’s guitar wizardry is not on the new album that took more than two years to record.

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The band says “optimistically hopelessly” shows “a different side of gay music.” The album spans many different tempos, styles and emotions and should appeal to fans of all sexual orientations.

“I wanted to make sure that the music was accessible, that the lyrics were meaningful without being cliched, and that the music would be varied enough to keep people interested from the first song to the last,” Fishell says. “You don’t have to write in the second person to make music that all people can enjoy;” he adds. “We make sure that we keep our pronouns exactly how we want them.” The band itself is “a diverse group,” Fishell points out. “I’m the lone hetero in the group,” Wagner volunteers, and Fishell gleefully replies: “We’re going to make him wear a sign that says ‘Gay on stage!’”

“One of the things I really like about playing with these guys is that despite having a definite direction that they wanted to take the music in, they were wide open to trying different things,” says Wagner, who is experimenting with more exotic instruments such as the didgeridoo, the kalimba and the berimbau.

That sense of experimentation is inherent in the wayne fishell experiment. The band lives up to its name and its members are optimistically hopeful that their fans will agree.

For more information about upcoming shows or to purchase a CD, visit www.ofshell.com.

CARTER CENTER

Carter Center working to support peace and democracy in Nepal

After 10 years of civil strife, Nepal is transitioning to peace, in a process highlighted by constituent assembly elections scheduled to take place in 2007. The Carter Center is actively working there to support the consolidation of peace and democracy.

Nepal is undergoing intense political change after the signing of a comprehensive peace accord last November between the government of Nepal and Maoist rebel leaders. The agreement calls for the creation of an interim constitution, disarmament of the Maoists to be monitored by the United Nations, establishment of an interim transitional assembly and government that includes the Maoists, and elections to a constituent assembly in 2007. The constituent assembly will then have two years to write a new constitution for the country.

The Carter Center has been invited by all political parties to observe the electoral preparations and processes for the constituent assembly elections. The Center recently opened a small field office in Kathmandu, Nepal, which will manage the Center’s observation efforts on the ground, including the deployment of long-term observers.

“We are closely monitoring and reporting on electoral, political and security conditions in Nepal,” said David Carroll, director of The Carter Center’s Democracy Program. “As the process develops, we will rely on long- and short-term observers to assess the processes surrounding the constituent assembly elections and provide periodic public reports.”

The political scene is calm at the moment, but progress toward change has been slow. Recent protests in southern Nepal have claimed the lives of at least 22 citizens over several weeks, even as Nepal’s eight main political parties met in Kathmandu. Participation of international observer organizations is important in such an unstable environment, particularly organizations that are respected across the political landscape.

Currently in Nepal, the interim constitution has been officially approved and the interim assembly convened. The U.N.-monitored arms management of the Maoists is also in progress and voter registration is under way. Elections are tentatively scheduled for early June.

“Expectations of the pace of elections progress may be a little unrealistic,” said Carroll. “The Carter Center is in a position to help defuse tensions and remove potential roadblocks along the way.”

The Carter Center will deploy long-term observers by late February, in time to witness some aspects of voter registration in greater detail. Closer to the elections, teams of short-term observers will arrive to monitor events surrounding election day.

— Deborah Hakes, Communications Coordinator, Carter Center Peace Programs
Emory students selected for 2007 Bobby Jones Scholarship

BY BEVERLY CLARK

Four Emory seniors, Robbie Brown, Steven Haag, Caitlin Lyman and Andrew McCrary, have been chosen to receive the Robert T. Jones Jr. Scholarship Award for a year of study at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. St. Andrews, founded in 1411, is Emory’s sister institution.

widely known as the Bobby Jones Scholarship, the award was established in 1976 and recognizes individuals who will be excellent representatives of Emory at St. Andrews. Qualities required to fulfill this ambassadorship include intellectual excellence, a record of significant leadership, and academic interests that can be pursued through the offerings at St. Andrews. The scholars receive full tuition and a travel stipend for their year of study. In addition, four St. Andrews students are chosen to spend a year at Emory.

Brown, a history and journalism major from Atlanta, is editor-in-chief of The Emory Wheel. He also founded The Hub, which was named one of the nation’s best student-run magazines by Newsweek in its first year. He has served as a resident assistant, interned with the College Alumni Association, and has served on University-wide events committee. Throughout its history, the organization had never been designated as the University’s “official” alumni association. That designation from the Board of Trustees came in 2006 — with the Emory Alumni Board’s designation as the EAA’s official governing board. At some 100,000 members — every Emory alumnus is automatically granted entry to the EAA — 40% of alumni are among the University’s most significant constituents.

“I feel like this name change is important for alumni as it helps us better align with the University,” said Emory Alumni Board marketing co-chair Tara Whitehead, president with Amdocs Consulting Division. “We’re putting Emory first.”

The EAA already has a new logo, designed by Emory’s marketing department, and it is working to update its signage, printed materials and Web site. Throughout its history, the EAA has been familiar with change. Alumni have had an organized presence at Emory since the Atlanta campus was established in 1915. Emory’s first alumni association, known as the Emory College Alumni Association, was created in 1896. It moved from Oxford to Atlanta with the rest of Emory College in the early 1900s. Eventually, the alumni association was headquartered on the ground floor of the Alumni Memorial University Center — which is now the Bobbi Center. For much of its existence the alumni association focused on University-wide events such as Homecoming or the old Charter dinner, but that model was updated about 20 years ago. Outreach became a much more important component of alumni relations at Emory.

In 1986, following a study by a blue-ribbon commission appointed by President James Laney, the alumni association was reorganized, and the Association of Emory Alumni was born. The EAA moved to small house on North Decatur Road across from Glenn Auditorium. The group was based there until 2000, when it (along with the Emory Annual Fund) moved into the Miller-Ward Alumni House, Emory’s first building dedicated for use by the alumni association.

In the last few years, the EAA focused its mission on alumni volunteer leadership development. Dykes said the EAA works to not only identify alumni with leadership potential but also helps identify opportunities for them to be engaged with the University. Those opportunities range from student mentoring to fundraising to regional chapter leadership and much more.

While the EAA has more than a century of service to Emory, the organization had never been designated as the University’s official alumni association. That designation from the Board of Trustees came in 2006 — with the Emory Alumni Board’s designation as the EAA’s official governing board. At some 100,000 members — every Emory alumnus is automatically granted entry to the EAA — 40% of alumni are among the University’s most significant constituents.

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Dykes said the name change, which was announced to all Emory alumni through EmoryWire, the EAA’s electronic news publication, provides an excellent opportunity to reconnect with all of Emory’s alumni.

“All of the EAA’s existing programs will be retained within the EAA,” said Dykes. “And we are looking forward to launching new features and benefits, many of them through our Web site. The name change is just one aspect of the many efforts under way to engage alumni in leadership with the University.”

Steppers’ join fight against sickle cell

On the heels of the box-office success of the movie “Stomp the Yard,” an Emory fraternity brought “steppers” from seven sororities and fraternities from around the Southeast to Emory for a celebratory cause. This year was the Alumni Association of Alpha Phi Alpha’s annual “Step for Sickle Cell Benefit Show” Saturday, Feb. 10 in the Emory gym.

Emory sororities took home honors in the women’s competition: Delta Sigma Theta placed first in the step dance; Alpha Kappa Alpha placed second. Georgia State’s Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity won the men’s competition, and Phi Beta Sigma from the University of Georgia placed second.

Sickle cell anemia is a blood disorder that afflicts thousands of Americans. The event, now in its 21st year, has raised $70,000 for sickle cell research, the fraternity said.

Name change starts new chapter in alumni history

BY ERIC RANGE

The change is small — just the transposition of two letters — but implications for the future are likely to stretch far beyond the creation of a new acronym. This month, the EAA, as the Association of Emory Alumni is casually known, has become the EAA, the Emory Alumni Association. The result is a sleeker, more user-friendly identity for the organization that serves as the University’s main conduit with its 100,000 living alumni.

The EAA name change effort was a collaborative process that began last fall and included EAA staff and the marketing committee of the Emory Alumni Board.

“We decided to heighten awareness of the EAA, a seemingly simple name change, we believe, will help,” said Emory Alumni Board marketing co-chair Brian Rutter, general manager for international marketing with Delta Air Lines and a 2005 graduate of the Goizueta Business School. “Executive MBA program.

“The new name more quickly comes to mind and more easily rolls off the tongue,” he continued. “One key goal of changing the name is to help Emory alumni and other constituencies to become more familiar with the organization and the many opportunities to get involved.”

Allison Dykes, vice president for alumni relations, said the name change is organic. “In both casual and formal conversation, we are frequently referred to as ‘the alumni association,’” she said. “We realized it was about time that we called ourselves what everybody else does.”

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For much of its existence the alumni association focused on University-wide events such as Homecoming or the
In October 2006, Katherine Mitchell, an artist on the faculty of the Emory Visual Arts Program, and Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of Emory, talked about art and life as Mitchell prepared for her current retrospective at City Gallery East in Atlanta. The following is excerpted from their conversation:

Rosemary Magee: When did you first start to think of yourself as an artist?
Katherine Mitchell: I think I was always moving in that direction. As a child, I drew all the time. Growing up in the South, one did not see a lot of paintings. But Memphis did have a small museum, which brought an extraordinary exhibition that included a Philip Guston painting, and it completely stumped me. I mean, this really incredible revelation it felt like the meaning of life.

Magee: How does teaching affect your work?
Mitchell: Sometimes I can see a point at which things really begin to come together for [the student]. That is a very exciting thing to witness in a student, and the student senses it, too. ... It certainly is one of the things that keeps one teaching.

Magee: How do you come to know and select the color for your work?
Mitchell: It’s very much a felt thing. When I was a student and in the early, early work, I was looking at what I called nominal color, by which I mean color that one could name, by name — red, blue and yellow. Then I began working with what I call color temperature. Later ... I worked with color based on nature, which was very soft and delicate.

Magee: How would you describe your choice of materials?
Mitchell: I like using traditional materials a little bit differently than they are intended. ... The architectural works are pastel, which is usually very soft. You think about the Impressionists using pastels, and you don’t think about geometry and very precise forms with them.

Magee: When people ask you to describe your work, to categorize it, what do you say?
Mitchell: Usually “abstract and geometric” best describe my work. However, I also think it’s important to spend a lot of time being not quite sure what you’re doing ... when responsiveness to diversions or detours is particularly likely to be important.

There is a quotation from Philip Guston that I often use in teaching: “We [the Abstract Expressionists] painted what we didn’t know.” I like the idea of not following the path or plan, but of creating one’s own. ... The distillation of form from experience is what’s important. Rilke talks about “blood-remembering” from which comes poetry. It’s about layers of memory and layers of experience — not the superficial memory of what happened yesterday, but how those layers really become who you are and enter your life, and then come out.

The full text of Interweavings is available at http://visualarts.emory.edu/faculty.

Katherine Mitchell: A Retrospective, 1974-2006 is on view through March 16 at City Gallery East, 675 Ponce de Leon Avenue N.E., Atlanta. A conversation between Mitchell and Magee will be held on Feb. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at City Gallery East.

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Hans from page 1

was a child. As part of a military family — his father served in the Air Force for 28 years — Harris moved frequently, attending 10 schools before graduating high school. His family lived in Scotland, England, Germany and many cities in the United States. Starting over each year — meeting new teachers and friends — had a profound impact on his view of the world.

Harris said he was often considered an enigma. He was a bit of a small player who loved writing short stories and poems. He wanted to be a writer, but also wanted to be of service to others.

“My first interest in community and diversity really began by being a kid and trying to figure out how the world is organized,” Harris said. “I wondered what helped some people be very successful and what kept others from succeeding.”

He earned an undergradu-

ate degree in English from Dartmouth in Hanover, N.H., and a law degree from Vermont Law School in South Royalton. Before moving to Dartmouth in 1992, he worked with the Boston Human Rights Commission and with the New Hamp-

shire Public Defender’s office. Harris began his tenure at Dartmouth in the Financial Aid Office, but after a year moved to the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity, where he served in several capacities before being named director in 2001.

“Three things really impressed me about Ozzie,” said Peter Barnes, vice president of human resources and co-chair of the search committee. “He is remarkably articulate about difficult topics. He is very approachable and interested in different issues. And he is a leader in this field because of the depth of his experience and knowledge.”

Harris was selected after a year-long process involving defining the position and identifying a potential candidate pool. Scott Walker from the recruitment firm of Spencer Stuart helped the committee focus its search and interview process. Harris was selected from three finalists. An internal candidate, Nadine Kaslow, professor in the School of Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and chief psychologist at Grady, was one of the finalists but withdrew her nomination before the decision was made.

Rosemary Magee, Emory vice president and secretary and co-chair of the search commit-

tee, said, “We had a pool of extremely impressive candidates and the finalists were all excellent. They demonstrated an impressive breadth of experience and commitment to higher education, as well as a dedica-

tion to building community.”

Harris will be here in March. His wife, Mary, a clinical nurse, plans to move to Atlanta this summer with their son, Christian, a high school sopho-

more. The Harris’ daughter, Hannah, is a student at the University of Wisconsin-

Madison.

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Katherine Mitchell, Plan, 2005, gouache and chine colle on paper
From pulp fiction to Protestant missionaries, Gothic horror painted lurid images of China

**By Carol Clark**

The temple is dark and very dirty. Cobwebs hang from the walls. The place is never cleaned, and but rarely swept… The group of idols stands before them. The images with fierce or grinning faces, streaked with red paint and blackened by smoke from candles and incense sticks, look at the worshippers with staring immovable eyes. Sometimes long rows of these images glare and stare in hideous fashion.”

This Protestant missionary’s 1921 account of a visit to a temple in China, and many similar accounts written by British missionaries in the early 20th century, reads less like a religious tract than classic horror fiction. In fact, it especially resembles the lurid, Gothic writing in the Fu Manchu stories cranked out by British writer Sax Rohmer, who specialized in horrible images of Chinese, noted Eric Reinders, associate professor in Emory’s Department of Religion, in a recent lecture presented by the East Asian Studies Program.

To illustrate the similarity, Reinders cited the following passage from a 1913 Rohmer novel “The Devil Doctors,” when the British protagonist first encounters his Chinese nemesis: “From a plain brass bowl upon the corner of the huge table smoke wafted amidst the air — from the burning perfume on the table — grew in volume, thickened, and wafted towards me in a cloud of grey horror. It enveloped me, clammily. Dimly, through its oily wreaths, I saw the immovable eyes of Fu Manchu.”

Reinders, who is interested in how religion and stereotypes relate to cultural politics, was also a featured speaker this month at a University of Alabama symposium titled, “MisInterpretations East West: Representations of China, Japan and the West.” He is the author of “Borrowed Gods and Foreign Bodies: Christian Missionaries Image Chinese Religion.”

“Protestant missionaries in China were funded by hundreds of little groups that were constantly writing back to their home churches as part of their fundraising efforts,” Reinders said. “They had to portray non-Christian life as really horrible. Otherwise, why would people want to give money for the cause of conversion?”

The colorful reportage was aroused. Inside the idol a hollow place was found full of oily wreaths, I saw the immovable eyes. Sometimes the eyes followed me. They were looking at me through fierce grinning faces. The temple was dark and very dirty. The place was never cleaned, and but rarely swept.”

**CRISIS IN THE VILLAGE**

Crisis in the Village” analyzes the challenges currently faced by three key anchor institutions: black families, black churches and historically black colleges and universities. It also outlines practical steps that individuals and organizations can take to create positive change in these areas.

Emory Report caught up with Reinders for appearances for “Crisis in the Village” to find out more about the book.

**Emory Report:** What kind of research are you getting to the book so far?

**Robert Franklin:** People are generally pleased that I’m trying to keep this conversation alive and that I’m offering practical action steps for moving beyond talk. There has been some argument generated by people who take issue with the way in which I’ve framed some of the issues.

**Emory Report:** What issues, in particular, are people sensitive about?

**Franklin:** For instance, I’m advancing that black churches and community leaders need to declare a moratorium on mean-spirited rhetoric aimed at the gay and lesbian community. Homosexuality is currently one of the great divisions throughout the African American community. In the African American religious community this division is heightened, in part because there is enormous anxiety about the future of black marriages and families.

I’m arguing that even if black church leaders aren’t prepared to affirm homosociality they should not be condemning gays and lesbians. Instead, they should be starting a dialogue. There is enormous ignorance about the cause of conversion. This would be beneficial to bring scholars into the churches to discuss these issues. This is an opportunity for churches to learn.

**ER:** You advocate for individuals to take part in “concrete rituals of personal renewal,” such as praying and reflection on their lives. You suggest that they do this each Wednesday at noon in the middle of the week — to evoke a sense of the Middle Passage of the slave journey across the Atlantic and the middle of a painful transition the African American community is undergoing today. Have early readers of the book been receptive to this idea?

**Franklin:** Yes, people have asked me to talk more about that. I’m trying to offer developmental steps into a life of moral integrity and activism. People have different starting points and they need to be provided with easy, accessible means of participation, along with more advanced strategies. Everybody can read a book, have a dialogue or say a prayer to become a part of the collective renewal process. Hopefully, that effort becomes a habit and matures so people then ask, “Okay, what more can I do?” Mentoring someone would be an example of going a step beyond personal renewal. You could then scale that up into joining the efforts of larger organizations and initiatives.

**ER:** What is the key message you hope people get from the book?

**Franklin:** One thing I hope is that people will walk away with the inspiration to do all they can to promote a culture of high expectations and high achievement, especially among youth. We need to do more to encourage good behavior and academic success. And we need to teach kids about healthy dating and affirming and accepting others. This idea can also be translated into how neighborhoods operate and how organizations do their business.

**SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH**

Theologian issues ‘call to action’ for black America

**By Carol Clark**

Robert Franklin’s calendar is filling up fast, since the Feb. 1 publication of his latest book — “Crisis in the Village: Restoring Hope in African American Communities.” The Presidential Distinguished Professor of Social Ethics at Emory’s Candler School of Theology has been asked to speak about the issues raised in the book at high schools, universities, churches and, on Feb. 20, at a National Press Club forum in Washington.

“This book is really a call to conversation and a call for reconciliation, because I think there’s a lot of polarization in the African American body politic,” said Franklin. “But dialogue alone is not enough. The book is also a call to action.”

**ER:** You also suggest that young people use technology to get involved in creating positive change. Can you elaborate on that?

**Franklin:** That idea was inspired by my own teenagers, who are constantly sending me text messages and holding me accountable for doing something, like picking them up in the carpool. It occurred to me, what if students used their cell phones and computers to send messages of gratitude and encouragement to people who are doing things for their schools and communities? That would help ensure that students are part of the process and it’s not just adults doing things for young people. It might help generate more student activism.

During the civil rights era, there were a lot of students who actually helped transform American democracy. Why can’t more young people today, who have so much more connectivity, use the technology that they enjoy so much to help improve the world?

**ER:** What is the key message you hope people get from the book?

**Franklin:** One thing I’m hoping that people will walk away with the inspiration to do all they can to promote a culture of high expectations and high achievement, especially among youth. We need to do more to encourage good behavior and academic success. And we need to teach kids about healthy dating and affirming and accepting others. This idea can also be translated into how neighborhoods operate and how organizations do their business.
Seven Emory women lauded as ‘unsung heroines’

BY STACEY JONES

For many in the Emory community a highlight of the academic year is the annual Unsung Heroines banquet, an opportunity to honor women who have profoundly touched lives inside and outside the University. Seven women were lauded this year before a capacity crowd Feb. 15 in Governor’s Hall at the Miller-Walker Alumni House.

Elizabeth Sholtsy (‘07C) was a high school junior in Bombay, where she became an activist on behalf of the street children of India — the “rootless and roofless,” as they’re called. She didn’t stop caring for these children once she arrived at Emory; rather, she dreamed of being a freshwater and put into place a scant two years later an organization dedicated to them called the Ashraya Initiative for Children. Not only did she reach out to Emory students, in her quest to provide “hope,” “trust,” “shelter” and “protection” to these children, the Hindi meanings of the word “ashraya” — she reached across the world to students in Canada, Austria, Japan, the United Kingdom, and India itself for help.

She’s now raising money on behalf of homeless children in Pune, India, and her now worldwide initiative.

Ph.D. candidate Gillian Wickwire (‘11C) attributes much of her drive for social justice to her late father, whose death left her feeling “even more compelled to live a life full of meaning and action,” she has said. She’s working hard to make him proud. Known as a collaborative student and scholar, Wickwire’s undergraduates and students praise the mentoring she readily provides and her colleagues appreciate the supportive and productive community she’s helped build among graduate students, faculty and staff in the Department of Women’s Studies. Wickwire also volunteers with the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center and the Feminist Women’s Health Center. In the past year, she has greatly involved in the efforts to help the survivors of Hurricane Katrina through the Red Cross and by raising funds and organizing informational and training events for those in need.

She is, said her nominator, “someone who consciously chooses to live a dedicated life to the principles of equality and justice on a daily basis,” a commitment rooted in both her personal and academic life.

Should the “meek” ultimately inherit the earth, Sam Marie Engle (‘90C) will stand firmly up against it with a quiet voice who has made a big impact. As senior associate director of the Office of University-Community Partnerships, Engle’s work with the Kenneth Cole Fellows has come to be seen as a model for the type of engaged student- scholar Emory hopes to send forth into the world. Yet she made her greatest impact this past fall when she agreed to speak publicly at the Take Back the Night rally about the sexual assault she endured some ten years ago, where her “willingness to risk public scrutiny...dramatically contributed her story and altruism,” said one of her nominators. Inspired by Engle’s exhortation to them to “break the silence” surrounding sexual violence toward women, several students came forward to share their story and, “in doing so,” said Engle’s nominator, “began to take back not just the night of their lives but the rest of their lives.”

The Rev. Cynthia Vaughan, a chaplain at Emory University hospital and an instructor-in-training in clinical pastoral education, said that “making this society better for women includes helping others to make men better themselves.” That includes the five young male interns currently under her charge, “whom she challenges to... relate to women in a whole, healthy way.” She mentors a group of young women too, ministerial candidates at Atlanta’s Central United Methodist Church, hoping to translate the challenges and opportunities that exist for women “in the hallowed world of institutional religion. A two-time survivor of breast cancer, Vaughan volunteers with the support group Reach to Recovery. Said her nominator, “Cynthia is always seeking to understand and remedy the impact of illness, difficulties and unjust treatment for the lives of others.”

School of Nursing faculty member Linda Grabbe (‘86N) has spent six years as a family nurse practitioner at Community Advanced Practice Nurses, a free clinic for indigent, homeless and uninsured women and children. But she’s also spent much time around the world, volunteering as a Peace Corps medical officer in Kazakhstan, and as a nurse practitioner in the Ivory Coast, providing sexual- female sex workers at a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention- supported health clinic in its largest city, Abidjan. She managed to do all of this while raising a family now comprised of four teenagers and volunteering on their behalf at school and for Stop It Now, part of Prevent Child Abuse Georgia. Grabbe, said her nominator, manages to include health education in all patient encounters, but in doing so learns herself about their lives and translates this knowledge into helping others still.

Indigent Criminal Defense Clinic tries and wins first case

BY TIM HERSEY

Emory law students participating in the Indigent Criminal Defense Clinic recently won the first case defended through the program. After four separate trial settings and two trials, the defendant was found not guilty on counts of simple battery and family violence.

“A tremendous amount of hard work went into this case,” said ICDC Director Deondre O’Connor. “I could not be more proud of the three trial lawyers and the amount of dedication and commitment they demonstrated.”

Dan Zynick, Nate Barnes and Sarah Pentz were assigned the case because of their participation in the ICDC, which began last fall. The clinic receives cases from DeKalb County and as director, O’Connor selects cases based on the likelihood of a trial or motion at some point.

“T he case was an excellent experience for us — having our own client and battling to keep him out of jail,” Zynick said. “The case was demanding and difficult, but we were especially proud of the case because we strongly believed that our client was innocent. A guilty verdict would have been an injustice.”

Zynick and Pentz were assigned to the case last semester. Due to continuances and a declared mistrial because of circumstances involving a juror, the trial was rescheduled for Jan. 23. Pentz was not able to participate in the clinic this semester because of scheduling conflicts, so Barnes joined Zynick to try the case on the new date.

“The team is to be commended for how well they worked together,” O’Connor said. “Dan Zynick developed a wonderful working relationship and complemented each other’s strengths very well. Nate was brought up to speed during his first two weeks in the clinic and helped with final preparations for the new trial.

As part of the clinic, third year students assume the role of lead attorney, second chair and investigator on three different cases. O’Connor provides in- depth daily supervision on each case during the preparation stage, with the goal of allowing greater student attorney autonomy and decision-making when appearing in court on the record.

“I anticipated that many students would be drawn to the clinic primarily to obtain some litigation experience while in law school,” O’Connor said. “What I hope they take away from their participation is a better understanding and appreciation for the role of a criminal defense lawyer and the unique values and challenges of an indigent criminal defendant. I also want the students to realize that they are involved in being a zealous advocate and how much the lawyer’s commitment to a client’s case will affect the outcome.

By all accounts, Zynick and his team fully embraced the role of a zealous advocate. “We all put in a lot of sleepless nights. I’ve never worked so hard to help another person,” he said. “Our desire to help our client gave us the energy to keep going, and we all put in a greater effort that led to our victory.”

O’Connor has structured the clinic, which is graded and can accommodate up to eight students per semester, to promote a team environment. The support and encouragement that Zynick, Pentz and Barnes received played a key role in their win. Fellow ICDC students, without hesitation, regularly met with the trial lawyers to go through practice runs and allow them to rehearse their opening and closing remarks.

“The opportunity to represent a client, make your case and conduct a trial on his behalf was an incredible learning experience,” Zynick said. “All the difficulties we encountered helped us to become better prepared and gain experience that we could not have received at the classroom setting.”
Wagner, Mandl host spring campus forums on living and working at Emory

President Jim Wagner and Mike Mandl, executive vice president of finance and administration, are holding campus forums about what it means to live and work as part of the Emory community. They invite everyone to attend one of these meetings to share ideas and questions. Light refreshments will be served.

Monday, Feb. 19
11:30 am–12:30 pm
Cox Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 28
8-9 a.m.
Ballroom, Dobbs Center

Thursday, March 22
11:30 am–12:30 pm
Campus Service Training Room, Building II

Wednesday, April 4
8-9 a.m.
7th Floor, Theater, Oxford College

Blomeyer Health Fitness Center
Fair HaH 11 a.m. Fifth Floor, 1525 Clifton Road. Free. 404-727-4600.

Wednesday, Feb. 21
International Career Networking Event
Dahney Evans, Institute of Human Rights; Richard Liu, CNN; Ronald Robinson, Consul General in Jamaica; and Kent Glener, CARE, presenting. 6:30 p.m. Walt Davis Room, Mills-Ward Alumni House. Free. 404-727-6404.

THURSDAY, FEB. 22
Carter Town Hall
President Jimmy Carter, presenting. 11 a.m. Glenn Auditorium. Free with Emory University ID. pel@emory.edu.

EndNote Workshop
1 p.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-6863.

Latin American Studies Research Workshop
5:30 p.m. 312 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-2577.

Carter Center Panel Discussion

FRIDAY, FEB. 23
International Coffee Hour
11:30 a.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-3300.

MONDAY, FEB. 26
EndNote Workshop
4 p.m. 404-727-6863.

Body Acceptance Week Panel Discussion
“Eating Disorders Recovery.” Heather Blair, Emory Hospital; Terry D., Marisa Heather Blair, Emory Hospital, presenting. 4 p.m. Winship Ballroom, Dobbs Center. Free. 404-727-7450. Also Feb. 27.