COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Change is constant for 2005 Cole fellows

BY ERIC RANGUS

For each of the last four summers, the Kenneth Cole Fellowship in Community Building and Social Change has sent its eager and earnest young charges into the Atlanta metro area—most often into its most challenging neighborhoods—to pull those communities together and work for positive change. But the fellows’ field work is merely a part of their summer experience (which itself is only a portion of the yearlong Cole fellowship). In June, all 16 of them, including their faculty and staff advisers, traveled to Boston for site visits to see how community building is done in that city. And every Wednesday, they gather in Goizueta Business School for dinner and a guest speaker. On June 22, they met two community leaders. LaShawn Hoffman, chief executive officer of the Pittsburgh Community Improvement Association, is relatively new to the scene, having held his position for just over a year. Peggy Harper is a longtime community activist and chair of the Atlanta Planning Advisory Board. Her passion for her work flows from every pore; she even moved from the cozy suburbs to the then-hardscrabble (but now rapidly revitalizing) intown neighborhood of Mechanicville in the mid-1990s so she could be closer to the people she wanted to help. She had a great deal to say about not only the struggles, but also the triumphs of building communities. “Be prepared to be out there by yourse,” she said, Harper, a wisp of a woman whose graying hair and tiny hands are accented by a fiery stare and powerful voice that immediately demands

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HUMAN RESOURCES

Climate survey data on website

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

The results of last year’s Campus Climate Survey have been posted on Emory’s website, allowing anyone in the community to view a detailed, comprehensive breakdown of how the University fared in its self-measurement of how effectively it fosters diversity and ethical engagement in its working environment. President Jim Wagner announced the website (http://emory.br.emory.edu/neri/climate.nsf) in an all-campus e-mail on Monday, June 20, saying the survey—which drew an impressive 84 percent response rate during its administration from Nov. 29-Dec. 17, 2004—is the first of several iterations to be repeated in years ahead. Among the positive outcomes, we can be grateful for its underscoring of the importance of open, two-way communication,” Wagner said. “Not only can it improve the kind of workplace all of us want requires that everyone be engaged, this survey and the discussion of its results vitally reinforce that engagement.”

In choosing to single out the need for better communication, Wagner re-emphasized the importance which Emory intends to address those findings, See CLIMATE SURVEY on page 5

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Illinois’ Mendola named to new CIO post

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

Richard Mendola, associate vice president for administrative information technology services at the University of Illinois, will become Emory’s first vice president for information technology and chief information officer, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Mandl announced. The appointment is effective Sept. 1.

Mendola, who served as executive director of a project at Illinois that integrated academic, human resources IT systems across three campuses, will face a similar challenge at Emory, where he will be charged with coordinating and integrating IT infrastructure between the University and Emory Healthcare (EHC). Reflecting that task is a “matrix” administrative structure through which Mendola initially will report jointly to Mandl, Provost Earl Lewis and Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Michael Johns. Those three, along with EHC President and CEO John Fox, selected Mendola with substantial input from the search committee as well as many other faculty and staff who interviewed the candidates. Mendola’s direct reports will be the heads of Network Administration, Special Projects and the EHC CIO.

Richard Mendola’s biggest—though certainly not only—challenge as Emory’s CIO will be developing a common IT architecture across the University and Emory Healthcare.

“This matrixed reporting relationship reflects the accountability to the academic, clinical and administrative enterprises,” Mandl said. “It will be important that the information technology function understand its mission as a business unit whose role is to provide a ‘best of class’, cost-effective, scalable infrastructure to support the academic and research missions and the clinical enterprise.”

“Given Rich’s experiences at Illinois,” Mandl continued, “he is perfectly suited to develop the sort of resource-planning and enterprise-wide governance structures that Emory needs. We’re confident he will help bring Emory’s IT services to the level they need to be to help us achieve our vision.”

“The best analogy I’ve used for illustrating an IT architecture is to ask people how their house was built,” Mendola said when asked about the challenge ahead of him. “Instead of hiring a single architect, imagine you used a different architect for each room. What would you end up with? If you were lucky, you might have four walls and a roof, but you probably wouldn’t be happy with the cost, performance or aesthetics of your new abode.

“But as good architects produce houses that are far more than the sum of their parts, good IT architectures leverage common standards and consistent strategies to produce more agile, cost-effective IT solutions,” he continued. “I don’t expect that process to be easy, but I do think that with the right set of guiding principles—such as a transparent and open, deliberative process—it is possible to be successful.” Designing that common architecture is just one of Mendola’s many tasks. Among the others will be developing a technology master plan, partnering with industry leaders to achieve Emory’s IT goals, developing budgets that leverage IT resources housed within varied operating units and schools, and “establishing Emory IT as a business-driven line activity, not a technology-driven staff function,” according to the CIO job description.

“While Emory has pockets of very advanced IT applications, the basic service level of the information technology infrastructure is perceived to be lacking,” Mandl said. “Our decentralized operating model, which gives each of the schools and units a substantial amount of autonomy in how resources are used, has generally served

See CIO on page 7

See COLE FELLOWS on page 5
Federally supported Small Research Grant Program (SRG) continues to be one of the fastest-growing medical schools in the country in terms of federal research grant support. Emory researchers attracted more than $178 million in NIH grant support last year, ranking 19th among all U.S. medical schools.

“The rapid rise in NIH grant support is a testament to the outstanding work by our research scientists in competing with other institutions for federal support in a highly competitive funding environment,” said SOM Dean Tim Lawley.

“The work going on in our laboratories, is providing new paradigms and breakthroughs in medicine leading to improved therapies for our patients.”

Researchers in the Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) attracted more than $20 million in NIH grant support last year, ranking 10th among all U.S. schools of public health, up from 12th last year.

“Our rise in the NIH rankings and our success in attracting a highly qualified and diverse student body is a testament to our extremely productive and dedicated faculty and staff,” said RSPH Dean James Curran.

N ational flags fly everywhere there are speeches by national leaders and special screenings of patriotic films. This national holiday provides a great excuse to gather around family and friends. Does this sound familiar?

All these happenings also are familiar to those of us who will celebrate “Independence Day” here in Bombay, India, in August. Both India and the United States, among other nations, celebrate national holidays to mark the attainment of their freedom from foreign rule and the right to self-government.

Independence Day for me is one celebration among many, the greatest skeptics of nationalism and its misuse by political leaders at all political levels without guilt, without worrying (as we academics do) about giving to a nationalist agenda or jingoism—or a host of other “isms” I have learned to fear in the course of my graduate work.

It is a day when we honor generations, one or several before us, depending on the country to which we pledge allegiance, those who fought for the freedoms we enjoy today. It is a celebration of an earlier victory, a day when the oppressed took over and said, “We can govern ourselves quite well, without help, thank you very much.” Who can argue against such a worthy cause for celebration?

Independence Day celebrations also are important for me personally. My family’s role in India’s struggle for independence from British rule shaped my world view from early childhood, my identity as an Indian and the role I see for myself as an academic today. I learned early that freedom is a privilege, fought for and won by my grandparents’ generation. I want them to keep it.

It is to be cherished and handled with great responsibility, never to be taken for granted.

My most vivid childhood memory is of sitting in my grandparent’s room, listening to stories about India’s struggle for independence and about their lives before the partition into the separate countries of India and Pakistan. Nostalgia for a lost independence and about their time a story was retold.

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We would listen, wide-eyed with rapt attention, clamoring for more details of grand leaders my grandfather had met and worked with during the freedom struggle—names we knew from our history textbooks at school, blow-by-blow accounts of meetings of our National Congress my great-grandfather attended, yet another drawing of the house of the gentry, drawings I lived in, and, of course (like any good story), the romance that my grandparent brought them to India, traveling with other Pakistani refugees in a truck across the border to a brand new country.

As the grandchildren get older, my grandparent shared more painful stories. Stories of separation: my grandfather lost contact with his brothers for a full year—there were months my grandmother thought my grandfather was lost, when he had slipped across the border one last time to see if there was anything he could salvage from his former home.

She waited alone, expecting their first child. Stories of the first postcard my grandfather received from his brother that led to an emotional reunion of the extended family and a move yet again to Bombay, the city they still call home after 57 years. My understanding of freedom, a privilege that carries great responsibility, has been shaped by these stories of loss and sacrifice.

As I write this piece here in Bombay, in the same home my grandparents moved into when they first relocated, I can’t help but think of the freedoms my generation enjoys today and those we have to work together to achieve. Along with the freedoms that larger democratic societies guarantee, we enjoy as members of the academic community the most sacred of freedoms, one that I know in our busy academic semesters we sometimes place above the pursuit of happiness.

In our pursuit of knowledge, we have the freedom to choose our methods and individual paths toward the advancement of this collective body of knowledge. Jokes apart, I acknowledge that this is no small freedom we enjoy. Not only are we able to pursue this knowledge ourselves, but we also are entrusted with the responsibility of transferring this collective knowledge to generations that follow.

I am spending this summer in India doing fieldwork toward my dissertation on political protest in democracies. I study violent and nonviolent forms of protest, why some democracies experience more violent protest than others. I will spend the next weeks traveling across India to speak with representatives of several movements throughout the country that each have demanded the creation of a separate state for their constituents within India’s borders.

Each group feels its members have not been equal in their current Indian states and want self-government within the larger Indian federal system, so that they may steer their own course toward economic development.

As I speak with these groups—some of which have met with success and others with failure—the larger question for me is one that looks at democratic institutions. How do we build and maintain them so that we can encourage and ensure participation for the maximum number of societal groups? How do we ensure that groups we have not yet encountered have space to participate in the political process and feel invested in tomorrow’s institutions? How do we design those institutions to encourage more groups not only to participate in democratic politics but also to work together to resolve conflict?

These questions are relevant for all democratic states as we take these special days, such as Independence Day this week, to ask ourselves if we successfully guaranteed the same democratic opportunities and participatory rights common to all. If not, how do we achieve this goal? These questions are extremely relevant to new democracies and countries that are on the path toward democratization.

We may struggle as an international community to find communication channels but we can encourage other countries to democratize, but perhaps most of us will agree that once on this path—in order that newly adopted institutions endure—countries will need to be suitably equipped to handle the severe challenges posed by ethnic and religious diversity as well as the persistent legacy of non-democratic regimes. It is not only an incredibly vibrant area for research but also an area where we need more than ever to bridge the gap between our collective knowledge in academia and the resources available to practitioners of political development.

Answering these questions is one of my generation’s great responsibilities and hopefully will one day be our contribution to a struggle toward ensuring freedom—not only for ourselves and the democratic mechanisms we live, but for our peers in new democracies and democratizing countries, as well.

Having talked of freedom and responsibilities, I want to say that the value of taking time out for celebration should not be undercut. Another commonality between the responses I have received best in India and the Southeastern city of Atlanta I have called home since earning Emory’s graduate program in August 2000 is the overwhelming hospitality that comes so naturally to both places.

Whi...
P resenting conference papers as a part of a professor's job. And conferences, while often excellent opportunities both to discuss one's own work and to discover the innovative angles researched by others, are rarely memorable beyond the podium or hotel-meeting-room conversations.

That wasn't the case with the Third International Conference on Human Rights, which took place May 14–15. Late last year, Michael Broyde, professor of law and academic director of the Law and Religion Program, was invited to present a paper there. Co-sponsored by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), the conference would be a prestigious speaking engagement.

Titled “Identity, Difference and Human Rights,” the conference appeared to be an ideal opportunity for Broyde to showcase his work in Jewish law, making it even more attractive. What wasn’t necessarily attractive was the conference’s location: Mofid University in Qom, Iran.

“Qom is a city of about one hour’s drive west of Tehran, Broyde said, adding that he needed to travel the entire day. Once they were satisfied, he was permitted to be flown in. The government held the passport for three weeks while Broyde was investigated.

Government agents called several times to confirm Broyde’s background, identity and reasons for going to Iran. Once they were satisfied, he was issued a visa. Upon arriving in Tehran, Broyde wasn’t cleared to leave the airport for several hours. He couldn’t say if he was watched while in the country, but the government does keep a file on every foreigner who enters Iran.

Qom, which hosted the conference, is a city of about one million people 80 miles south of Tehran. It is the country’s religious center; not only is it home to Mofid University, but Iran’s largest religious university, Howzeh-ye Elmieh, is located there as well. The conference was sponsored by Mofid University’s Center for Human Rights Studies, which was created following the Second International Conference on Human Rights in 2003.

Broyde’s paper, “Freedom of Association and Religious Communities: A Jewish Model for Associationism,” explored the legal basis of how Jewish law treats communication—which the exclusion of someone from a society, be it religious or otherwise—and also encompassed related secular issues, such as minority rights and tort law.

“My wife thought I was insane,” says Michael Broyde, professor of law, recalling her reaction to his decision to speak at a recent international human rights conference in Qom, Iran. An expert in Jewish law, as well as a rabbi, Broyde’s five days in Iran were remarkable beyond the thought-provoking conversations with peers (of which there were many); he also visited Tehran’s Jewish community.

“Both the conference presentations were Western, but the vast majority of the attendees were Iranian. Those who weren’t students were imams, and all were understand-ably interested in Broyde’s subject matter.”

“I sat with many Islamic scholars talking about Jewish law and how it compares with Islamic law,” Broyde said. “Islamic law has many features that are related to or even derived from Jewish law. We could point to a mother/daughter relationship between the two, in the sense that Islamic law starts developing from Jewish law around the year 1000. There is a clear interrela-tionship.”

Academics on both sides agree on this relationship—both Islamic and Jewish law are committed to being fully religious systems, regulating not only religious practice but cultural and family relations, for instance. But like every mother/daughter relationship, to use Broyde’s description, the two don’t always agree. To take Broyde’s paper topic as an example, Jewish law’s views on excommunication are significantly different from those of Islamic law. In the lat-ter, excommunication is a form of punishment. Jewish law views excommunication as a form of social regulation. This distinction spurred a great deal of discussion both during the conference and in its downtime.

Broyde didn’t speak much with Mofid University students. There were language barriers and he characterized the students as reserved, but Broyde added that everyone felt like they were being watched. He did have very robust conversations with imams who, contrary to some media images in this country and elsewhere in the West, were hardly fanatic. They did have strong opinions, though, which made for spirited and probing discussion.

“There is a difference between how one views faith as an academic and how one views it as an insider,” said Broyde, adding that he came away with a much more detailed view of Islamic law.

“This had been my first interaction with Islamic scholars deeply rooted in their religious faith. It was a good experience seeing a faith-based community from the inside.” Since Broyde is both a rabbi and an academic, that comment has several levels of meaning, and part of his expe-rience in Iran focused on exploring all of them.

Broyde spent five days in Iran, and he used his time wisely. In Tehran, he visited with that city’s Orthodox Jewish minority. Numbering about 10,000, the community makes up a sliver of Tehran’s population, and while they live in the seat of govern-ment in an Islamic republic, they are not oppressed, Broyde said. They own businesses, speak Hebrew, and are rela-tively free to practice their reli-gion—but they are not allowed to have religious teachers. Rabbis are not present in the community, and they are not permitted to be flown in.

Broyde went, though. For some of the Iranian Jews, he was the first rabbis they had ever spoken to. They had many ques-tions for him—some cultural, most of them religious. “It is a community that is thirsting for further education and more study,” Broyde said. “So we had many different issues to dis-cuss.”

Broyde wasn’t alone in his travels; he was accompanied by his 11-year-old daughter, Rachel. “I travel more than I should. One of the ways I deal with it is that I take my children with me,” said Broyde, adding that one of the most significant cultural experiences for her was that she was required to cover her hair throughout the trip. Father of three children, Broyde said he rotates their travel, Iran was Rachel’s turn.

“That way travel isn’t something that’s distracting,” he said. “It’s entertaining.”

“Entertaining” is probably a word few Americans would use when describing a trip to Iran, but from Broyde’s view-point it seems to work.
Since November 2004, Joan Wang, information technology technical leader for Campus Services (formerly Facilities Management), and her team have been working small miracles. That team, with collaboration from several departments around campus, has developed a new web-based campus map, now available to the public. Functionally and visually different from the existing map, the new version includes several advantages: It has been drawn to scale, it is dynamic (meaning that information on the map updates automatically), and, perhaps most exciting, the map is now interactive.

Using GIS (geographical information systems) and a product called AutoCAD (computer-assisted drawing), the map’s buildings, roads, shuttle-stop locations and other features are drawn to scale and represented accurately. This provides the viewer with a better understanding of distances and more effective way-finding. The map includes the Wesley Woods, Briarcliff and Clairmont campuses and can be printed in a variety of formats.

Another function is the map’s ability to update changes automatically, using special links to transfer information from several databases. For example, if a building is completed, a road moved or a shuttle schedule changed, the information will be reflected on the map as the data owners modify it on their ends.

A significant capital is the map’s most impressive modularity. Whereas previously visitors had to enter a building’s name to find its location, the new map has several innovative capabilities in addition to locating not only buildings but parking decks, specific types of buildings (i.e., Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) buildings) and shuttle routes. Users can zoom in on a chosen map area until building names appear; they can click on any building and bring up a picture of it, its address and other helpful information; and they can list a set of buildings sorted by preference (by building name, address, number, etc.). Shuttle stops and routes have been included, and the map enables users to view shuttle routes by entering their desired starting and ending points. The map then displays the route, supplies shuttle information along with any necessary transfers, and lists all additional stops along the way. The team even provided relevant MARTA bus route numbers and the direct shuttle service locations to Lenox Square Mall.

Atop all this user friendliness, a help feature is included to assist new users in navigating the site. Additionally, a location can be input with maps tied into the scheduling program X25, an upgraded version of R25. This feature will enable the University to better align accessibility routes, dining facility information, walk distances and more effective way-finding. The map includes web-based campus map, now available to the public.

As a faculty member in the School of Medicine, Ted Pettus is not uncom- fortable speaking to a crowd, but membership in Toastmasters at Emory has helped hone his presentation skills in other ways.

Focus: Campus Services
Campus map receives interactive upgrade

Barbara Stark is manager of training and communications for Campus Services.

Campus News
Emory’s Toastmasters celebrate first year of talking to each other

BY ERIC RANGUS

Except for the most rabid Morning People, 8 a.m. can be a challenging time for grouping of students. Yet every Wednesday, bright and early, in room 231 of the Dental School, Toastmasters gather for their weekly meeting.

For many, there is perhaps no more collective and non-tactile way of public speaking and early-morning rising, yet Toastmasters, at Emory, the campus branch of the worldwide public-speaking club is flourishing.

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Isolation unit helps prevent possible spread of diseases

BY CINDY SANDERS

CDC employees often travel to parts of the world where they can come into contact with harmful diseases. To ensure their safety when they return to the United States, Emory Hospital and the CDC have worked together to create a special isolation unit designed to care for employees who need hospitalization following on-the-job exposure to serious communicable diseases.

The new unit is located in the General Clinical Research Center (GCRC) on Emory Hospital's ground floor. “With our CDC partner, we have created a state-of-the-art facility,” said Cynthia H. Jones, M.D., M.P.H., professor of medicine and associate director of the Emory University Hospital Division of Infectious Diseases. “This facility is the only one of its kind in the country, and we are very proud of it.”

The hospital’s state-of-the-art, three-bed isolation unit is the highest standards in negative pressure air handling safeguards, Emory Hospital’s full-service hematology/oncology director Bruce Ribner said. The unit’s air is high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtered, so it is being exhausted outside the hospital, so there is no recirculation, and nobody who needs the facility is placed at risk.

The isolation unit is equipped to provide the same level of care and monitoring available in the hospital’s general and intensive care units. Staff nurses are specially trained in treating patients with serious communicable diseases.

“We had a great deal of interest from nurses who want to work in the unit,” said Cathy Bosd, director of nursing, medical/surgical services and patient services. Unit personnel had gone through a one-day training seminar with instruction by infectious disease experts from Emory Hospital and the CDC. This was followed by a one-day field exercise, where a simulated patient was picked up at the CDC and transported to the new unit. Staff rotate on-call shifts and are available within one hour of being notified of a patient admission to the unit. The unit was used a few weeks ago for the first time, and everything ran smoothly.

When this unit was being built, we hoped we’d never have to use the space to treat a serious communicable disease,” said Ribner, also associate professor of medicine. “However, we realize that with the various research laboratories and epidemiology field personnel the CDC has in Atlanta, we’ll probably use this unit several times a year.”

Emory Hospital epidemiologist Bruce Ribner said the hospital's new, three-bed isolation unit likely (and unfortunately) will get quite a bit of use considering Emory’s proximity to the CDC.

Climate Survey from page 1

Since communication is one of the lowest scores in the climate survey, 24 percent of respondents said they receive “reliable information through informal channels.”

But there was plenty of positive news, too. For example, 85 percent of respondents gave a favorable response (3 or better on a five-point scale) to whether they value diversity, and 78 percent believe Emory displays an institutional commitment to achieving that diversity.

To the question of whether they felt welcomed and valued at Emory, 60 percent responded favorably; males were more likely to respond favorably than women (67 percent to 56 percent), as were employees under 25 (76 percent) and over 64 (79 percent). Other issues that received favorable responses (66 percent or better) were support from management, respect for individuals’ viewpoints or communicating in give-and-take discussions; pleasant interactions with coworkers, ability to participate in job-related training; and the provision of special work arrangements for the disabled.

Communication, however, was not the only area of challenge. To the above question about feeling valued, for example, African American employees were less likely to respond favorably at 49 percent. Other negative finding is that 52 percent of women reported feeling valued compared to the men.

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EmoryReport

Mumford’s public health study is a walk through the park

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

July park-goers, be advised: In 12 DeKalb County parks this summer, you’ll see a number of smiling, yellow-T-shirted students who may greet you upon entering the green space are not trying to sell anything. They just want to ask a few friendly questions about your physical activity. Oh, and they may ask to strap on an accelerometer on your belt, if that’s OK.

The students are part of the project team for Neighborhood Parks and Active Living (NPAL), which itself is part of a larger park-use study funded last year by a $600,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The project is directed by professor Mumford, director of research projects in Frinkin’s department.

NPAL’s goal, Mumford said, is to identify predictors of park-use and physical activity. Such predictors may include dog ownership, proximity to parks or participation in organized sports. Her team of nine students is fanning out to 12 parks under study, interviewing park visitors and asking them to participate.

Those who agree are a series of questions about where they live (the study identified a tiered group of roughly concentric “catchment” areas around each park), their park use, and their level of physical activity.

To more accurately measure the latter, participants are also asked to strap on accelerometers for one week, noting their physical activity not only while in the park but throughout their daily lives.

“My wife and I walk in Mason Mill Park just about every day, basically for exercise and relaxation,” said Bryan Noe, interim dean of the graduate school, who was asked (and agreed) to participate in the study while on one of those walks.

“This study should lead to recommendations for improvements to public parks that could prompt non-users to become users. Anything that can be done to improve the general health and well-being of urban populations has to be beneficial,”

To that end, the students also are collecting data from a control group of non-park-users, based on a list of addresses in the study’s catchment areas.

Mumford’s goal is to recruit 50 participants (25 park users, 25 controls) for each of the 12 parks. Her team of students, both graduate and undergraduate, come not only from Emory but from Georgia State, Georgia Tech—one is even an Atlanta native home for the summer from Wellesley.

This project really shows how Emory is out in the community,” Mumford said. “The students are getting very good field experience, and it’s interesting to hear the conversations they’re having with residents. Most people say, ‘I’m really busy, but OK, I’ll do this,’ and they’re expected to do last 20 minutes, but typically it takes longer because study participants have a lot of questions and a lot to say about parks.”

To help relay that information to those who really need to hear it—local parks managers, for example—the project convened an advisory committee of local officials, such as Mark Loyal, Drew, director of DeKalb County Parks and Recreation, and Mary Miller, director of Decatur’s Recreation and Community Services Department; citizen advocates, such as George Dusenbury, executive director of Piedmont Park Pride; and public health officials, such as Ken Powell with the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Branch at the Georgia Division of Public Health.

“We are going to be working very closely with this group to make our findings relevant to the parks,” Mumford said. “One piece that’s very interesting is the concept of accessibility; we’ve got some parks that have wonderful amenities, are fairly well maintained, and have absolutely no connection to the neighborhoods in terms of pedestrian access.

Indeed, the question of access helped determine the choice of parks to be studied. Most the 12 parks in the project have fairly well defined points of entry; the reason a place like Piedmont Park was not selected, Mumford said, is that its borders are so large and provide so many points of access that they would have made the student data collectors’ jobs much more challenging.

Other factors, such as achieving geographic diversity, also figured into the choices.

Communities have contributed considerable resources to creating parks, trails and greenways,” Mumford said, “but we don’t know very much about whether they actually serve as places where people are physically active.”

Visual class helps develop new ways of seeing

BY KATHERINE BAUST

n between her shifts at the Carlos Museum, Leigh project director Noe, a fourth-year doctoral student in the Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA), is spending the summer teaching the interdisciplinary course Visual Culture (IDS 216) in Emory College.

“Visual culture involves the recognition that what we see is largely a product of what we know or believe,” Miller said. “Rather than a biological function, ways of seeing are culturally constructed.”

Miller’s doctoral research is focused on contemporary art- ists in modern Tibet and how they are creating a visual culture. Consequently, teaching her students to become aware of the bombardment of images in day-to-day life and develop- ing critical ways of looking and thinking, which examines the impact of images on individuals and society, is second nature.

Mumford has asked her students to keep a diary, to take a range of this semes- ter, challenging assumptions about what they actually see, how they see and of photographs, and becoming aware of ubiquitous branding in public spaces.

“We ask students to take the course from the perspective of what images are bound to be noticed, what impressions are formed and how they affect their thinking,” Miller said.

In addition to their final project, students will submit their portfolios, which they have kept all semester, building upon the skills they have developed and sifting the reading and images within broader social contexts.

“The students are making important connections between images and issues of concern to politics, race, gender, religion and globalization,” Miller said. “I love when students tell me they are surprised at how differently they have begun to see the world around them,” Miller said.

Visual culture class helps develop new ways of seeing

BY KATHERINE BAUST

n between her shifts at the Carlos Museum, Leigh project director Noe, a fourth-year doctoral student in the Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA), is spending the summer teaching the interdisciplinary course Visual Culture (IDS 216) in Emory College.

“Visual culture involves the recognition that what we see is largely a product of what we know or believe,” Miller said. “Rather than a biological function, ways of seeing are culturally constructed.”

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Neuroscientist wins Emory’s third national presidential award

BY BEVERLY CLARK

Donna Maney, associate professor of psychology, is the recipient of a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor for professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers, the White House announced June 13.

Joining 57 other researchers, Maney accepted her award in a ceremony led by John Marburger III, science adviser to President George W. Bush and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. She is the third consecutive Emory school colleague to win an annual award, joining Eric Weeks, associate professor of physics, and Jon Harris, professor of anthropology, as honorees. Maney researches the neural circuitry underlying communication behavior—work that intersects many different fields including psychology, neuroscience and evolutionary biology. In particular, she is interested in how animals perceive, process and respond appropriately to social signals. The research combines the study of free-living birds in their natural environments with that of wild-caught animals in controlled settings under simulated conditions.

“We are delighted that Dr. Maney’s creative and important research is being recognized in this way,” said psychology chair Michael Terrazas. “We are proud to have her on our faculty.”

The Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, established in 1996, honor the most promising new researchers in the nation within their fields. Participating agencies award these beginning scientists and engineers up to five years of funding to further their research in support of critical government missions.

Last year Maney, who came to Emory in 2002, received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty and Career Development Award of more than $600,000, which will fund her songbird research for the next five years. These highly competitive awards are given to researchers who not only show tremendous promise in their fields but also develop innovative techniques to incorporate into their teaching.

"Under the NSF grant, my research team is exploring the distribution of neuropeptides, their receptors, and socially induced brain activity in groups of birds that naturally differ in their social behavior," Maney said. "We are working to characterize a system of brain regions specialized to process social information. In the process, we're developing tools to study social neuroscience in animals' natural habitats."

As teacher, Maney encourages students to get hands-on experience in her lab. As part of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, an NSF Science and Technology Center, Maney’s laboratory is accessible to undergraduates as well as post-baccalaureate students and public high school teachers participating in a variety of local education programs.

An experienced writing instructor, Maney also emphasizes writing skills in her teaching at Emory. She has developed an undergraduate writing course in neuroscience and led a faculty workshop on bringing writing into the undergraduate science curriculum.

Harris to take new post at Oregon

Don Harris, vice provost for information technology and chief information officer (CIO), announced he will leave Emory at the end of July to become the first CIO at the University of Oregon in Eugene.

Harris came to Emory in 1999 and a year later became head of the Information Technology Division (ITD). He helped coordinate the transition when Network Communications was created as its own division in 2000, and he instilled a more service-oriented approach in ITD, upgrading its web-based and phone support services and offering classroom support for professors hoping to incorporate this new technology into their pedagogy. To that end, Harris launched the Education Conference on Academic Technologies at Emory (EduCATE) conference, which for four years has provided a showcase for new educational technologies and a platform for innovative technology-related teaching on campus.

“I would like to express my thanks to all who have worked with me in the past six years that I have been at Emory,” Harris said. “These have been challenging times, yet much has been accomplished. I give credit to all of those who were willing to give their time and energy to making IT services more efficient and effective for our faculty, students and staff.”

At Oregon, Harris will manage a enterprise IT organization that supports a universit of some 20,000 students and one of 30 public institutions that claim membership in the Association of American Universities. The university also provides networking services to the state of Oregon through its Advanced Network Technology Center, which maintains the Internet backbone for the state’s K-12 schools, colleges and universities, and many state government offices. —Michael Terrazas

Focus: Eagles update

Eagles are Top 10 again in Directors Cup standings

Emory placed eighth at the NCAA Div. III national championships for the fourth consecutive year the Eagles finished the national semifinals. They were second in 2001, won the national title in 2003, and third in 2004.

Tennis (men)

Emory finished third at the NCAA Div. III national championship—the fourth consecutive year the Eagles reached the national semifinals. They were second in 2001, won the national title in 2003, and third in 2004.

Golf

Emory finished eighth at the NCAA Div. III national championships. This is the sixth time in 10 NCAA appearances Emory has placed in the top 10 nationally.

Three Emory golfers, Drew Harker, Timothy Hamm and Mike Lebow, made the All-America third team—the first time Emory had three All-Americans in the same year.

Harker finished in a tie for 17th place in the field of 120 golfers at the NCAA championships.

Softball

Emory finished with a 26-2 record, marking its fifth year in a row with at least 30 wins. The Eagles began the year unranked, but placed 10th in the final regular-season poll by the coaches’ association. However, they were not among the 43 teams selected for the NCAA national championship tournament.

Emory was in the nation in team fielding percentage (.978) in the final Div. III national statistical report compiled by the NCAA. The Eagles were fifth in team winning percentage (.642), 10th in team earsaving run average (0.99), and 19th in the nation in team batting average (.246). Senior pitcher Kathy Gordon ranked 10th nationally among pitchers with a 0.76 earned run average.

Baseball

Emory completed its 14th consecutive winning season, finishing with the nation in a 21-12 record. Junior infielder Taylor Gettering led the squad with a .388 batting average followed by sophomore catcher Griffin Baum at .343.

Track & Field (men)

Emory went one participant, Rob Leventhal, to the NCAA Div. III national track and field championships. Leventhal, a sophomore, finished 14th out of 16 competitors in the 800-meter run with a time of one minute and 54.75 seconds.

Emory placed fifth at the UAA outdoor championships, ending a streak of five consecutive seasons in fourth or second place. The Eagles had one individual and one relay champion at the conference outdoor meet, and registered eight all-conference performances (top-three finishes).

Track & Field (women)

Emory had two entrants at the NCAA national outdoor championships. Emily Watts, a senior, finished 15th out of 19 competitors in the 100-meter dash in a time of 12.45 seconds. Joanna Broomfield, a sophomore, was 19th out of 21 entrants in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.75 seconds.

Emory placed third at the UAA outdoor championships, marking its third place in the conference’s 18-year history that the Eagles were in the top three. The Eagles had two individual champions at the conference outdoor meet and registered nine all-conference performances.

John Arenberg is Emory’s sports information director.
With American society as politically polarized as perhaps it has ever been, simply flying an American flag can be seen as a political statement. Independence Day, though, is always a good reason to unfurl Old Glory without adding any unnecessary subtext. So, in honor of the country’s 229th birthday, here is a montage of Stars and Stripes flying (and, in some cases, waiting patiently for the wind to kick up) around the Emory community. Clockwise from top left: the flagpole in front of Emory Hospital; down the street at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta; a pair of flags adorn the front of the A.G. Rhodes House at Wesley Woods; the flag flies regally in front of historic Crawford Long Hospital; the shadows of the surrounding trees make a lovely backdrop in front of the Administration Building; and the Carter Center’s grounds feature not only the American flag but each of the 50 state flags.