Super Foodie

Adam Richman ’96C revels in American tastes on Man vs. Food Nation
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OF NOTE

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The classic Coke toast was just one of the dozens of ways graduating seniors said goodbye to their student days—and hello to life as alumni. Photo by Ann Borden.
Every spring on Commencement morning, I watch the new graduates process into the Quad, like a dark river of robes and mortarboards and tassels flowing in from all directions to fill the sea of empty chairs. Even the most determinedly nonchalant among them appear to get swept up in the spirit of the occasion, their faces betraying a glow of excitement and pride. I always marvel at their collective possibility, and at how many of the women are wearing impossibly high heels as they step through the dewy grass.

I also wonder where they will be the following week, or month, or year, with this phase of their Emory education behind them. And inevitably I think back to my own Commencement, and how I could not have imagined then what I would be doing fifteen years later.

On your Commencement morning, did you envision yourself right where you are now? Probably some of you did, more or less, especially if you attended medical or law school and were embarking on a clearly charted career path. But I would imagine that most of us—despite our attempts to steer ourselves in particular directions—have been carried along in our work lives by shifting currents and tides, drifting to places we might not have expected or even known existed.

For instance, when he graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's in economics, I bet Jonathan Starr didn't readily picture himself in the utterly remote, parched landscape of Somaliland, overseeing a school that sometimes lacks running water. Yet that's where writer Pat Adams found him this spring, after the former Wall Street finance whiz decided to exchange a lucrative career for the chance to change the lives of some of the poorest children in the world. Don't assume, though, that Starr has gone soft; as you'll see, he's still putting those sharp business and finance skills to good use.

And you wouldn't necessarily think that a handful of Emory alumni—including two lawyers, a business major, and a former All-American player-turned-entrepreneur—would be behind the comeback of the Atlanta Silverbacks, the city's revitalized pro soccer team. In fact, the Emory connections run so deep that it's almost eerie, and for an Atlanta-based business venture that's saying something. Alumni can get discounted tickets to Silverbacks games, and I encourage you to consider taking advantage because you'll be one of the most informed fans there. After checking out Eric Rangus's story, you'll have the inside scoop on the Silverbacks' evolution and leadership, and a new appreciation for what it takes to keep a pro sports team running off the field.

Both Shan Cooper and Cindy Sanborn literally grew up in the shadow of the transportation industries in which they now work. Several men in Cooper's family have served in the air force, while Sanborn's parents worked for the railroad company where she's now an executive. So perhaps it's not so surprising that they were drawn to work for companies that make planes and run trains. What is remarkable, though, is the level of responsibility and success they have achieved in undeniably male-centric environments. The next time you hear a military plane drone overhead or see a CSX train rumble by, you might think of these women and how they're helping to keep those massive engines moving.

This issue of Emory Magazine is full of alumni who have landed in positions that look like their dream jobs, at least for the moment. Certainly Adam Richman is no exception. With an MFA in acting, extensive restaurant experience, and a long love affair with food under his belt, he's the perfect host for Man vs. Food Nation, the Travel Channel show famous for its feats of feasting. Like most of us, though, Richman had to find his way there by a roundabout route, sometimes overcoming doubt and frustration and seeking the patience to let the mysterious career currents guide him to the next stop.

I hope these alumni, and the many others we are honored to highlight in each issue, can serve as inspiration to recent graduates, helping them see that reasonable confidence and an open mind can sometimes lead to richer opportunities than the most polished resume. I also hope that our newest alumni understand that no matter how clearly they think they can see the future, they are likely to be surprised. Which is almost certainly a good thing.

When I was in their shoes, I couldn't have predicted that I would eventually wind up working less than a mile away, helping to produce a magazine whose purpose is to both reach and reflect my fellow graduates. And I don't pretend to know where I'll be in another fifteen years. For the moment, though, I am indescribably happy to be right where I am. Wherever you are, I hope you are, too.—P.P.P.
**Letters**

**“They say that recovery”** from a brain injury can take years, even decades, but as Thomas and his family will find, it’s an experience that is always part of you and that makes you you.”

I read your article “Crash Course” and I was moved by not only Thomas and his story, but also by the way you handled a very complicated subject. The story is inspiring in itself, but you really brought it to life in an appropriate, ultimately positive way. Thomas, the Sowells, the doctors at Grady, the Emory scientists, and you are to be applauded for the positive outcome and the great storytelling. You may wonder why I was so deeply struck by Thomas’s story. When I was a sophomore at Brown University in February 2001, I experienced a traumatic brain injury. In the early morning, I fell from my loft bed, hitting my head on my roommate’s desk. I was rendered unconscious and when my friends found me the next day, I was rushed to Rhode Island Hospital (RIH) where I had emergency brain surgery to relieve the pressure on my brain caused by the slow bleed. I spent the next month in a coma at RIH where my experience continued to resemble that of Thomas. The doctors informed my parents that my injury was severe and that if progress wasn’t made, I might spend the rest of my life in a vegetative state; or worse, I might not survive. Thanks to some outstanding care from the doctors and nurses at RIH and the love and support of my family and friends, eleven days after my injury, I opened one of my eyes. After a month at RIH, my doctors determined that I was ready for rehabilitation. Like Thomas, when people asked what my goals were, my constant reply was that I wanted to go home and “get back to school.” After another month in rehabilitation, I got my wish. Today, it has been more than ten years since my experience. My life is ever changed by my injury—it’s something I think about almost every day, but as time passes, so does its impact. They say that recovery from a brain injury can take years, even decades, but as Thomas and his family will find, it’s an experience that is always part of you and that makes you you.

**Richard Meister**
Old Greenwich, Connecticut

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**Letters**

**Please thank the Sowells for letting you write their story [“Crash Course”]. What a miracle Thomas has experienced. Wishing him continuous improvement and happiness!**

Mary Ellen McClellan
Emory Division of Finance

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**I recently read your article “Crash Course” and I was moved by not only Thomas and his family’s story, but also by the way you handled a very complicated subject. The story is inspiring in itself, but you really brought it to life in an appropriate, ultimately positive way. Thomas, the Sowells, the doctors at Grady, the Emory scientists, and you are to be applauded for the positive outcome and the great storytelling. You may wonder why I was so deeply struck by Thomas’s story. When I was a sophomore at Brown University in February 2001, I experienced a traumatic brain injury. In the early morning, I fell from my loft bed, hitting my head on my roommate’s desk. I was rendered unconscious and when my friends found me the next day, I was rushed to Rhode Island Hospital (RIH) where I had emergency brain surgery to relieve the pressure on my brain caused by the slow bleed. I spent the next month in a coma at RIH where my experience continued to resemble that of Thomas. The doctors informed my parents that my injury was severe and that if progress wasn’t made, I might spend the rest of my life in a vegetative state; or worse, I might not survive. Thanks to some outstanding care from the doctors and nurses at RIH and the love and support of my family and friends, eleven days after my injury, I opened one of my eyes. After a month at RIH, my doctors determined that I was ready for rehabilitation. Like Thomas, when people asked what my goals were, my constant reply was that I wanted to go home and “get back to school.” After another month in rehabilitation, I got my wish. Today, it has been more than ten years since my experience. My life is ever changed by my injury—it’s something I think about almost every day, but as time passes, so does its impact. They say that recovery from a brain injury can take years, even decades, but as Thomas and his family will find, it’s an experience that is always part of you and that makes you you.**

Richard E. Hodges Jr.
Marietta

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Richard Meister
Old Greenwich, Connecticut

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**Letters**

**It was gratifying to be mentioned in your article about “16 Discoveries That Could Change Your Life.” However, I have to make it clear that Serqet [a new antibacterial coating for medical equipment] would never have been developed if it hadn’t been for the inspiration and hard work of Igor Stojilkovic and his colleagues. Igor began the work that ultimately led to Serqet, and if it hadn’t been for his untimely death [in 2003], my role would have remained peripheral at best. Igor’s death deprived us in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology of an inspirational colleague and cruelly cut short a career of exceptional promise.**

Gordon Churchward
Emory School of Medicine

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On page 4 of the spring 2011 Emory Magazine, “… bubbling Bunsen burner …” is a nice alliterative phrase, Ms. Parvin, but it inaccurately describes what a Bunsen burner does. The Bunsen burner heats a container (such as a beaker or test tube) in which a substance might be bubbling. Nice try, though.

Alan Hull
Los Angeles

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of Note

Touring Tandem

FROM SAVANNAH TO SEATTLE, ALUMNI DUO IS PEDALING FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

Pausing only to pose for a Twitter photo, Kevin Kelly 09C 09G and Anna Snyder 11C pushed off from Tybee Island, Georgia, on May 24 for the first leg of a five-thousand-mile cross-country trek—all on their bright red, Santana Arriva tandem bicycle.

“It’s been a mutual dream of ours to ride coast to coast on a tandem bike, and we know that if we don’t do it now, we probably won’t have the time to do it later,” says Kelly, a Bobby Jones Scholar and former program coordinator for Emory’s Office of International Affairs.

Their meandering course will pass through eighteen states and across the Rocky Mountains before their planned destination of Cape Flattery, Washington. The couple, who met on a service trip to Mexico with Outdoor Emory in 2008, estimate it will take them about four months (and forty-five bottles of sunscreen).

“We aim to cycle five or six days each week for about sixty to seventy miles a day,” says Snyder.

Budget Travel: Living on $25 a day can be challenging, but the couple is managing by camping, cooking outside, and sleeping on friends’ couches.

Executive vice president for health affairs named

Serving as interim since September 2010, S. Wright Caughman has been named Emory’s executive vice president for health affairs, CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center, and chair of the board for Emory Healthcare, effective July 1.

Wagner selected to receive President’s Award for advancing student life

President James W. Wagner has been selected to receive the President’s Award of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) for Region III, a recognition given to a university president who has continually advanced the quality of student life on campus and contributed to the profession even beyond his individual campus.
Sugarland stands up for storm victims
Sugarland duo Jennifer Nettles and Kristian Bush 92C have recorded a special version of their song, “Stand Up,” with tour mates Little Big Town to benefit recent tornado victims. The live video for “Stand Up (For Tornado Relief)” was filmed at tour stops in Chicago and Minneapolis. The song and video are available on iTunes, with proceeds going to the American Red Cross.

Emory earns national kudos for community service
The University was named to the 2010 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, with distinction, for its commitment to the greater good through research and service. The Corporation for National and Community Service honored Emory as a leader for its support of volunteering, service learning, and civic engagement.
The Sweet Sight of Success

JOSEPH SKIBELL’S NEW NOVEL FEATURES EYE DOCTORS, PEOPLE WITH VISION WHO CAN’T SEE, AND SIGMUND FREUD, WHO (TO THE DISTRESS OF MANY) MAY BE OMNISCIENT

JOSEPH SKIBELL IS A KEEN FOLLOWER OF novels’ first lines, so I must go for broke in my opening: “Heaven has no rage like love to hatred turned, nor hell a fury like a woman scorned.”

William Congreve, meet Skibell, author of the ambitious third novel A Curable Romantic, due out in paperback in November. In May, the Jewish Book Council awarded the book the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature Choice Award, which carries a prize of $25,000.

More about the woman wronged follows, but first to Skibell, who has been a member of the Department of English and the Creative Writing Program at Emory since 1999. Last year, for the first time, he led the Richard Ellmann Lectures in Modern Literature as it brought Margaret Atwood to campus for a series of talks. (The quality of this highly regarded series is expected to continue with the prolific David Mamet, who has agreed to appear in 2012.)

A Curable Romantic is big in size but, more important, in scope. The novel may represent, though Skibell says ruefully, “the last opportunity to write a big book.” What sort of writer gets to usher out something so long beloved? The key has been in taking risks, in doing projects that interest him.

After graduating from the University of Texas at Austin in 1981, Skibell earned an MFA from what is now called the Michener Center for Writers. There, he produced the short-story version of what would become his first novel, A Blessing on the Moon (1997)—a work that won the Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Foundation Award and the Steven Turner Prize for First Fiction.

The novel was gutsy; Skibell talks about violating the gentleman’s agreement not to fictionalize the Holocaust. Nevertheless, his family—which lost eighteen loved ones to the atrocities—supported the book. When Skibell went back to the book in 2009 in order to write the libretto for Andy Teirstein’s opera version of it, he says that he “was impressed by how fearless I was as a young novelist. I don’t think I’d have the courage to write that book now.”

If not courage, the current book has demanded other kinds of equally estimable skills: for instance, establishing a mood for three very different sections and imposing exacting historical fidelity. After all, as the dust jacket states, the novel’s axis is nothing less than the “life, times, and loves of Dr. Jakob Sammelsohn, a fairly incurable romantic wandering optimistically through modern history.”

It is peopled with historical characters: Sigmund Freud; his real-life patient Emma Eckstein; Dr. Wilhelm Fliess (with whom Freud conducts a bromance); the founder of Esperanto, Ludwig Zamenhof; and Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira of the Warsaw ghetto.

In Skibell’s book trailer, he calls A Curable Romantic “the most passionate writing experience” he has had. One might think the genesis for the novel was the lurch between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as the world moved away from religion and toward science. Though that is a significant part of the book, Skibell confesses that he wanted to write about Freud since he “was a failed screenwriter.”

A Curable Romantic received three starred prepublication reviews (from Publishers Weekly, Booklist, and Library Journal) and was named best novel of the year by Atlanta Magazine. It was featured in the Denver Post.
the San Francisco Chronicle, Parade Magazine, the New York Times, Jewish Ideas Daily (as one of the “best Jewish novels of the year”), and the Independent Booksellers Association. Skibell is also nominated for Georgia’s Author of the Year Award.

Readers sometimes have objected to the book’s part three, which may be because it takes them to less familiar, more challenging places. A review in the New Yorker read: “Skibell depicts fin-de-siècle Vienna with energy, but… a final section set in the Warsaw ghetto resolves the plot’s supernatural elements at the expense of a more fundamental coherence.”

Skibell could choose to be offended. He worked hard on the history and then traveled to Europe to be sure he got it right. He even taught himself Esperanto.

But, there is the consolation of simply having a review in the New Yorker, which not many writers can claim. And the good reviews—heaped as high as hay after the harvest—have not stopped. Esther Schor, writing in the New Republic, notes: “It’s a high-energy, wild performance, as ample as its protagonist’s appetites—the postmodern Jewish novel as a mashup of genres: Yiddish folktales, sentimental education, Freudian case history, erotic confession, utopian parable, all wrapped up in an ‘alternative history’ of Jewish emancipation. . . . And toward the end, the novel becomes a metaphysical jeu desprit that is perversely naturalistic, superbly comic, and in the bargain, heartrending.” Take that, New Yorker.

As promised, we must return to A Curable Romantic’s wronged woman. Her name is Ita. That is all I will say, except that her considerable capacity for revenge propels this daring novel.

As the author of one of the world’s last big books noted, “Well do I remember the day that Ita started talking.” It was off to the races from there.—Susan Carini 04G

SUSTAINABLE EFFORTS

THE TEMPERATE ZONE: USING LESS ENERGY

A NEW INITIATIVE TO reduce the use of energy on campus is being put into action this summer: maintaining temperatures in Emory’s offices, classrooms, and common areas at 76 (+/- 2 degrees, with a relative humidity of no more than 60 percent). In the winter, these areas will be kept at 68 degrees. Exceptions will be made for spaces like Emory clinics and hospitals, research labs, libraries, and museum galleries.

The temperature policy is part of Emory’s mission to reduce average campus energy consumption by 25 percent per square foot by 2015, compared to 2005 levels. Currently, Emory spends about $30 million on building energy and utilities.

“We’re the sixth-largest customer of Georgia Power,” says Director of Sustainability Initiatives Ciannat Howett 87C. “Also, electricity is our largest source of carbon emissions.”

Progress has been made: energy used per square foot has fallen 15 percent in the past five years, largely due to behavioral changes. Greater savings is anticipated with the renovation of five key buildings for energy efficiency; eight more are planned for renovation, as well as facilities at Oxford College.—M.J.L.

Cracking criminal code wins Emory alumnus Pulitzer for reporting in Chicago

With twenty-three years of experience as a newspaper reporter, Frank Main 86C has nabbed the top honor: his team won a Pulitzer Prize in the category of Local Reporting for the Chicago Sun-Times. “This comes as a lightning bolt for me,” he said. “It’s something that you never dream of when you’re doing your daily reporting job.”

Main and colleagues exposed the “no-snitch code” that hobbles Chicago police and courts. The team spent a year investigating an epidemic of unsolved, unpunished shootings, including the gang-related murder of a teenager in which homicide detectives were blocked at every turn because witnesses refused to cooperate.

The Pulitzer committee cited the “immersive documentation of violence in Chicago neighborhoods, probing the lives of victims, criminals, and detectives as a widespread code of silence impedes solutions.”—M.J.L.

NEXT UP

Associate Professor Joseph Skibell is currently working on a book of essays about five tales from the Talmud, as well as two new works of fiction.

Men’s singles tennis champ following his brother’s lead

Chris Goodwin 12C captured the 2011 NCAA Division III Men’s Singles Tennis Championship on May 29, becoming the second male player in Emory history to earn the singles crown, joining his older brother, Michael Goodwin 09C, in that elite company. The championships were played in Claremont, California.

Record number of students receive Fulbriights

Eight graduates from Emory College of Arts and Sciences received Fulbright teaching and research grants, nearly double the average from recent years. Also, four students in the Laney Graduate School and one from the Rollins School of Public Health received Fulbright research grants.
Antibiotic Anxiety

What if there weren’t a pill for what ails you? The development of new, more powerful antibiotics has slowed, since there is not much profit in drugs that work well and quickly and cost little, says Professor James Hughes, executive director of the Southeastern Center for Emerging Biologic Threats at Emory.

This turn of events poses a severe public health threat, he says. Antibiotic-resistant infections are increasing every year, due to overuse and misuse of antibiotics. Chronic coughs, colds, sore throats, diarrhea, and nausea are usually caused by viruses, Hughes says, which cannot be cured by antibiotics.

“The effectiveness of these lifesaving resources is at risk,” Hughes writes in the Journal of the American Medical Association. “Many medical advances that physicians and patients take for granted—including cancer treatment, surgery, transplantation, and neonatal care—are endangered by increasing antibiotic resistance and a distressing decline in the antibiotic research and development pipeline.”

Antibiotic-resistant infections cost the US about $20 billion annually and result in additional days in the hospital for patients—especially the elderly, who are more prone to these infections.

“Preserving the effectiveness of antibiotics is in everyone’s interest and is everyone’s responsibility,” Hughes says.—M.J.L.

Global Health

Problem Solving

EMORY CASE COMPETITION GOES NATIONAL IN THIRD YEAR

SOFI KANNAN NEEDS HELP.

As director of programming for the East Africa Regional Office of the UN’s High Commissioner for Refugees, she is responsible for some eight hundred thousand refugees in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. Her 2012 budget has been cut by 40 percent, leaving her with the daunting task of prioritizing programs with limited resources.

Fortunately for Sofi, twenty student teams participating in the 2011 Emory Global Health Case Competition, held in March at the Rollins School of Public Health, gathered to develop her 2012 programming recommendations.

Although Sofi is a fictional character in the case study for Emory’s third annual—and first national—competition, the twenty multidisciplinary teams took her problem very seriously.

Eight teams of students from across Emory participated along with teams from twelve guest universities, making the competition the first national one of its kind. Judges were internal and external experts in business, medicine, public health, international development, and governmental and nongovernmental programming.

Emory teams won both first- and second-place honors, while Dartmouth and University of California at San Francisco won honorable mention awards. Rice University won the competition’s Innovation Award, which recognized the team with the most original approach.

The winning Emory team included students from Goizueta Business School, the Laney Graduate School’s Master of Development Practice Program, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, and Candler School of Theology. The team focused its recommendations on capacity building within refugee camps on every level—education, agriculture, economic development, and health and security—with the goal of building independence among refugee populations.

According to a 2009 Consortium of Universities for Global Health survey of thirty-seven North American universities, global health programs more than doubled for undergraduate and graduate students from 2006 to 2009 due to student interest.

“Global health continues to grow as a primary interest of students at universities across the US, and the Emory Global Health Case Competition has gained a reputation as the leading national team event to showcase the creativity, passion, and intellect of our future leaders,” says Jeffrey P. Koplan, vice president for global health and director of the Emory Global Health Institute.

General Electric Company sponsored the event.—Rebecca Baggett 99MPH

New online tool shows AIDS burden and resources

Researchers at the Rollins School of Public Health have unveiled a new interactive online map that provides a detailed view of the number of people living with HIV by state and county. AIDSVu (www.AIDSVu.org) features data from the CDC and links to local HIV testing sites and state AIDS drug assistance programs.

Rising junior selected as international public policy fellow

Christina Cross ’13C has been selected as a 2011 Institute for International Public Policy Fellow, one of twenty-five college students named nationwide and the first Emory recipient in the program’s seventeen-year history. The fellowship has an estimated value of $75,000. Cross is a Latin American and Caribbean studies major.
**Helping the Other Georgia**

The next nurse to deliver a baby, care for a heart patient, or administer a shot in Tbilisi, Georgia, was probably taught, trained, or in some way touched by Emory Healthcare’s nursing outreach to Atlanta’s sister city in the former Soviet Union.

“Through a two-year, $2 million USAID grant, our nursing faculty developed a new four-year, university-level program at Tbilisi State University,” says School of Medicine Dean Thomas Lawley. “The grant also helped fund classroom space, a simulation lab, skills lab, and staff.”

Twenty nursing students were admitted to the program last fall. During the past three years, the program has helped to train 2,500 practicing nurses in the fields of emergency, critical care, and pre- and postoperative nursing.

**CONTINUING ED:** Nurses in Tbilisi practice critical care skills.

**Let Sleeping Babies Lie**

Moms and dads know their infant’s sleep can be erratic, but most parenting books suggest keeping the little ones on a consistent schedule of waking, napping, and sleeping. New research, however, shows that babies might need extra sleep just before growth spurts.

A study by Samuel C. Dobbs Professor of Anthropology Michelle Lampl asked parents to keep daily sleep records of their infants, then analyzed the logs with the infants’ growth. The results, published in the journal *Sleep*, showed a significant association between sleep and growth.

Sleep records showed that infants about to experience a growth spurt had uneven bursts of sleep, with the amount of sleep in a twenty-four-hour period increasing by an average of 4.5 hours per day for two days. They also took an average of three extra naps per day for two days. The growth spurt usually followed within two days.

“Growth not only occurs during sleep but is significantly influenced by sleep,” Lampl says.—M.J.L.
Great Debate

THE BARKLEY FORUM CELEBRATES AN INDISPUTABLY SUCCESSFUL SIXTY YEARS

It’s not surprising that the fast-talking former mayor of New York City, Rudolph Giuliani—someone whose career has depended on communicating effectively—understands the merits of academic debate.

Giuliani gave the keynote address in April at the annual Glenn Pelham Foundation benefit dinner to support debate education.

Named for the founder of Emory’s Barkley Forum debate team, the Atlanta-based Glenn Pelham Foundation works with the University to help grow the Urban Debate League (UDL), the inner-city debate program started in 1985 by Barkley Forum director Melissa Maxcy-Wade 72C 76G 96T 00T.

Debaters in high school, Giuliani said, “are going to learn logic, they’re going to learn how you have to put together a series of ideas that make sense to somebody else other than you . . . and that’s really important to your ability to think. No matter who you are, when you get up and you speak and you can make a logical argument, you start to realize your own power and you realize what you have inside you.”

This year marks the sixtieth anniversary of the Barkley Forum, one of the most competitive debate teams in the country. The team traveled more than six thousand miles during the season to compete in fourteen debate competitions that would ultimately determine their spot at the start of the National Debate Tournament (NDT).

The team with the best performance across the entire season is recognized with the Rex Copeland Award before the start of the NDT. In more than forty years, only one team has ever earned this honor twice in consecutive years. On the eve of the 2011 tournament at the University of Texas in Dallas, Emory’s debate duo Stephen Weil 11C and Ovais Inamullah 11C were recognized as the only consecutive winners of the Rex Copeland Award for best season-long performance.

“It was amazing to see all the hard work we’ve put in over the past two years really pay off,” says Inamullah.

Likening the honor to the BCS National Championship in football, Wade, the thirty-nine-year executive director of forensics at Emory, says the award is an outstanding feat. “For one team out of the 1,500 kids or so that compete at that level of debate to win twice is quite an extraordinary contribution to Emory debate history,” says Wade.

Debate director Edward Lee notes that the coaches and the forty others on the team worked to provide Weil and Inamullah with the information and tools they needed to succeed. “[We’ve built] a community that’s dedicated to hard work, a community that’s dedicated to support and camaraderie, and a community that’s dedicated to valuing each other,” Lee says.

That spirit has shaped a legacy of achievement for the Barkley Forum, which holds thirty-two national intercollegiate debate titles and several national competitive records. In 2007, Aimi Hamraie 07C and Julie Hoehn 08C were the first all-female team to win the Rex Copeland Award. And in 2001, Stephen Bailey 01C and Kamal Ghali 01C were named the national “debate team of the decade” for 1999 to 2009 by a national poll; Bailey was the first African American to ever receive that designation.


For Hamraie, the Barkley Forum was a channel through which she made lasting connections and developed the skills that would prepare her for her future in graduate school. “The Barkley Forum was the most important part of my undergraduate career,” she says.

Collaboration and dedication may have remained constant during the Barkley Forum’s six decades, but some things have changed.

In September 2009, the Barkley Forum began the transition to paperless, shedding the cumbersome boxes of files debaters have been carrying from tournament to tournament since the days of US Vice President Alben W. Barkley 1900C, the namesake of Emory’s debate program.
MEET THE MAYOR: Rudy Giuliani praised the merits of debate to students in the Urban Debate League.

“At first everyone was kind of apprehensive about going paperless, especially because it was new and because people were afraid that computer problems would make them lose debates,” says Barkley Forum alumnus J. T. Thomas 09C. But those fears proved unfounded. The transition also allows less affluent schools the chance to compete nationally because they can afford to bring debate resources and information on a plane, Thomas adds.

Wade says the udl was designed to offset the inherent inequality in public, urban educational systems, “I literally wandered into an Atlanta public school, and I ended up getting hooked up with three teachers who taught me an enormous amount about the poverty there. By the end of the year, we had really worked through something to create a new program,” Wade says.

The udl has grown rapidly since its creation in the 1980s and is now established in more than five hundred urban high schools in twenty-four cities across the US and the world, including New York, Chicago, and Seoul. Thomas says he values the research and logic skills he learned through debate and enjoys helping students in the Atlanta udl develop their own tools for success. “Students understand how to use databases, journals, the library,” Thomas says. “They can come up with a logical progression of thought and defend it.”

Wade says there is a rich exchange between the Emory students who coach and those in the udl. Many of the six hundred alumni of the Barkley Forum continue to be involved well past graduation.

“Maybe, just maybe, debate education is the way out of this red-state-blue-state, twenty-four-hour news cycle, talking heads screaming at each other,” Wade says. “If we could learn to talk to each other, we could figure out solutions.”—Kate Borger 10C

Want to know more about Emory’s scientific discoveries? Visit eScienceCommons.blogspot.com

Too Close for Comfort

We all move around in a protective bubble of “personal space,” but not everyone’s bubble is the same size.

People who project their personal space farther than the norm of arm’s reach are more likely to experience claustrophobic fear, found Emory researchers.

The study, in the journal Cognition, is one of the first to focus on the perceptual mechanisms of claustrophobic fear. “We’ve found that people who are higher in claustrophobic fear have an exaggerated sense of the near space surrounding them,” says psychologist Stella Lourenco, who led the research.

About 4 percent of people are estimated to suffer from full-blown claustrophobia, which can cause them to have panic attacks when traveling through a tunnel or riding in an elevator. Claustrophobia is often associated with a traumatic experience, such as getting stuck in an elevator for a long period. “However, we know that some people who experience traumatic events in restricted spaces don’t develop full-blown claustrophobia,” Lourenco says. “That led us to ask whether other factors might be involved.”

Evidence shows that we treat space that is within arm’s reach differently from space that is farther away. “It makes adaptive sense to be more aware of things that are closer to the body, for both utilitarian purposes and defensive ones,” Lourenco says.—Carol Clark

MORE ONLINE To see a video of Stella Lourenco describing her study on claustrophobia, visit www.emory.edu/magazine.

Back Off: People who need more personal space are more prone to claustrophobia.

Perfect Pitch Emory in the News

Demystifying Dissertations: Inside Higher Ed featured Emory’s efforts to showcase doctoral dissertations produced by PhDs this year and offer scholars the opportunity to communicate how that knowledge is having an impact. “In a field like business, it’s important to get people to understand that the work academics do has a lot of applications to real-world business settings,” Jongwoon “Willy” Choi told IHE. Choi earned his PhD in business this spring with his dissertation “When Are Signing Bonuses More Than Just ‘Pay to Play’? An Experimental Investigation.” Choi, who took a job with the University of Pittsburgh’s Katz School of Business, said he encourages all academics to think of an “elevator speech” about their research.

Trial of Tears: “There was a march of survivors, I would say approximately a hundred survivors, who came into the witness box and told the story of what happened to them. And people watched them and listened to them and heard them in a way they hadn’t heard them before,” explained Deborah Lipstadt, Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies, in an interview with NPR about her new book, The Eichmann Trial. Her work has received wide acclaim this past spring, including a review in the New York Times.

Rapture Unrealized: Theology professor Brent Strawn spoke with CNN on May 22 about the belief by some that May 21, 2011, would mark the end of the world. “This sort of calendrization about the end of time is misconstrued and wrong-headed . . . people need to know that Christianity is a complex phenomenon and that these sorts of groups that attach specific dates are very few and rare, and they don’t represent the mainstream of Christianity,” he said.
A few weeks ago, Linda Lu pulled a water bottle out of the refrigerator and automatically used her left hand to steady it while she unscrewed the cap with her right. She paused, looking startled.

“That’s the first time I’ve done that,” she said.

In March, Lu became the recipient of the first hand transplant in the Southeast, performed at Emory University Hospital.

Her left hand was amputated before she was a year old due to Kawasaki disease, an autoimmune condition that can restrict blood flow to limbs. The twenty-one-year-old Valencia Community College student had heard about Emory’s hand transplant program and, after some Internet research, decided to send an inquiry to hand transplant surgeon Linda Cendales. “I sent her a really vague email at three a.m., and she responded with a beautiful essay and called me the next day,” says Lu.

Cendales, the only surgeon in the US with formal training in both hand microsurgery and transplantation, says many potential transplant patients contact her directly. “Everyone has different circumstances, and every email is a personal email, so I individualize each email back,” she says. “It’s one of the great privileges I have.”

Because hand transplant surgery is optional—a matter of quality of life rather than life or death—and because the recipient must take immunosuppressant drugs, it is still a rare and carefully considered practice. “We use a very thorough screening protocol,” says Cendales, assistant professor of surgery. “It’s a relationship from both sides. We’re learning about the candidate and the candidate is learning about us.”

Lu traveled to Emory for evaluation and underwent days of physical and psychological testing before being accepted as a candidate and placed on the waiting list for a donor in early November 2010. “I told my parents, and they were overwhelmed with happiness at the possibility,” she says. “But I really don’t think I’d have gone through with it if not for Dr. Cendales and the fact that she’s so qualified.”

Cendales’s interest in hand transplantation was piqued through her experiences observing the hands of patients with severe rheumatoid
arthritis in Mexico City, where she went to medical school. “I wondered if an alternative option would provide better results,” she says. “These patients were already on immunosuppressant drugs, so that wouldn’t be an additional risk factor for them.”

In 1999, Cendales helped to organize the team that conducted the nation’s first hand transplant in Louisville, Kentucky. “He’s doing very well,” she says of the recipient, Matthew Scott, who recently spoke at Emory at the tenth annual meeting of the International Hand and Composite Tissue Allotransplantation Society.

After furthering her training with transplant and research fellowships at the National Institutes of Health, Cendales came to Emory in 2007 to establish the Emory Transplant Center’s hand transplantation program and refine the technique that made Lu’s surgery possible.

Lu’s hand transplant on March 12 was the first in the Southeast and the fourteenth in the nation. The nineteen-hour operation involved two teams: one focusing on Lu, the other on the donor arm. The teams combined about a third of the way into the surgery, connecting first bone, then soft tissues, then, under a microscope, doing the intricate work of joining vessels and nerves. Revascularization—when blood flows through the newly joined vessels into the attached limb, giving it a healthy glow—is a remarkable moment, says Cendales.

Near midnight, the surgery was complete. “When I woke up, they told me it was successful. I could tell they were exhausted but excited,” Lu remembers. Woodruff Health Sciences Center CEO S. Wright Caughman said Lu’s surgery was a truly multidisciplinary endeavor. “The transplant team included scores of Emory Healthcare staff, multiple surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, operating room and rehabilitation staff,” he wrote in a letter to the Emory community. “We came together to achieve something few have ever done before.”

Cendales says the team also included members from LifeLink; Yerkes National Primate Research Center; the Atlanta Veteran Affairs Medical Center (VA); orthotics, prosthetics, and rehabilitation services from Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta; Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute; and “half of Emory University Hospital.”

Second Nature: Lu envisions a future when she will be able to include her hand into daily functions without even thinking about it. “Overall, I’m just hopeful and happy.”

She and Lu both expressed deep gratitude to the anonymous donor’s family for their generosity. As director of Emory Transplant Center’s Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation (vca) program and Laboratory of Microsurgery, Cendales is a pioneer in this emerging field. vca focuses on developing and refining the transplantation of multiple tissues (skin, muscle, bone, cartilage, nerve, tendon, and blood vessels) as a functioning whole, as well as managing the risk of rejection.

Working with Yerkes, Cendales has studied forearm tissues after transplantation in rhesus monkeys, seeking to improve post-transplant drug regimens. “Like any other transplant, the body will tend to reject a hand transplant,” she says. “Recipients must be on immunosuppressant drugs for as long as they have the transplant.”

Vca is an emerging specialty around the globe, with recent transplants involving donor faces, knees, tracheae, and even a uterus. Cendales’s research is sponsored by a Department of Defense grant and is conducted in partnership with the Atlanta VA, since it holds great promise for soldiers who lose limbs.

Lu is staying at the Carlos and Marguerite Mason Guest House at Emory’s Clairmont campus while she receives therapy and says the experience so far seems “surreal and magical.” Her left hand has no sensation yet, but she can move it, pinch her fingers together, and stack blocks. Her brain is adapting to learn to command the new limb. “When I was in elementary school, I was fitted with a prosthetic hand several times. They felt more like a nuisance than anything else and never lasted more than two or three weeks,” she says. “But this already feels like my hand. My hope is that eventually I’ll be able to include it into daily functions without being paranoid or overly protective.”

Recently, Lu was walking through the hospital with her left hand in a brace. “Someone walked by and said, ‘Hey, I feel your pain, I broke my thumb last year.’ I just smiled.” —M.J.L.
A ‘DYNAMIC WORLD’ AWAITS NEW GRADUATES

SPEAKER JANET NAPOLITANO, US HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY: “Today, we live in a world where change is a certainty—and where the pace of that change is growing ever faster. Past generations could not bank on the fact that the world would be all that different four, forty, or a hundred years in the future. But we can. This gives us greater opportunities, to be sure, but greater risks as well. Your challenge as graduates will be figuring out how to take advantage of the dynamism of today’s world—and use your unique skills to make it better.”

SEA OF MORTARBOARD: More than fifteen thousand graduates, families, and friends filled the Quad for the festivities. (See a time-lapse video of volunteers wrangling all those chairs at www.emory.edu/magazine.)

PLEASURE OF THE PRESIDENT: James Wagner conducts his eighth Commencement ceremony at Emory.

BRITTAINE AWARD: Silas Allard 11L 11MT earned Emory’s highest student honor, demonstrating a deep commitment to human rights in the Center for the Study of Law and Religion joint degree program. Among many volunteer activities, Allard cochaired a conference honoring the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

TEACHING TRIUMPHS: Angelika Bammer, associate professor in the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts, was among ten recipients of the Emory Williams Award for Distinguished Teaching.

MCMULLAN AWARD: Noor Najafi 13C (left) received one of the highest student honors and $20,000 for his leadership efforts, including founding an organization to reduce the stigma of mental illness, forming the Queer Students of Faith group, and starting a Quran and Bible study group for Christians and Muslims.
COUNTING COMMENCEMENT

3,879 graduates
47 simultaneous degrees
2,015 undergraduate degrees
1,276 master’s degrees
630 doctoral degrees (professional and research)
49.3 percent Caucasian
16.1 percent Asian/Pacific Islander
10.9 percent black
3.8 percent Hispanic
19.8 percent other minorities or of unspecified race
43.4 percent male
56.6 percent female
557 students from 79 additional countries
49 states represented
32 degree candidates age 50 and older
Oldest degree candidate: 67
Oldest bachelor’s degree recipient: 49
Youngest: 20
25 military service veterans graduating
Average GPA of Emory College graduates: 3.39

EADY AWARD: Susanna Brantley 11OX received the Eady Sophomore Service Award, presented by Joseph Moon, dean of campus life, during Oxford College Commencement.

BRIGHT FACES, BRIGHT FUTURES: Graduates relish their big day at the main Commencement ceremony, about ninety minutes of formality with some fun mixed in.

OXFORD LEGACY: Former Emory President James T. Laney (above center) and his wife Berta were on hand at Oxford to congratulate their grandson, Johnson Thomas “J. T.” Laney 11OX.

KEEP IN TOUCH: Neza Sarkari 11C (left), a biology major from Wyoming, shares a moment with her friend Ameena Jiwami 11C, a neurology major from Dallas.

GIVING BLOWHARDS A GOOD NAME: The Atlanta Pipe Band has led the Commencement procession for twenty-five years.

SEEN CHELSEA LATELY?: Comedian and TV host Chelsea Handler joined Emory seniors for Class Day. “Every time you fail,” she told them, “you’re that much closer to getting your own TV show.”
As the host of the top-rated Travel Channel show *Man vs. Food*, Adam Richman 96C has faced food challenges around the country, from buckets of scorching chicken wings to piles of loaded nachos to pizzas the size of car tires. By his estimate, his success rate is an impressive 70 percent.

So, yeah, he can eat all right. But the real Richman, the one barely visible behind the twelve-pound burger and the five malted milk-shakes, is about more than sheer volume. He loves food, savorst flavor, exalts taste and texture, waxes lyrical about ingredients and technique. A veteran of the restaurant industry, where he hustled his way up to sous chef, Richman can command a kitchen and tell the difference between thyme and tarragon. He brings that experience to *Man vs. Food* and its new format, *Man vs. Food Nation*—along with an MFA from the Yale School of Drama, which he pursued after graduating from Emory with a bachelor’s in international studies.

Few people can claim to have the perfect job like Adam Richman can. True story: in 2007, he was between acting jobs and working at Madison Square Garden when he read a self-help book called *The Renaissance Soul*, aimed at helping people pursue both passions and success. One of the key components of the book was an exercise in which you work backwards from your interests to discover the best job for you. Guess what Richman’s was? Yep, hosting a food TV show.
"Coming out of Yale acting school doesn't give you a direct career matriculation like a law or medical degree," Richman says. "It's easy to get esoteric in an arts career and tell yourself you're preserving some BS artistic integrity, but artistic integrity doesn't keep the lights on. Many times you want to give up the struggle. But it's like when you're waiting at the subway station and you really just want to take the stairs and walk, but you know the second you do, the train will come."

Richman's train came three days after he finished *The Renaissance Soul*, in the form of an email from an agent at Yale saying the Travel Channel was looking for someone to host a food show that would roam the country spotlighting regional cuisine.

"I launched myself at it, just knowing that was what I wanted and needed," Richman says.

It's not a stretch to argue that Richman really started to pursue his dual passions—acting and eating—at Emory, which he chose for a combination of factors, including generous financial aid and the novelty of the South. A native New Yorker, Richman experienced epic culture shock when he arrived in Atlanta. "It was difficult at first," he admits. "I was a kid from Brooklyn, and Atlanta was going to be a change. I wanted that. But everything from the way I talked to the music and drinks I liked was different from everyone I met. It was pretty profound. But then I came to embrace it."
Richard went through a couple of shattering break-ups as a student, and one of the things he did in response was buy a fancy leather-bound Moleskine notebook in which to write, he says, “angst-ridden, black-turtleneck, clove-cigarette-smoking college poetry.”

Instead, he wandered into Virginia’s, a cozy restaurant tucked away on a residential street in the Virginia Highland neighborhood (gone now, sadly), and started writing about it. “Virginia’s was like this little jewel, it was incredible, and after a while I realized I was writing about the whole experience and not just the restaurant,” Richman says.

It was the beginning of a series of food journals that Richman has continued ever since. “After a while,” he says, “friends started to use me as a resource when their parents came into town and they wanted to go to dinner. Eventually I took a step back and realized I had a snapshot of my life as well as Atlanta food.”

When it came to Southern fare, Richman warmed to it like peaches in the Georgia sun, seeking out local haunts and regional specialties. He doesn’t particularly like certain favorites like ham or deep-fried foods, “but collard greens, corn pudding, banana pudding, you can’t beat those,” he says. “And of course, well-made fried chicken and lord knows, proper Southern barbecue, that’s some of the best.”

Richman started at Emory premed, but got burned out with the science course load and changed his major to international studies. If he could do it over, he says, he’d major in creative writing; his first book, America the Edible: A Hungry History, from Sea to Dining Sea, was published last fall. On the other hand, he says his study of other cultures helped to broaden his knowledge of world cuisine.

He got involved with Theater Emory on a five-dollar bet. A fraternity brother saw him perform in a sketch and put up five bucks if Richman would audition for an Emory play. Never (ever) one to lose a bet, Richman went on to act in productions including Teggomi, The Restoration Project, and Superfly.

“He was a great, garrulous guy,” says Vincent Murphy, professor and director of theater studies. “He was kind of wild, so it’s not surprising to me that he ended up on Man vs. Food.”

“Adam is indelibly etched in my memory as a character in a play I wrote and directed, American Wake, which imagined the night-long send-off party given four young immigrants on the eve of their departure for America early in the twentieth century,” says Tim McDonough, associate professor of theater studies. “Adam played Gerry, the only character in the play directly drawn from a cousin of mine in Ireland. And like my cousin, Adam was the unofficial mayor of the community of actors who came together for this play—a kind of glue and stabilizer and peacemaker. Adam ended up that summer in Ireland and visited my cousin’s pub, which is emblematic of how deeply he felt what he was working on.”

After graduating from Emory, Richman joined Murphy to do an unpaid apprenticeship at the Actors Theater of Louisville. His father died unexpectedly during that stint, plunging Richman into dark doubts about his choices and his future. “Emory is a terrific school, and here I was, in 1996 with a burgeoning Internet industry and all these resources, you’d think I would join the corporate world,” he says. “But I went back and finished the apprenticeship.”

At Yale, Richman threw himself into the program, even spending late-night hours after classes rehearsing for cabaret theater productions that the drama students mounted just for...
fun. A close friend, Billy Eugene Jones, knows Richman as a smart, funny, and wildly versatile actor who dove headlong into every project and performance. “He is about the most all-around talented person I know,” says Jones.

Christopher Bayes, a comedy instructor, recalls, “Adam always seemed game for anything and ready to attack the work. I never imagined that he would find a career as a TV personality, but it makes so much sense. He is so uniquely himself, generous and open and always looking for some fun.”

Richman makes fronting Man vs. Food look easy, but he claims to call on every ounce of his training at Emory and Yale to maintain the show’s natural, irreverent spirit and fast-paced energy. “There is an element of sheer camera comportment that you have to learn, pushing out as much text as I do,” he says. “That is all breath support and vocal training. Even through the food challenges when I’m screaming my head off, I’m very reliant on my acting training.”

Richman trains in a different way for the challenges, the climax of each episode, when he attempts to surmount some signature dish breathtakingly daunting in size, spice, richness, or all three. To prepare, Richman fasts to cleanse his system, and also does leg workouts and sprints to rev his metabolism. “The idea,” he says, “is to come in empty and very hungry.”

Usually the challenges are established gastric gauntlets that have been attempted by generations of hopefuls before Richman. The element of local legend gives him a natural point of connection with the chefs and customers, who crowd around to cheer him on.

Richman has tackled a seventy-two-ounce steak in beef-loving Amarillo, Texas; the saucy Wing King Challenge in Boulder, Colorado; a towering Dagwood sandwich in Columbus, Ohio; the Kodiak Arrest—featuring crab, salmon, and reindeer—in Anchorage, Alaska; and the five-pound Jumboli Stromboli in Butte, Montana. At a press conference following that one, a young fan asked how five pounds of doughy, cheesy stromboli felt in his stomach. “It feels,” Richman replied, “like victory.”

But the man eater has also tasted defeat. Some five hundred contenders have attempted the Crown Candy Five Milkshake Challenge in St. Louis, but only twenty-two managed to slurp them all down. Richman, sadly, was not among them; the first three shakes made an unexpected reappearance, the food challenge equivalent of a knockout in the third round.

When Man vs. Food premiered in late 2008, it brought the Travel Channel its highest ratings ever. Now Man vs. Food Nation’s Facebook page has more than 1.1 million fans and Richman has about 118,000 followers on Twitter. Critics of the show’s premise have pointed to the American obesity pandemic and the lack of adequate food in poor parts of the world, but Richman has always emphasized that the food challenges are meant to be viewed as rare indulgences and not routine choices.

“There seems to be this perception that I don’t care about health, or that somehow if Man vs. Food didn’t exist, neither would hunger,” he says. “But I hope people will see it like I do, an expression of pure, unbridled joy and pleasure in taste, flavor, and fun.”

There have been rumblings among observers that the show has taken a toll on Richman’s health, the real reason for the shift to the new format in Man vs. Food Nation. But Richman is quick to brush them off. “Any spectacle diminishes over time, and if you wait for the audience to say it, you have waited too long,” he says. “We just wanted to keep it fresh.”

The producers, Richman included, also wanted to give the local fans a bigger piece of the pie. In the new program, they are the ones facing the ultimate eat-offs, with Richman urging them on. The role reversal is well in keeping with the show’s heart and soul—the praise of local, indie, one-of-a-kind eateries serving up regional specialties that have attracted a foodie following, much like Richman himself.

“This is a chance to share the opportunity with other people and let them represent their hometowns,” he says. “The best part of the show for me will always be the people, and it’s the locals that make these places iconic and create legends. The focus on the community is going to be tremendous.”
IN 2006, JONATHAN STARR ’S 
office overlooked a bustling Harvard Square. The twenty-
seven-year-old founder of a hedge fund in Cambridge, 
Massachusetts, he was a precocious overachiever in one of 
the world’s most lucrative industries—a talented analyst 
with a six-figure salary and a bright future in finance. 

Now, were it not for the nine-foot security wall, the 
view from his new office in the Maroodi Jeex region of 
Somaliland would stretch unbroken over a camel-colored 
moonscape traversed only by turbaned nomads and the 
occasional troop of baboons. 

Off to the left, he would see the aptly named village of 
Abaarso (Somali for “drought”) with its roadside stalls sell-
ing groceries and khat, the psychotropic shrub chewed by 
the vast majority of Somali men. And farther on, the capital, 
Hargeisa, home to approximately 1.3 million people, among 
them the president of the breakaway republic, which won its 
independence from Somalia in 1991 and has been vying for 
recognition ever since. 

The wall, though, is necessary. 

So too are the armed guards that patrol it with their 
Kalashnikovs and two-way radios, holdovers from the 
Somali Civil War. Because inside, Starr is conducting an 
experiment in education: he wants to find out what hap-
pens when you immerse Somalia’s brightest boys and girls 
in a “culture of English” with plenty of books and calcula-
tors and a staff of dedicated teachers from some of the best 
schools in the world. 

Abaarso Tech, the nonprofit educational organization 
Starr cofounded three years ago, is designed to be run like a 
business, with Somalis as shareholders and customers. The 
school’s hundred students pay what they can, while several 
revenue-generating programs—adult English courses, a 
school of finance, and an executive MBA track—make up the 
shortfall. And this is where the former financial executive 
has most pointedly parted ways with convention, bringing 
a level of accountability to development work that its critics 
have long found lacking. 

“What if Marriott operated without any revenue, room 
rate, or other meaningful customer-usage data from its 
individual hotels?” Starr asked readers of the Wall Street 
Journal in an op-ed he penned for the paper last April. 
“Suppose it remitted money to cover salaries and other 
expenses without knowing if any of it was producing a 
product for which customers were willing to pay? . . . You 
don’t have to run a Fortune 500 company to know how 
quickly such a system would run amok.” 

Yet, he wrote, when it comes to international aid, that’s 
precisely the system in place. Lacking quality customer-
satisfaction metrics, nongovernmental organization (NGO)
An Unlikely Education

DESSERT TECH: Students take time for a little friendly soccer on the dry, rough grounds of the Somaliland startup school.
I’m a capitalist,” Starr told me as we took a tour of the campus on a blustery morning last March. I had arrived the night before on a flight from Dubai, the third leg of a roughly twenty-four-hour journey, and when I found him the next day, he was sitting in the school’s communal kitchen, swatting flies and rubbing the sleep out of his eyes over a bowl of cornflakes.

“And as much blame as Wall Street gets, I don’t agree with it,” he said. “I think it plays a vital role in society, and I think one reason the American system developed far better for two centuries than the rest of the world is that it had a much more efficient capital market that looks at a business and says that it shouldn’t get funded anymore.”

Few people would look to the international aid community for a Wall Street apologist. But then few people could imagine an aid worker like Starr, who, in his tattered T-shirt, flip-flops, and macawis, the traditional sarong-like kilt favored by the more conservative of Somali men, seems to revel in upending stereotypes.

Before he founded Abaarso Tech, Starr knew next to nothing about running a school. He didn’t know much about Somaliland, either. What he did know he had learned from his uncle, Bille Osman, a native of the country and a former employee of the United Nations who emigrated to the US in the 1960s.

“He would mention things now and then,” recalls Starr, “About growing up there and what that was like. So I had always been curious.” Moreover, after five years at the helm of a hedge fund, he had had enough of finance. “I was obsessed with it,” he says. “I couldn’t help but spend every minute of my time thinking about it. And I wanted to be obsessed with something else. I wanted to do something very different.”

In 2007, Starr closed the firm and made his first visit to Somaliland, joining Osman on a kind of needs assessment with a focus on education, particularly at the secondary level. The war, he learned, had devastated the country’s infrastructure, including many of its schools. And perhaps none had been a greater loss than Osman’s own alma mater, the once-renowned Sheikh Secondary School.

Founded by the British when Somaliland was still a protectorate of the crown, Sheikh was for many years the country’s premier prep school and a veritable pipeline to higher education abroad. It produced many current Somaliland leaders, including the president, H. E. MohammedMohamoud Silvano, and several members of his cabinet.

But Sheikh is no longer what it was. Abandoned after the war, it was closed for more than a decade before being reopened by an Austrian charity in the late 1990s. Then, in 2003, the school’s headmaster and his wife, both highly regarded educators, were gunned down by members of Al-Shabaab. Ever since, Sheikh has struggled to recruit teachers, and only a handful of graduates have gone on to universities overseas—none of them in the US.

If terrorists succeeded in crippling the country’s best school, Abaarso Tech, which aims to prepare students for top-tier institutions in the US and UK, represents a kind of reprisal—led by the largest group of Americans in the entire
region: a collection of twentysomething college graduates with sterling resumes and advanced degrees and the ability to command far higher salaries than any Starr can offer.

Nevertheless, they came, and they continue to come, and as all of them will tell you, the job is not for the faint of heart. Teachers at Abaarso Tech work, on average, seventy-hour weeks. They forgo showers when the water is low, and alcohol, which is illegal in Somaliland, for semester-long stretches. They eat the same seven meals every week, “burger night” being the unanimous favorite, and they do it all for approximately $3,000 a year.

And this, Starr believes, is how it should be.

While other Western-led efforts to educate poor African children have spared no expense—Oprah Winfrey’s $40-million Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa features, among other extravagances, a yoga studio and a beauty salon, and the manager of Madonna’s recently aborted $15-million all-girls’ academy in Malawi made what auditors described as “outlandish expenditures on salaries, cars, and office space,” according to the New York Times—Starr economizes wherever possible.

“I began with the precept that our employees’ principal form of compensation would be pride in a worthy deed well done,” he wrote in the Journal. Citing the sluggish deployment of aid dollars in Haiti, he argued that generous pay is not only unnecessary for success in development work, “it is counterproductive.” Absent accountability, he added, “highly compensated individuals will choose the path of longest-term funding over good solutions.”

And here, too, Starr has led by example. “I make negative,” he told me as we walked from the kitchen, with its single stovetop and broken refrigerator, past a sandy soccer field and along a low stone wall hand-built by students who, for some infraction or another, had pulled hard labor with Tom Loome, a twenty-seven-year-old math teacher from Minneapolis and the school’s tireless handyman.

“If I were personally making big money on this, I think it would be much harder to get the caliber of teachers we’ve had so far,” he says. “But the fact is that everyone comes because they’re committed to the cause, and that makes a big difference.”

Of course, it’s one thing to make a financial sacrifice. It’s another to educate Somali girls and boys in the shadow of an Islamist rebel group with the stated aim of overthrowing the government and imposing its own strict version of Islamic law on the general population.

Al-Shabaab (the name means “youth” in Arabic) has claimed overt affiliation with Al Qaeda and declared war on the U.N. and Western NGOs, killing forty-two relief workers in the past four years. While the group isn’t welcome in Somaliland, it has been known to enter uninvited—such as in 2008, when it detonated bombs in the Ethiopian Embassy, the headquarters of the United Nations Development Program, and the presidential palace.

Last November, Starr and staff received an urgent message from British Embassy officials in Djibouti: Al-Shabaab, they learned, had identified Abaarso Tech as a target, and an attack could be imminent. That night, an emergency
meeting was convened to review the school’s security as well as what the staff would do when and if the shooting began.

In the days that followed, extra ammunition was purchased for the guards’ guns, new protocols were established for night patrols, and one teacher terminated his contract and returned home. The rest of the teachers stayed on. They were rattled, they said. Who wouldn’t be? But they weren’t about to leave—not now. (No attack occurred, Starr adds, and the alert was likely based on faulty intelligence.)

“Even those who volunteer at Abaarso Tech do so with mixed motives,” Ken Menkhaus, a professor of political science at Davidson College and an expert on Somalia, told me when I asked him for his thoughts on the school and Starr’s rather unflattering account of NGOs in the *Wall Street Journal.* “They are gaining valuable experience that they can parlay into better-paid jobs later. I do not accept the dichotomy of selfish versus altruistic motives.”

Still, it was hard to see how any teacher weighing the risks could have decided that staying was worth it—particularly in light of the murders at Sheikh. “Didn’t you even consider going home?” I asked Loome, the math teacher from Minneapolis, who was one of Starr’s first hires after he founded the school. The answer was no.

At the time, I didn’t believe him. And then I met Maaria.

MAARIA OSMAN IS SMALL AND SLIGHT, with hazel eyes and a round face framed by a tight-fitting hijab, the traditional head cover worn by women throughout the Muslim world and by all female teachers and students at Abaarso Tech. Shy and reserved, she speaks softly in halting English. She is not yet fluent in the language.

Yet at twelve, Osman is one of the best math students in the school. Last year, she had the highest score on the math section of the national exit exam, the test administered to all eighth-grade students around the country in the last days of what is, for the vast majority of Somali students, their final year of formal education.

That Osman even took the exam was unusual. According to a recent survey by UNICEF, only slightly more than a quarter of Somali girls of primary school age are enrolled in school. That figure is attributable in large part to the collapse of the central government in 1991 and the decades of conflict that ensued. But the biggest obstacle to Somali girls’ enrollment, says UNICEF, is the tendency of mothers to keep their daughters home to share the burden of domestic labor.

For all of their daughter’s ability in the classroom—her uncommon facility for multiplying fractions, for instance—Osman’s parents had just such a plan in mind. The eighth grade was to be their daughter’s last. It wasn’t that they weren’t aware of Abaarso Tech or the fact that Osman could attend the school for free, as many students do. It was that her curricular achievements were immaterial to the family’s immediate needs. They declined his invitation.

But Starr persisted. Enlisting the help of some of his best female students and their mothers, he mounted a recruiting strategy worthy of a Big Ten football program. And at last, the effort paid off.
In the eight months since her arrival, Osman has exceeded expectations. Not only has she outperformed many of her peers—including a handful of diaspora students from the US and UK—she’s exhibited a work ethic bordering on obsession.

“She does math problems in her spare time,” Mike Freund, a math teacher from Illinois and the director of the undergraduate finance program, told me. “Literally every night, she’ll finish her homework and come to me to ask for more. She’s incredible. But she does have a pretty hard time dealing with it when she gets one wrong. That’s something we need to work on.”

It may be that Starr saw in Osman a bit of himself—the diligent student at Emory, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and graduated summa cum laude in economics. By twenty-five, he’d become the youngest analyst at a prestigious New York hedge fund and had even managed to write a book—a primer on value investing, the philosophy first championed by the legendary analyst Benjamin Graham.

“He was fanatical about investment philosophy, and he’s fanatical about what he’s doing now,” says Anand Desai, a friend and former colleague of Starr’s on Wall Street, who has donated generously to the school. “He’s got this idea, this vision for the school, and he’s completely thrown himself into it. He’s become a student of Somaliland, because what drives him is being right by the reasoned approach.”

For Hodan Guled, a Somali refugee from Mogadishu, Starr has served as an inspiration. In 2008, Guled founded S.A.F.E. (Somali and American Fund for Education) with the goal of improving access to education for Somali youth by strengthening the capacity of the country’s existing schools, primarily through capital improvement projects.

“I was always looking for a way to give back,” she says. “Somalia needs so many things. And I realized, for its long-term growth, education is the most important thing we can invest in. If people are educated, they can think beyond the clan rivalries. And they can both get and create jobs.”

Several months ago, Guled returned to Somalia for the first time since 1993, when, as a twelve-year-old, she fled the country with the rest of her family.

“We got on one of the last flights out,” she recalls. “We were very lucky.”

In addition to visiting friends and relatives, Guled stopped by Abaarso Tech to meet Starr and to see with her own eyes the biochemistry lab built partly with a donation from S.A.F.E.

“Abaarso Tech was our first school,” she says. “At the time, we didn’t have a process for identifying schools, and I read about Abaarso in the Emory Wheel. So I contacted Jonathan. I remember he was so passionate, so enthusiastic about it. And I thought, wow, he lives there. That’s impressive.”

ON A FRIDAY MORNING LAST MARCH, Starr stood before an auditorium packed with guests of the first annual Abaarso Tech Open House. Pacing the stage in khaki pants and a freshly ironed button-down, he told them about new projects under way: the wind turbine that would reduce the school’s dependence on diesel generators; the $65,000 mosque currently under construction; and the decision by the College Board, publisher of the SAT, to begin the process of recognizing Abaarso Tech as the country’s first official test center.

And then he moved on to the feature presentation: the Best Student competition. The winner, he said, would spend one year at Worcester Academy, the private coed boarding school in Massachusetts that Starr himself attended as a kid.

“This was an extremely difficult decision,” he said. “Our four finalists are all outstanding.” But the previous week’s practice SAT exam had put one candidate ahead of the pack.

Mubaraak Mahamoud, everyone knew, was the smartest student in school and one of the most mature. A native of Hargeisa, he grew up in an Ethiopian refugee camp before making his way back to his hometown. When Mahamoud first arrived, he spoke no English at all. No one could have predicted how quickly he would excel. “He just dominates in the classroom,” says Harry Lee, Abaarso Tech’s dean of students and head basketball coach. “He also works extremely hard and has a great attitude. All the boys look up to him.”

“Mubaraak has done something few American students ever do,” Starr told the room. “He scored a 710 on the math section of a practice SAT exam. That is actually higher than the average score on math for incoming students of MIT.”

“Congratulations, Mubaraak, you’re going to America.” And with that, the room erupted, and Mahamoud was carried out on the shoulders of his cheering classmates into the blinding light of the Somali sun.

GOING PLACES:
“Best Student”
Mubaraak Mahamoud will spend a year in the US at Starr’s former boarding school.

Summer 2011
KICKING GRASS
HOW ATLANTA’S REBOOTED PRO TEAM IS BRINGING SOCCER BACK

STORY BY ERIC RANGUS
PHOTOS BY KAY HINTON AND ANN BORDEN
Leigh Friedman ‘03C doesn't have six arms. It only looks like it.

The director of marketing for the Atlanta Silverbacks, the city’s reborn men’s professional soccer team, spends home games at field level. While the players battle on the pitch and the scoreboard, she stage-manages the rest of the game experience. Friedman emerges from under the stands every few minutes, often carrying something different than the time before.

One time, it’s a stack of red Silverbacks jerseys; another it’s Silverbacks scarves, which the players eventually hurl into the stands. She guards the microphone for guests who deliver the halftime announcement, and has been known to sling laptop cases over each shoulder—when she isn’t toting her red Silverbacks shoulder bag.

The one constant is the clipboard storage case riveted to Friedman’s hand. It’s packed with everything necessary for the smooth evening at Atlanta Silverbacks Park: media notes, game notes (the mini-programs handed out to fans), team rosters, a stadium map, league operations guide, game timeline (which lists the schedule of PA announcements and contains information on a variety of featured guests, ranging from the anthem singer to the face painter near the concession stand), scissors (“because you never know,” Friedman says), Sharpies, pens, business cards, a flash drive, extra media credentials, and a ponytail holder (an underrated tool for any professional woman on the go).

With just ten full-time staff, working for the Silverbacks means job descriptions are flexible. “You could ask any one of us a question about anything, and we’d be able to give you an answer because we’ve probably done it at one time or another,” says Friedman, who tends to smile when she speaks. She previously worked as a regional marketing director for ESPN Zone restaurants before joining the Silverbacks on January 3, just six weeks after the team rebooted and only three months before the start of the 2011 season. Most franchises have years to prepare before stepping onto the field.

The Silverbacks last suited up in 2008. Never a moneymaker, when the economic downturn hit in earnest the team was placed on indefinite hiatus by its owners. In sports, as in most anything else, “indefinite hiatus” is a synonym for “death sentence.” Once teams go away, they don’t come back.

But professional soccer in the US isn’t like other sports. With more false starts and backfires than a 1971 Pinto, pro soccer’s development has been unconventional and, more often than not, disappointing. The Silverbacks had always wanted to return but weren’t quite sure how. In 2010, interest in minor-league soccer swept through Atlanta—this time, in a good way. When the smoke cleared, the meetings adjourned, and the lawyers and bankers closed their briefcases, the Silverbacks found a new life in a new league, with Emory alumni leading the charge at nearly every level.

The Atlanta Silverbacks emerged in 1998 from the wreckage of the Atlanta Ruckus, then a member of what was called the A-League—at the time, US soccer’s top minor league (also known as “second division”). That year—one in which the team finished a less-than-stellar 7-20, played to sparse crowds at Adams Stadium off North Druid Hills Road, and suffered a league-mandated
takeover—**John Latham 79L**, a partner at the Atlanta law firm Alston and Bird, received a call from his biggest client, sports apparel company Umbro. Umbro had promotional interests in the league, and its representative informed Latham that the Ruckus owner had defaulted on his obligations, resulting in the takeover and a clunky midseason name change to A-League Atlanta. The company might litigate and it asked Latham to be prepared.

But before the conversation ended came the big question: Did Latham know anybody who might be interested in taking over the franchise?

“I mentioned this to my good friend, Bobby Glustrom,” Latham says. Glustrom was a law partner and is a former adjunct professor in the Emory School of Law. “The next thing I knew, we were the owners of a soccer team.”

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The team wasn’t A-League Atlanta for long. Before they took the field for the 1999 season, the franchise was rechristened the Atlanta Silverbacks, their logo featuring a stern-looking silverback gorilla modeled on Zoo Atlanta’s most famous nonhuman primate resident, Willie B. They also moved home games to DeKalb Memorial Stadium in Clarkston, which was slightly better than Adams, though not much.

Latham knew the legal twists and turns of the sports business, so he knew he couldn’t go it alone as an owner. The Silverbacks organization faced many challenges—it was a minor-league team in a major-league city packed with sports franchises, limited revenue streams, and a less-than-ideal home venue.

Latham needed a major investor. He eventually found one.

In 2001, technology entrepreneur **Boris Jerkunica 87C 87G** bought the site of an old drive-in movie theater on the southeast corner of Spaghetti Junction in Atlanta. His idea was to build a multiuse park centered on his favorite sport.

When his parents immigrated to Atlanta in the 1970s from Croatia (then part of Yugoslavia), the young Jerkunica brought his love for soccer with him. He joined the Emory soccer team in 1983, and in 1987 he graduated as its greatest player. Nearly twenty-five years after his last game, Jerkunica remains Emory’s all-time leader in goals (sixty-one) and assists (fifty-three). Jerkunica also led the Eagles to two NCAA tournaments. It’s a record that earned him election to Emory’s Sports Hall of Fame in 2002.

“Boris made everybody better,” says Jerkunica’s former Emory coach, **Tom Johnson 62G**, professor of health and physical education. “He was a leader, but not a ‘rah-rah’ type of leader. He led by example. And he walked to his own beat.”

Dissatisfied with DeKalb Memorial Stadium, Latham learned of Jerkunica’s project and contacted him. The two men hit it off personally and professionally. What resulted was a deal that would eventually move the team to the park once the stadium was complete. The park would be named for the Silverbacks, and Jerkunica purchased a stake in the team while Glustrom stepped away.

Jerkunica also worked out regularly with the Emory men’s soccer team. There he met midfielder **Michael Oki 03B**, one of the team captains. They kept in touch, and following Oki’s graduation, Jerkunica hired him to handle his business affairs, including those related to the Silverbacks. As the park took shape, Oki’s responsibilities there increased, and he eventually began managing the $18 million facility exclusively.

The twenty-acre park is centered on the five-thousand-seat pro stadium, easily expandable to 7,500 and more if needed. The Silverbacks arrived in 2006, but even without them the park stays busy, hosting soccer and kickball leagues every night. Emory’s soccer teams practice there before road games on field turf.

The park is the epicenter of the Silverbacks organization, which is bigger than just the

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**ALL-AMERICAN DAYS**: Boris Jerkunica 87C 87G (right) may have played his last collegiate game a quarter-century ago, but he remains Emory’s all-time leading scorer.

*Atlanta Silverbacks Park, in the shadow of Spaghetti Junction (an overpass is just visible over the trees), is the team’s state-of-the-art and easily expandable home.*
flagship men’s professional squad. The Atlanta Silverbacks Reserves are a men’s developmental team that plays in the National Premier Soccer League (NPsl), a fourth division league.

There also is a women’s professional squad, aptly named the Atlanta Silverbacks Women, that plays in the W-League (women’s pro soccer’s second division). Unlike the men’s team, the women’s squad never suspended operations (Latham was the driving force behind their continued existence and remains heavily involved today), and the Silverbacks Women have won four consecutive division titles.

As the Silverbacks men find their footing, Oki has emerged on the leadership side. He now serves as the team’s president, leading the day-to-day operations, and is the only staff holdover from the old organization.

“This is only the beginning for us,” says Oki, who shares his boss’s energy and forward-thinking vision. He also shares Jerkunica’s drive. Oki needed it to build an organization from scratch, which included signing more than twenty players and a coach, readying the park for the grind of a long season, relaunching the brand, and recruiting a staff to get it all done between Thanksgiving and the first week of April—on a limited budget.

“You need to get down and get your hands dirty,” Oki says. “I’m happy for what we’ve done in a short period of time, and I’m very excited for what we can do. I consider it a mini-success. But it’s not the end game.”

“You’ve got to be young at heart,” Jerkunica adds. Now in his mid-forties, a little heavier than his playing weight and his close-cropped hair a lot grayer, Jerkunica still gives off the impression that he could school a much younger man on the soccer field. Much of that energy probably comes from keeping up with his two young daughters, both under age three. He exhibits a blend of intensity, confidence in his people, and a laid-back personal style.

Professional soccer has a lackluster history in the US and the Atlanta market. While millions of kids (and adults) play recreationally around the country, that participation has never translated into mainstream success beyond a small (but passionate) fan base. Recent years, though, have shown some improvement.

Major League Soccer, the league at the top of what’s called the US soccer pyramid (the sport’s domestic infrastructure), is a solid contributor to the country’s sports landscape. But the Silverbacks’ level, the second division, has long been on shaky ground. The latest effort to bring some stability is a new league with a familiar name, the North American Soccer League (NASL).

“Aaron Davidson is the guy who was instrumental in making the NASL happen,” Jerkunica says of the league’s chairman of the board. “Without Aaron, the NASL would not be here. Period.”

In 2006, Traffic Sports USA bought a soccer team, and the guy they asked to run it was Aaron Davidson 93C. Traffic Marketing Esportivo, based in Brazil, bills itself as a soccer event management company, one of the largest in the world. Traffic Sports USA is its American arm and Miami FC, as the team was known, was Traffic’s first venture into team ownership. Following Miami FC’s first year in the United Soccer Leagues (USL), the Traffic brass wasn’t impressed.

“Our president looked at me and said, ‘Aaron, you’re a lawyer. You’ve been around long enough,’” says Davidson, now president of
Traffic Sports USA. He was charged with leading Miami FC and helping restructure the league.

Davidson’s move began a multidimensional chess match for control of the second division that lasted the better part of four years. It came to a head in 2010 when relations among league owners, which were now split into two groups—one of them led by Miami and calling itself the NASL, the other comprising USL loyalists—got so bad that the United States Soccer Federation (USSF), the sport’s domestic governing body, took the second division over and separated the factions into conferences.

Around that time, in mid-2010, Davidson met a young lawyer in New York. Rishi Sehgal had been working in Brazil, but was looking for new options. Davidson offered him a role in building the new league.

Sehgal was heavily involved in the NASL’s 2010 application for second division status—the true breakaway from the USL. After a few false starts, the USSF approved provisional sanctioning for second division status for the NASL.

“When you wake up thinking about it and you’re doing it all day and you go to sleep thinking about it, then you have a dream about it, you start to wonder when the day ends and the next one starts,” says Sehgal of the work necessary to acquire sanctioning. He now holds the title of the NASL’s director of business development and legal affairs. “But it was fun. It definitely pushed me to new levels, which in some respects I didn’t know I had.”

The new NASL was a go.

The NASL includes eight teams: five in the continental US (the Silverbacks, Carolina RailHawks, Fort Lauderdale Strikers, FC Tampa Bay, and NSC Minnesota Stars), two in Canada (FC Edmonton and the Montreal Impact), and the Puerto Rico Islanders. Its minimally outfitted headquarters on Brickell Key in south Florida overlook downtown Miami. The 2011 season had already started before the NASL acquired a conference table. That’s what happens when you assemble a league in less time than it takes spaghetti sauce to go bad.

Sports fans from the pre-ESPN era will remember the old NASL, which existed from 1968 to 1984, as the first attempt to introduce soccer to the US masses. Depending on one’s perspective, the league was a noble but well-intentioned failure doomed by overexpansion and overestimation of the country’s appetite for a different kind of football, or a still-vibrant brand just waiting for renewal by the right people in the right atmosphere. Obviously, the new league includes many more people who agree with the latter.

The new NASL is performing an interesting balancing act—paying homage to the old league while avoiding its mistakes, as well as the mistakes of the USL. What the league doesn’t want is the volatility that has plagued the sport for decades, especially in the second division, with teams bouncing in and out.

The key for everyone involved is a consistent product on the field and good ownership off it. “Our biggest focus is stabilizing the markets we have and growing into other places that are stable. One of the great things about being the NASL is that we come equipped with a history,” Sehgal says.

One of the first steps is stability in ownership. Despite the difficulties regarding sanctioning, the NASL appears to be getting there, but with a footnote: the preponderance of Traffic money boosting up the league has got bloggers buzzing about the company’s motivation. Davidson has experience refuting the doubters.

“When you start big projects you need a few or at least just one person to believe,” Davidson says. “And then you’ve got to build it. When you build it and more people start believing and are more willing to put money in the league, then you become more independently owned.”

Recent decisions refute the notion that the NASL is Traffic’s private sandbox. For instance, following the hiring of an NASL commissioner and a Strikers president, Davidson now has just one job, Traffic president. He’ll spend the majority of the summer in Argentina, overseeing Traffic’s involvement in the Copa América soccer tournament.

“We looked at the markets and wanted to choose one that had second division soccer before,” Davidson says of the Silverbacks partnership. “In the case of Atlanta, it was unbelievable. Boris still owned the facility, and he still loved the sport. He no longer wanted to risk 100 percent of his money, but he wanted to come back in and help what he started.”

The NASL is preparing for growth. The San Antonio Scorpions are ready to take the field to replace the Impact in 2012. They have a local owner, a stadium, and even a logo. Ottawa joins the league in 2013.

“When it comes to growth, we want to be organic and keep our visions humble,” Sehgal says. “We have eight teams in the league in our first year. I don’t know what the ideal number of teams to have will be in five years. But it definitely would not be eight.”
The new Atlanta Silverbacks debuted on Saturday, April 9, 2011. They lost 2-1 to the NSC Minnesota Stars, but more than 3,500 excited fans were there. Average attendance has dipped to around three thousand, but that still puts the Silverbacks third in the league, despite a seven-game winless streak to start the year.

“When I came around the corner for the first game, I had a tear in my eye,” Jerkunica says. “There are all these people here, and they care. They really want to be here. That was the first time I felt that in ten years since I’ve been involved with the Silverbacks.”

Keeping those fans involved is one of the Silverbacks’ most important jobs. Friedman and Oki lead the outreach charge, which includes conversations with local Latino communities, youth groups and leagues, and even the Emory community, which can purchase discount tickets.

“Yes, we’re smaller, and we’re going to have certain challenges, but how often do you go to a Falcons game and you bring twenty kids who get to hold hands with the players as they walk on the field?” Friedman says. “When you come to a Silverbacks game, and you want an autograph from every player, you will get an autograph from every player. They won’t leave until you have it.”

Silverbacks games don’t yet have the raucous party atmosphere you might see at larger venues or in larger leagues, but the loudest group of fans—those with the drums and whistles and flags and other accessories—will stack up their passions against anyone. Not all of their chants are appropriate for a family magazine, but “FC! Willie B.!” is inspired. They even have a nickname, Westside 109, named for the section in which they sit.

“Whether you’re the owner, the field manager, the director of marketing, or anyone else in the organization, game day is what we’re all working toward every day,” says Friedman, who has game days through September 24, perhaps even more should Atlanta make the playoffs. She and Oki both said that while they love the regular season, they are looking forward to the off-season when they will have more time to build the Silverbacks’ product, which they had no choice but to fast-track before this April.

“Everything comes together on game day, and win or lose, it’s an exciting place to be,” she says. “But, of course, it’s always better to win.”

Eric Rangus is former communications director for the Emory Alumni Association and a writer in Atlanta.
Lockheed Martin in Marietta is the birthplace of some of the most recognizable planes in the world: the C-130 Hercules turboprop transport, the C-5 Galaxy jet transport, and the F-22 Raptor stealth fighter, among other military aircraft.

The massive, 3.8-million-square-foot B-1 building, which covers the size of seventy-six football fields laid end to end, is humming with activity on this Tuesday in early May. The plant is as clean and bright as a hospital, its assembly lines lit by mile after mile of compact fluorescent bulbs.

Assemblers in safety harnesses walk across planes’ wings like aeronautical trapeze artists. Rolls Royce engines stand at the ready, waiting to be installed. Every few days, a heavy “rain shower” falls from sprinkler heads mounted on workstands over the finished planes to test for leaks.

Three-wheeled bikes with baskets, famous in the sprawling plant as the easiest way to travel, seem strangely whimsical, like Willy Wonka might ride by in a hard hat.

But of course high-tech aircraft assembly is serious business—a tiny piece of debris or a lost tool could disrupt the highly sensitive calibrations and safety checks, and possibly cost the life of a pilot or crew member.

“I love being on the production floor, hanging out with the employees, seeing their attention to detail, and showing customers around,” says Shan Cooper 89C 95MBA, vice president of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics and the first female general manager of the Marietta facility.

“The other day I was doing a walkabout with a general from the national guard, who came by from next door [Dobbins Air Reserve Base]. These are the folks who are using our aircraft, and we get immediate feedback from them.”

If Lockheed Martin in Marietta is like a small town—with its own interstate exit, more than eight thousand employees, emergency medical services and a fire station, even a magazine—then Cooper is its mayor, overseeing all operations on site.

The plant just celebrated its sixtieth anniversary. Originally operated by Bell Aircraft during WWII, Lockheed moved in at the government’s request in 1951 to refurbish B-29s for the Korean War. C-130 assembly arrived in 1954 and has been located in Marietta since. (The plant even has an eccentric billionaire story: Howard Hughes kept four JetStar executive transports fueled and under guard there, ready to take off on a moment’s notice, until they were sold after his death.)

Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company was formed in 1995 with the $10 billion merger of Lockheed Corporation with Martin Marietta, which sold the construction materials portion of its business to focus on aerospace, defense, and global security. Lockheed Martin is now one of the world’s largest defense contractors, with close to three-fourths of the company’s revenues coming from military sales.

Cooper is proud of the company’s role in “preserving freedom and democracy.” The daughter of a pastor from Anniston, Alabama, she’s from a military family—her uncles and brother have all served. “My brother has been an air force reservist for twenty years, and served in Desert Storm, Iraq, and Uzbekistan and Pakistan. I’m so proud
train operations at three of the four railroads on the Monopoly board are the responsibility of csx Transportation Vice President Cindy Sanborn 87C.

Well, parts of them at least. The long history of railroad-ing reads like a laundry list of mergers and acquisitions, which has continued to this day.

“B&O [Baltimore and Ohio Railroad] is now csx, as is a little bit of Pennsylvania, and a little Reading,” says Sanborn, the first female chief transportation officer at csx.

She works in the company’s riverfront office in Jacksonville, in what was once the headquarters of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (now part of csx as well.)

Just off the grand marble lobby by the elevators hangs the original of Francis Blackwell Mayer’s oil painting The Founders of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, depicting the history of the nation’s first common carrier, built in 1828.

“Railroads definitely have a sense of history and romance,” says Sanborn. “I find them fascinating.”

csx Transportation now owns twenty-one thousand miles of track in twenty-three states and Canada, stretching from Miami to Montreal, and runs about 1,200 trains a day. Of every day. They last forever, can land on ice and snow, fly into forest fires and hurricanes, can track icebergs and provide disaster relief.

A Hercules flew the last flight out of Saigon before the city fell to the North Vietnamese in 1975. “Tim Nguyen was one of the 452 people on that flight, and he vowed to come of him,” she says. “And he’s proud of what I do. He says whenever he saw a C-130 coming in, he knew he was going to get to go home.”

The company supplies aircraft not just to the American military but to countries the world over, with C-130s (and the latest incarnation, C-130Js) being the most in demand. A row of flags hangs along the C-130 assembly line representing each country that has purchased a Hercules. The latest C-130s to roll off the assembly line will be part of the Qatar Emiri Air Force, according to the fresh lettering on their sides.

It has been calculated that there’s a Hercules airborne somewhere in the world every minute of every day. They last forever, can land on ice and snow, fly into forest fires and hurricanes, can track icebergs and provide disaster relief. A Hercules flew the last flight out of Saigon before the city fell to the North Vietnamese in 1975.” Tim Nguyen was one of the 452 people on that flight, and he vowed to come
“Both of my parents worked here—my dad was an attorney for CSX and my mom was an administrative assistant—so I was somewhat immersed as a kid, and I thought it was kind of cool,” says Sanborn.

Her father, like many of the railroad’s executives, would travel by train in the business car fleet, and Sanborn would sometimes accompany him, watching the scenery fly by. “You could look out the windows, but you went where the train took you,” she says.

Sanborn found that comforting, but a bit disconcerting; she wanted to be the one deciding where the train went. And now, she is.

After graduating from Emory with a dual degree in economics and math and computer science, she joined CSX as a transportation analyst.

During the next twenty years, she moved nine times, from North Carolina to Florida to Pennsylvania to Maryland, taking jobs from assistant train master to manager of locomotive distribution to division manager to regional vice president, before being named vice president in 2009.

“I did my time, moving around, working nights and weekends, working around the network,” she says. Sanborn can operate the trains as well, having earned her locomotive engineer’s certification.

As chief transportation officer, she is responsible for the operations of CSX’s entire transportation network, overseeing everything from delivery schedules to safety concerns.

Named a “Trendsetter in Transportation” by Florida Trend Magazine in 2000 and a “Woman Worth Watching” by Profiles in Diversity Journal in 2010, Sanborn says her philosophy is to lead by treating people “as people, not vassals.”

“We’re a blue collar industry, and I work with about fourteen unions. You don’t read much about labor-management strife in the railroad industry,” she says. “It’s not that it’s happy-happy, joy-joy all the time; we have our differences. But you get the most out of your employees when they feel engaged, supported, and safe.”

“Cindy is a veteran railroader who has demonstrated strong leadership and delivered throughout her career at CSX,” says Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer David Brown, who often rides the business cars with Sanborn as the company’s executives visit sites around the CSX network.

Sanborn is the one who takes the call in a crisis. She was involved in the true events upon which the 2010 movie Unstoppable (starring Denzel Washington) was based, in which a chase crew coupled onto a runaway freight train, managing to stop it before it potentially derailed.

She disagrees emphatically with the movie’s depiction of some events, finding them to be exaggerated in true Hollywood fashion. “In reality, we would pay any price and go to any length to protect the public and our employees,” Sanborn says. “Safety is absolutely core to us, core to our DNA. For a movie to portray us as anything else is troubling to me.”

Sanborn, who also has an MBA from the University of Miami, says her background in economics and complex

work for the people who built that plane,” says Jeff Rhodes of Lockheed Martin’s Code One magazine. “He still works here, as an aircraft defensive systems engineer.”

As a defense contractor, Lockheed Martin is not without its detractors. Activists in England (where Lockheed Martin was contracted to conduct the national census) called on protestors to “swamp the US arms giant with a Twitter storm,” and, closer to home, residents of Burlington, Vermont, recently protested a proposed partnership on clean energy projects, saying the company was trying to “greenwash” its image.

But Cooper says she and other Lockheed Martin employees never forget their mission. “I saw a video recently, Angel Flight, that was a powerful reminder,” she says. “A songwriter [Radney Foster] was singing about our C-130 aircraft that carries fallen warriors home. It gives me goose bumps to talk about it. It’s why we do what we do, to ensure the safety of the men and women who make the sacrifice to go serve.”

A self-described “little country girl from Anniston,” Cooper says she got a sense of the larger world during her time at Emory as a double major in religion and biology. “You would see Jimmy Carter, Desmond Tutu, walking around campus. Emory opened my eyes.”

In fact, it was Emory’s Office of Executive Education at Goizueta, where she worked while getting her MBA, that set Cooper on her

—CINDY SANBORN ’87C
systems helps her every day in finding creative solutions and improving measures of safety and efficiency.

“Railroading is a very robust and challenging business,” she says. “While we were cutting back a decade ago, we’re now hiring and expanding, so there’s a lot of excitement. As fuel prices go up, trains become more attractive as an economic decision.”

csx is now “99.9 percent” freight transport and delivery, although passenger train operators like Amtrak pay to use the company’s tracks.

“Coal is king again in terms of tonnage, but we transport almost anything—metals, paper, chemicals, autos, construction materials, lumber, fertilizer, ethanol, consumables like orange juice, beer, and vegetables … really, a hodgepodge of merchandise,” Sanborn says. “We like to say if it’s in your life, it’s probably on our trains.”

Railroads are both green and sustainable, says Sanborn. “We can transport one ton of freight five hundred miles on a gallon of fuel. One train replaces 280 trucks,” she says. “We take a great deal of congestion off the interstates.”

csx tracks also play host to specialty trains, such as Ringling Brothers’ red and blue trains, Tropicana’s bright orange trains, and the Santa train, which delivers gifts to needy children in the Appalachian mountains. “And we definitely have our fans—people who love to watch the trains go by,” she says. “The Folkston Funnel in Georgia, where two busy lines come together, is known far and wide among railroaders and attracts visitors from all over the world.”

csx even sponsors summer concert series and Trees for Tracks service days, as well as other community projects.

While Sanborn admits that she often flies for business, she enjoys traveling in the company’s business cars—which includes reconditioned coaches from the 1920s to 1950s—like her father before her. “We use them for inspection trips and customer entertaining,” Sanborn says. “The purpose is to be close to our people.”

While riding on a recent inspection train, she passed by Emory’s Depot (now the Mediterranean restaurant Zaya at Dooley’s Den)—a spot that she remembers well as a student. “I took a photo of it on my cell phone to send to a friend as we went by,” she says, holding up the screen shot as proof. “It was really a coming-full-circle moment.”

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career path. “Lockheed was one of our clients, and I thought, ‘These folks are passionate about what they do.’”

Cooper was hired by Lockheed Martin in 2002 as senior manager of diversity workforce management before becoming vice president of Diversity and Equal Opportunity Programs in 2004. She served as vice president of human resources for the company’s Information Systems and Global Solutions in Maryland before her promotion to general manager in January 2011.

“I have the utmost love and respect for Shantella Carr Cooper,” says Connie Fisher, former director of executive education at Emory, whom Cooper considers her mentor. “She’s a natural leader with a lot of integrity and is very sincere. She’s a straight talker but is also an expert at reading people and getting her message across in the way they will best hear it.”

Cooper, whose husband, Eddie, is a lawyer in Marietta, and daughter, Chantel, just completed law school at Florida State University, also takes the time to mentor young girls in the community and support Lockheed Martin’s numerous charitable events.

She has received several national honors, including the Women of Color in Technology Corporate Responsibility Award, the YWCA Tribute to Women of Achievement, and Diversity MBA Magazine’s 2009 Top 100 Under 50 Executives. And she was recently named No. 24 among the top 100 business leaders in the US by Uptown Professional magazine.

Cooper says she’s anything but a “stay-in-the-corner-office” type of executive.

Beyond her frequent visits to the production floor, she has ridden in a C-130 and pronounces it a “smooth ride and an awesome aircraft.”

And she once took the controls of a C-5 to land it—in the professional simulator Lockheed Martin keeps on site.

“I didn’t crash,” she says proudly.

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“IT’S WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO, to ensure the safety of the men and women who make the sacrifice to go serve.”

—SHAN COOPER 89C 95MBA
Welcome erosion of the status quo

The status quo in American higher education since World War II has familiar features: the dominance of American university-based research over research elsewhere in the world; the assumption that higher education should be available to anyone; an understanding that the public has a stake in higher education and should help pay for it; and a commitment to academic inquiry that sometimes has no immediate payoff in view.

All of these features have eroded in the past decade. Universities in Asia are on the rise; access to higher education is increasingly at risk for many in the United States; federal and state budget deficits have wrought deep cuts to university support; and payoff in a job, more than intellectual preparedness, seems to be the return most people want for investing in a degree.

The status quo thus is in danger of disappearing. Perhaps we should let it go. I say this because of concerns raised here in recent months—concerns specific to Emory, but representative of higher education and pointing to a need for radical change. Let me give an example.

In a recent exchange with faculty, Provost Earl Lewis fielded a question about the perceived “corporatization” of the university—not just of Emory but of universities in general. More than ever, the past three years of financial collapse, recession, and slow recovery have driven administrators’ attention toward business efficiency, solvency, and the need for new income sources. Likewise, “consumers” have raised questions about affordability, access, and the usefulness of a degree. The faculty—and students, for that matter—might well wonder whether academics are being overlooked in favor of the bottom line.

Add to these pressures the mandate to grow certain non-academic functions of the university—offices that monitor compliance with government regulations, or respond to more-complex accreditation requirements, or enhance internal checks against fraud and waste—and you find not so much a corporate ethos as what Provost Lewis calls growing “bureaucratization.” We may not like the bureaucracy, but we might understand its purpose: to protect the most important activities of the university—teaching, research, scholarship, and, at Emory, patient care.

Added bureaucratization is intended to maintain business as usual—to preserve what we have known and feel comfortable with. Perhaps what underlies concern about corporatization is the suspicion that this status quo itself might disappear.

I say let it go. Let’s build a more vibrant, but different, institution.

I look to three arenas for answers about what that institution—our university—will look like. The first arena to turn to is the deliberative gatherings of our faculty. To the extent that society has changed for the better across the decades, we can thank men and women who have pushed beyond the comfort of customary thought and practice. Most of these change agents have worked outside the academy—journalists, artists, activists, community leaders, inventors—but many have been academics: historians, chemists, theologians, physicians, anthropologists, philosophers, legal theorists, business thinkers. At Emory they have guided institution-changing symposia, developed groundbreaking programs, and mentored students who in turn sought to improve society. These faculty leaders need to be in conversation with each other and with the administration—keeping an eye on the end of this century, not the end of this year, and keeping a finger on the pressures flowing through the institution’s arteries.

Second, I look to the arenas where our other stakeholders come together—the University Senate, the Student Government Association, the Employee Council, the Emory Alumni Board, the Board of Trustees. Each of these bodies is charged with stewardship of the long-term success of Emory’s mission. Notice that I said “Emory’s mission,” not “Emory.” Of course we want Emory to flourish. But Emory exists not for its own survival (the status quo); it exists to serve humanity by creating, preserving, teaching, and applying knowledge. All of us have a stake in this mission, and no one body has a secret formula for keeping it healthy. We must be in dialogue about leaving the status quo behind and claiming a way forward.

The final arena I look to is beyond our campus—individuals and leaders who understand the good that universities can provide to society. Enlightened philanthropy—the foresight and generosity associated with names like Vanderbilt, Carnegie, Hopkins, Stanford, Candler, and Woodruff—helped establish higher education and keeps it running. In a time when human need is overwhelming and the clamor for philanthropy is multiplied, universities and donors must engage in ever more imaginative discussion. Dollars and brains should leverage each other to bring greater power to bear on the world.

It is a challenging time for higher education, but an enormously exciting time as well. I’m grateful to be in conversation with you about it.

James W. Wagner, President, Emory University
CHAIR HONORS UROLOGY LEADER
A new endowed chair honors Fray F. Marshall in the Department of Urology. (page 42)

COUPLE GIVES RARE WORKS TO LIBRARY
Randall and Nancy Burkett entrust their personal collection to the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library. (page 42)

PROGRESS AS OF JUNE 30, 2011
$1.2 BILLION
TOTAL GOAL $1.6 BILLION

A Major Gift for Parkinson’s Research

Jean and Paul Amos have committed $4 million to name the Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Research Program at Emory School of Medicine. (page 41)
Focused Investing

With a year and a half to go in Campaign Emory and more than 75 percent of our $1.6 billion goal achieved, alumni and friends have asked me how we plan to close the gap. It’s a fair question with a fairly simple answer: focus.

For those of us privileged with the task of raising money for this great institution, focus means homing in on Emory’s uppermost priorities when telling the University’s story. For Emory alumni and other investors, it means finding creative ways to help fund the priorities that hold the most meaning for you.

Support during this campaign, which began in September 2005 just as the nation’s economy began its major slowdown, has been robust. Some of our donors are investing in Emory because they love the University and want to strengthen it. Others are driven by their aspirations for creating positive change in communities at home or abroad through Emory’s work.

Whatever your inspiration, Emory offers sound investment opportunities, and our team of development officers can help you find the perfect one. I invite you to visit campaign.emory.edu/contact and begin a conversation.

Susan Cruse, Senior Vice President Development and Alumni Relations

Harrison Foundation Creates Chair in Orthopaedics

The Luther and Susie Harrison Foundation has given $1.158 million to convert the R. Harold Harrison Endowed Professorship in Orthopaedics in Emory School of Medicine into an endowed chair.

The Harrison family has close ties to members of the department. Among the inspirations for the gift is the family’s relationship with Robert W. Bruce, assistant professor of orthopaedic surgery and chief of pediatric orthopaedics at the Emory Clinic.

“The establishment of a named chair is in keeping with our department’s and our physicians’ commitment to medical education. That is one of our most important missions, and we are very grateful for this gift toward helping us carry it out,” says James Roberson, professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedics.

“This is a significant gift not only because of its benefit to the department, but because it inspires others to give,” says Ada Lee Correll, who chairs Emory School of Medicine’s $500 million campaign. “As we head into the final stretch of Campaign Emory, gifts like these help keep up the momentum we need.”

FOR MORE CAMPAIGN NEWS, VISIT WWW.CAMPAIGN.EMORY.EDU/NEWS
A Major Gift for Parkinson’s Research

Jean and Paul Amos of Columbus, Georgia, have committed $4 million to name the Jean and Paul Amos Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Research Program within Emory School of Medicine. The fund will be used to launch innovative research and clinical trials, recruit scientists, and train fellows.

Mahlon DeLong, William Timmie Professor of Neurology and one of the nation’s foremost experts on Parkinson’s and movement disorders, has treated Paul Amos for many years. “The gift from the Amos family will give us the resources to help support ongoing research and to initiate new research programs for Parkinson’s disease,” DeLong says. “In these difficult times, philanthropic support such as this is absolutely vital for research to continue and to further develop Emory’s Parkinson’s disease program. We are most grateful to the Amos family members for their generous support.”

“Dr. DeLong has been wonderful and has been on the forefront of everything regarding research and clinical care,” says Jean Amos. DeLong and his colleagues hope this generous gift will create momentum and help them realize their longtime goal of building a center that will be a model of integrated, patient-centered care. This model is particularly important to patients with Parkinson’s and movement disorders because the complexity of these diseases necessitates numerous visits and care from specialists in a wide variety of areas, including neurology, neurosurgery, psychiatry, gastroenterology, urology, sleep disorders, sleep and swallowing, and physical and occupational therapy.

Emory specialists provide care yearly for around 12,000 patients with Parkinson’s, atypical Parkinson’s, and movement disorders. As the population ages, that number is expected to grow exponentially.

“Thanks to generous and forward-thinking donors like the Amoses, Emory’s Parkinson’s team has and will continue to change life dramatically for many of these patients,” says Stewart Factor, Vance Lanier Chair of Neurology and clinical director of the Movement Disorders Research Program.

“We made this gift in hopes that it will benefit others suffering from Parkinson’s and encourage others to give for Parkinson’s research.”

“Gifts like the Amoses’ contribution are of great importance in bringing about advances in the early detection, treatment, and possible prevention of Parkinson’s and other movement disorders,” he says.

The gift will help recruit the best researchers in neuroimaging, neurogenetics, and neuropathology, three areas that are key to these advances.

“Research has helped improve Paul’s quality of life over the years, and both of us want to see that research continue and ultimately lead to a cure for Parkinson’s,” Jean Amos says. “We made this gift in hopes that it will benefit others suffering from Parkinson’s and encourage others to give for Parkinson’s research.”
CAMPUS LIFE
Google is investing in Emory’s Office of Multicultural Programs and Services (OMPS). The company’s grant will enable OMPS to offer its Crossroads community-building program to more students.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
The Henry Luce Foundation has awarded Candler a $325,000 grant to create an international model curriculum for accredited North American seminaries. It includes faculty and student exchanges, seminars, and shared practical experience opportunities.

EMORY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
To recognize a gift from the estate of Werner E. Wortsman 47C as well as his interest in supporting the arts at Emory, the performance organ in the Schwartz Center for Performing Arts will be named in his honor.

EMORY HEALTHCARE
The Emory Healthcare Development Support Team, comprising patients, donors, and employees, gave $20,000 from the EHC Partners in Health Fund to expand the therapeutic music program.

EMORY LAW
Alumni representing eight classes in Atlanta, Houston, New York City, Washington, Los Angeles, and San Francisco are visiting nearly 200 classmates and colleagues to increase annual Barrister ($1,000) and Dean’s Circle ($2,500) support.

EMORY LIBRARIES
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded a two-year grant of $695,000 to establish a collaborative digital humanities center. The grant will provide startup funds for the Digital Scholarship Commons in the Robert W. Woodruff Library.

EMORY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
The James B. Pendleton Charitable Trust gave $286,270 in support of Paul Spearman and Elizabeth Wright for equipment that will be used to gain new insights into HIV biology and immunology.

SCHOOLS AND UNITS DIGEST

In gratitude for her education, Betty Marie Stewart has created a bequest for the School of Nursing.

Library Curator, Spouse Donate Rare Works
Randall and Nancy Burkett have given much of their personal store of rare historical materials to Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL). Randall is curator of MARBL’s African American collections, where the materials will reside, and Nancy is a retired librarian.

Among the materials are the papers of William H. Scott, who fled slavery in Virginia at age twelve and became an aide-de-camp to a Union Army officer, serving until the war’s end.

The couple also has given 347 rare books on African American history, politics, and...
Beloved Alumnus Honored with Gift

Known for his kindness, intelligence, and deep laugh, Mike Overstreet 76OX 78B was a friend to everyone he met, and when cancer took his life in 2001, Oxford lost one of its most beloved alumni.

To honor his memory, Susan Atkinson Gregory 77OX 79C and Luke Gregory 76OX 78C initiated the Michael S. Overstreet Scholarship. Support from Oxford’s friends and alumni is building the fund’s endowment.

Retired Emory Nurse Invests in Education

Alumna and former Emory nurse Betty Marie Stewart 52BSN has made a bequest to support the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing.

“Hardly a day goes by that I am not grateful for my nursing education at Emory. I consider including the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing in my will an investment both in my alma mater and in the future of health care for all,” she says.

For information about charitable bequests or other planned gifts, call 404.727.8875 or visit www.emory.edu/giftplanning.

Challenging Political Science

With his own $5,000 gift to the Department of Political Science, Associate Professor of Political Science Larry Taulbee has issued a challenge. He will match all donations to the department up to $5,000 during each of the next four years.
## Campaign Progress

As of June 30, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campaign</th>
<th>Goal (in millions)</th>
<th>Amount Raised (in millions)</th>
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<td><strong>Yerkes National Primate Research Center</strong></td>
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*Progress chart does not include goals for general University and Woodruff Health Sciences Center initiatives.*

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## Campaign Leadership

**Campaign Emory Chair**

Walter M. “Sonny” Deriso 68C 72L

**Cabinet**

- Ellen A. Bailey 63C 87B Chair, University Programs
- Russell R. French 67C Chair, Leadership Prospects Committee
- M. Douglas Ivester Chair, Health Sciences
- Teresa M. Rivero 85OX 87B 93MPH Chair, Alumni Engagement

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- Courtlandt B. Ault James H. Morgens Michael C. Carlos Museum
- James B. Carson Jr. 61B Goizueta Business School
- Ada Lee Correll Emory School of Medicine
- William L. Dobes Jr. 65C 69M 70MR Yerkes National Primate Research Center
- William A. Brosius 85B Dirk L. Brown 90B Emory Alumni Board
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- Designer: Anne Richmond Boston
- Photography: Kay Hinton, Ann Borden, Tom Brodnax 65OX 68C, Jack Kearse, Bryan Meltz

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- Writers: Maria Lameiras, Jennifer Wheelock
- Designer: Anne Richmond Boston
- Photography: Kay Hinton, Ann Borden, Tom Brodnax 65OX 68C, Jack Kearse, Bryan Meltz

**Designers**

- Anne Richmond Boston

**Photographers**

- Kay Hinton, Ann Borden, Tom Brodnax 65OX 68C, Jack Kearse, Bryan Meltz
Hats Off to Graduates

Alumni members of Corpus Cordis Aureum, the Golden Corps of the Heart, joined the celebration at Oxford College. Photo by Ann Borden.

48 New Tennessee Governor
50 EAA Survey and Strategy
54 Golden Heart Award
LEAD THE WAY: President James Wagner (above, left to right), Elizabeth Brandt 11B, Shifali Baliga 11C; Debbie Wagner, Jen-Hao Jerry Chen 11B; Emory Alumni Board president Bill Brosius 85B; and Dean Robin Forman lead the Class of 2011 into alumnihood at the Candlelight Crossover.

THE GOLDEN CORPS OF THE HEART: From the Class of 1932 to the Class of 1961, seventy-five alumni marched in Emory’s seventh Corpus Cordis Aureum procession.

GEORGIA ON MY MIND: President Wagner (above left) presents a plaque with the iconic Haygood-Hopkins Gate to Representative Sanford Bishop 71L at an event in Washington, D.C., for the Georgia Congressional Delegation.


Whether it was fifty years ago or just one, many of you remember the excitement of graduation day at Emory. Waking up at the break of dawn, donning your robe, struggling to get your hood just right before lining up for your ceremonial procession to the Quad. It may have been bittersweet, but wherever life has led you, you are still a part of Emory.

This year marks Emory’s 175th year, and the Emory Alumni Association welcomed 3,879 new graduates to our ranks. More than six hundred walked across the Emory wrought-iron bridge to the Miller-Ward Alumni House during the Candlelight Crossover Ceremony to be greeted by alumni spanning more than fifty graduation years. The presence of alumni is a reminder that life after graduation still offers opportunity to be a part of Emory.

Even if you have not been back to campus since Commencement, you are still the face of Emory in your town. As our ambassador, please join me in welcoming and reaching out to our newest class of graduates. There are many ways to reconnect and be involved—a virtual career contact; become an admission volunteer and help recruit the next generation of alumni; host a local event to strengthen the Emory network where you live; share your milestones and successes through class notes and e-class notes to inspire your successors; or simply join our LinkedIn or Facebook groups and connect with Emory online.

As we congratulate our newest graduates, let’s also help them see that Emory alumni are actively involved everywhere.

Vice President for Alumni Relations

Upcoming Alumni Events

Atlanta, September 22–25, Homecoming
Homecoming includes alumni class reunions, the traditional Homecoming parade and tailgate party, Homecoming sports, campus tours, the Classes without Quizzes faculty lecture series, and more!

 Everywhere, September 24, Spirit Day

 Everywhere, November 12, Emory Cares International Service Day

For more, visit www.alumni.emory.edu/calendar
While Bill Haslam 80C was a history major at Emory College in the late 1970s, he took “a fair number” of political science courses, but the new governor of Tennessee never would have envisioned himself where he is now.

“If you had asked me when I was at Emory if I would get into politics, I would have told you there was no way I would ever do that. And if you’d asked our friends which one of us was more likely to be elected, every one of them would have bet on Crissy and not me,” Haslam says of his wife, Cristen “Crissy” Garrett Haslam 80B.

Nonetheless, Bill Haslam was inaugurated Tennessee’s forty-ninth governor on January 15. For the previous eight years, he’d served two terms as mayor of his hometown of Knoxville.

“Before the mayoral election in Knoxville in 2003, I had a lot of people coming to me to ask if I would think about running for office,” says Haslam, who was well-known in the community. He was a prominent business leader who had helped lead Pilot Corporation, the Knoxville-based company founded by his father, Jim Haslam II. “At first I had no interest; I just laughed and told them I liked being in business, but then I started thinking about it.”

After some reflection, he decided to run and was elected. He was reelected easily in 2007. After six years of running the city of two hundred thousand, Haslam announced in January 2009 that he would seek the governor’s office, and he was elected by a large margin in November 2010.

As governor, Haslam enjoys building the right teams to meet the state’s challenges.

“With forty-five thousand employees there is no way, on a day-to-day basis, to run every department. Like any successful leader, I have to hire great people. I like that part, I like finding people who are willing to help make a difference,” Haslam says. “The ability to change
Winning the highest office in the state at a time when governments at the local, state, and federal levels face major economic challenges is a great responsibility, Haslam says. “Most state and local governments rely on federal money, and as that money dries up it is a whole different challenge for local and state governments to find the revenue to keep programs running,” he says. “We are going to see a lot of states redefining how they run their governments, and we are in the middle of that.”

Haslam says his time at Emory was pivotal in his life for two major reasons. The first is meeting Crissy, who Haslam says has been an incredible partner and asset in life, on the campaign trail, and while serving in public office. The second is the experience he had at Emory. “Meeting and associating with a very diverse group of people who were intelligent and thoughtful about what they wanted to do, those associations were significant to me. The first person who comes to mind is [former Emory administrator] Bill Fox. I can think of very few people who modeled relational living like Bill does. He was always asking students over to dinner or seeking to help in different ways. He spent an extraordinary amount of time invested not just in me, but in so many people,” Haslam says.

In January, a group of more than thirty Emory alumni and fraternity brothers of Haslam’s from Sigma Chi traveled to Nashville for the inauguration and a mini-reunion. Atlanta physician Bruce Walker 81C 85m 90mR was part of the group. “It was a lot of fun to go to the inauguration. We had a gathering for the group the night before the event, and Bill and Crissy came by late that night after another function to greet all of us and spent more than an hour visiting with us. It was a private, special time to spend with them before the inauguration,” Walker says. “Bill and Crissy are wonderful people, and Tennessee is so fortunate to have people like them who want to serve in public office.” — Maria Lameiras

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EAA Strategy: What You Said

Last year, the Emory Alumni Association embarked on an ambitious effort to update and refine its strategic vision. Of course, such a process would not be complete without a survey of our alumni to see how we’re doing. Here are a few highlights from the survey.

1. In general, how satisfied are you with the job that the Emory Alumni Association is doing at serving your needs and interests as an Emory alumna/alumnus?

   - 45% Satisfied to very satisfied
   - 39% Neutral
   - 7% Dissatisfied to very dissatisfied
   - 9% Don’t know

EAA survey, spring 2010. Some 3,647 alumni and students responded to four subject-specific electronic surveys.

2. How satisfied are you with the amount of communication you receive from Emory?

   - 67% Satisfied to very satisfied
   - 23% Neutral
   - 10% Dissatisfied to very dissatisfied

3. What sort of news and information do alumni want? Top five topics:

   1. Alumni accomplishments
   2. Career or professional development
   3. Emory initiatives around the world
   4. Emory faculty research and achievements
   5. My school news and activities

4. Just over half of alumni surveyed have visited the EAA online. Here’s why:

   - 23% To register for an event
   - 20% To read Emory news
   - 14% To access the online directory
   - 13% To search for Emory activities
   - 9% To access information about alumni career services
   - 8% To find reunion information
   - 7% To find alumni benefits and services
   - 6% To make an online gift
   - 3% To find ways to get involved/volunteer
   - 2% To research Emory travel program trips

5. The benefits and services alumni want most, in order of preference:

   - Library access
   - Arts discounts
   - Faculty lectures
   - Educational enrichment
   - Online job posting
   - Online career resources
   - Online directory
   - Networking events
   - Reunions
   - Online career networking
   - Career coaching
   - Hotel discounts
   - Volunteer service
   - Career ed programs
   - Social networking
   - Awards
   - Career newsletter
   - Discount merchandise
   - Free transcripts
   - Chapter leadership
   - Travel
   - Career fairs
   - Online faculty
   - Career assessments
   - U. Club
   - Emory branded merchandise

EAA GOALS (2010–2013) HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EAA’S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

The alumni and student survey results helped the EAA leadership develop five key goals for the next three years.

1. Establish the EAA as a destination for alumni career services
2. Enhance communications to be more strategic and targeted
3. Connect alumni in more meaningful and effective ways, no matter where they live
4. Increase educational enrichment and lifelong learning opportunities
5. Strengthen the student-to-alumni experience

To read details of our three-year strategic plan, visit www.alumni.emory.edu/about-the-eaa/strategic-plan.html
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A Father's 'Honest Diary' of Autism

When young Cameron failed to develop as quickly as other children his age, autism was the last thing on the mind of his father, Mark Osteen 87PhD. In 1991, autism was rare, and little was known about the disorder. Today the number of individuals diagnosed with autism has increased dramatically, due in part to a better understanding of the condition. Osteen's memoir narrates a parent's struggle with a child's chronic ailment that has no cure. *One of Us: A Family’s Life with Autism* shows that while stories of triumphs are uplifting, for the majority of severe autism cases, those are few and far between. Autism not only affected Cam, it also changed Osteen's life as he learned to accept love in place of a cure. Author Temple Grandin, who despite being diagnosed with autism was named one of most influential people in the world by *Time* magazine, was diagnosed at age three. She calls *One of Us* “A brave dad’s honest diary of raising a son with severe autism who has difficulty learning basic skills. It should be read by psychologists, family therapists, and others who are helping families to cope.”

Music and Movements: Folk music is often embraced as a form of political expression, a vehicle for bridging or reinforcing social boundaries, and a valuable tool for movements reconfiguring the social landscape. *Reds, Whites, and Blues: Social Movements, Folk Music, and Race in the United States* by William G. Roy 68c examines the political force of the genre, not through the meaning of its lyrics, but through the concrete social activities that make up movements. Drawing from rich archival material, Roy shows that the people's songs movement of the 1930s and 1940s and the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s used folk music in different ways, achieving different outcomes. Roy also traces the history of folk music, exploring the complex debates surrounding who or what qualified as “folk.”

The Stress Factor: Melody T. McCloud 85m writes about black women's stress and their physical health, a link which, as a doctor, she believes has not been thoroughly explored by physicians or authors. *Living Well . . . Despite Catchin' Hell: The Black Woman’s Guide to Health, Sex and Happiness* serves as a groundbreaking resource that can prove helpful to men and women alike. Pauletta Washington, wife of actor Denzel Washington, calls it “a comprehensive guide to help us ensure total health.” As the first black woman to establish an ob-gyn practice in DeKalb County, McCloud lectures around the country and is the designated health expert for the nationally syndicated radio program *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*. McCloud also has an online blog about black women’s health and happiness on Psychologytoday.com.

Brotherly Love: Carey Hughley III’s strongest traits were creativity, leadership, and generosity, according to the foreword of *III Gifts*, a collection of poetry and prose by Alisa Hughley 97PH on behalf of her late brother. The sections of this anthology represent three traits that personified Hughley. Poems such as “America’s Sin” and “No Ecstasy” give insight into the personality of a promising young writer. Hughley’s integrity continued after his death in 1997—his choice to be an organ donor benefited four others. Physician Jesse Williams said, “Carey’s actions were nothing short of heroic. His choice remains a source of pride and inspiration.” Carey’s selflessness did not surprise his sister, who recalls him saying, “I’m not gonna need ‘em when I’m dead.” —Samantha Perpignand 13c
The coming year brings opportunities to discover new places and fresh faces around the world while revisiting some old, beautiful favorites. We are dedicated to giving travelers like you enriching cultural experiences to enhance your lifelong education while strengthening your connection with faculty, other alumni, and friends of Emory.

If you would like additional information about our upcoming trips or are interested in being added to our travel mailing list, please email alumnitravel@emory.edu or contact the Emory Travel Program at 404.727.6479.

The information and dates above are based on information provided by our travel vendors as of June 2011 and are subject to change. Individual trip brochures will be available to be mailed out approximately 9-12 months prior to the trip’s departure. All Emory Travel Program tours require that participants be in good physical condition. Each traveler must be capable, without assistance, of walking a minimum of one mile over uneven terrain and of climbing stairs that may not have handrails. Participants should have sufficient stamina to keep pace with an active group of travelers on long days of touring. If you have any questions about your ability to participate in a tour, please call the Emory Travel Program at 404.727.6479.
Williams Awarded First ‘Golden Heart’

Perhaps it was destiny, given his first name, but Emory Williams 32C has remained closely involved with his alma mater since his graduation nearly eight decades ago.

He created the Emory Williams Teaching Award, the highest award for teaching at the University, and is still an active Emeritus Trustee. He previously served as a member of the University’s Board of Visitors, a class agent, and president of the Chicago chapter of the Emory Alumni Association.

Williams received the 2011 Judson C. “Jake” Ward Golden Heart Award on May 8 in a ceremony at the Miller-Ward Alumni House. Emory Alumni Board president Bill Brosius 85B and Candler Professor of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Studies and former College Dean Robert Paul were on hand to induct Williams into Corpus Cordis Aureum and present him with the award, which was established in 2010 to honor the late Judson C. “Jake” Ward 33C 36G, former dean of alumni and charter member of Corpus Cordis Aureum, the Golden Corps of the Heart.

Selection criteria include longtime service to one’s community and to Emory, exceptional yet humble contributions of time and service to Emory, and a generosity of spirit, all traits embodied by Ward. During the Commencement ceremony, Williams led the golden-robed Corpus Cordis group onto the Quad as a member of the earliest class represented.
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Award-winning author and English professor was activist, adventurer

ENGLISH PROFESSOR AND AUTHOR
Melissa Graves Walker 63C 66G 74PhD
died May 4, 2011, at Hospice Atlanta of breast cancer.

Born in Dublin, Georgia, in 1941, Walker completed undergraduate and doctoral degrees in English literature at Emory. She taught at the University of New Orleans and at Mercer University in Atlanta, where she served as chair of the English department. In 1990 she became a fellow in the Institute of Women’s Studies at Emory. She was an activist for civil rights, peace, and environmental issues.


Walker was an outspoken advocate for wilderness and served for ten years on the national board of Wilderness Watch as well as president of the Georgia chapter. She also served on the executive council of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE), and was vice chair of the Southern Appalachian Council of the Wilderness Society. In 1994, Norton published an edited collection of essays by nature and science writers titled *Reading the Environment*.

Shortly after turning fifty, Walker embarked on a solitary quest to America’s wilderness areas. She made two extended trips to the West, camping in Arizona’s sky islands, the northern Rockies, the red rock canyons of southern Utah, the rain forests of the Pacific Northwest, and finally on the deck of a ferry bound for Alaska. Each trip lasted about three months, and during the intervening winter she camped in and around the Everglades. Her account of these travels, *Living on Wilderness Time: 200 Days*, was published by the University of Virginia Press and won the Georgia Writers’ Association award for Best Memoir of the Year in 2002.

Another trip took her to the Canadian Arctic to see polar bears in the wild and learn about the challenges they face. Walker’s first book for children, *A Place for Delta*, tells the story of an orphaned polar bear cub. Set in both the Alaskan Arctic and the Appalachian mountains of North Georgia, the book is illustrated by her son and won the International Book Award for Best Children’s Fiction of 2010.

Melissa Walker is survived by her husband, Jerome Walker; son, Richard Walker; daughter, Laura Walker; and grandsons Joseph Walker, Max Walker, and Alan Sanchez.—Article courtesy of the family

BRAVE HEART: Walker spent months in wild places around the US, the subject of her award-winning memoir.

Alone in America’s Wild Places, was published by the University of Virginia Press and won the Georgia Writers’ Association award for Best Memoir of the Year in 2002.

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IT WAS NINETY-FIVE DEGREES, A TYPICAL Cambodian morning, and I was squeezed into a twenty-person bus with more than thirty Cambodian colleagues—including two monks in long orange robes.

This was my first field trip during a two-week conservation course in Siem Reap, where I was working at the year-old Preah Norodom Sihanouk-Angkor Museum. We were examining collections near the world-heritage site of Angkor to delve into the issues of context, conservation, and how to display art respectfully.

We drove to Angkor Conservation, a depot used by the original French archaeologists to keep everything they found at the ancient temples—statues, columns, mounds of lintels—that is still used to store many of the artifacts being classified and studied around the region.

My colleagues and I had come to think through tough decisions common to museum workers everywhere: Should ancient artifacts be removed from their original temples to be studied and viewed in museums? Do American and French museums that legally export Khmer art have a claim to educating a broader public, or are they participating in cultural theft?

As we walked along the rows of tagged and classified artifacts, my colleague, Samouen, turned to me and asked, “In America, do statues have spirits?” The Cambodian group stared at me in disbelief when I told them, no, I hadn’t ever learned that statues have spirits.

Working and living in Cambodia was a drastic change from walking through Emory’s Quad to my art history classes. In Siem Reap, I thrilled at driving to work on my motor scooter past herds of goats, rice fields, and millennia-old temples of towering sandstone with still-extant carved details from Khmer mythology.

I had anticipated many adjustments when moving from Atlanta to Cambodia, but I hadn’t expected to reevaluate my definitions of art, heritage, and life.

Do statues have spirits?

In my first day at the museum, I encountered the Buddha statues when a coworker gave me a tour. Most of the statues in the museum were Buddhas seated on a mythical snake, the Naga. The Buddha’s hands were gently folded in his lap, his eyes closed serenely in meditation.

The regal Naga protectively rose above the head of the Buddha as he sat in lotus position.

Many of the Buddha statues had been broken at the neck or defaced during the thirteenth-century reign of Jayavarman VIII, a Hindu tyrant who seized the throne during a period of unrest following the death of the Buddhist king Jayavarman VII. Though he likely had wanted to erase all traces of the previous religion, the faith proved more resilient; today, Buddhism is practiced by almost all Khmers in Cambodia.

After the tour, I grabbed my notebook and documented a dozen major conservation problems found in the open-air museum, such as wind erosion, termites in the plywood pedestals, and liquid stains. A colleague, Sopheap, told me the stains were from frogs that lived in the statues’ hollows relieving themselves on Buddha’s lap. Nature has its own approach to art, it seems.

Nature, in fact, has been acting on the statues for centuries: these relics had been buried for eight hundred years before being unearthed by Khmer archaeology students in 2001. They had been placed in the ground lovingly, likely by a rebellious servant who respected the sacred images.

After we finished our tour of Angkor Conservation’s warehouse, we walked to a large shrine on the grounds containing a single Buddha. To my eyes, this statue wasn’t much different from those we had seen sitting in row upon row inside the warehouse. But clearly, my colleagues thought this Buddha, found at the Bayon temple and worshipped by Cambodia’s king, was special: they took their shoes off and bowed with lit incense held between prayerful hands as they reverently ascended the steps.

I wasn’t sure how to process or react to this unselfconscious blending of academic skepticism and Buddhist faith, but my Cambodian colleagues found no such disconnect: for them, the dual natures of spirit and object, holy figure and artifact, coexisted peacefully.

They referred to the Buddha statues as preah bot, which literally translates to “Holy Buddha”—the same word used by Buddhist monks in their daily chants. There is no clear linguistic distinction between the Buddha as a religious spirit and as a statue. The language itself reinforces the peaceful coexistence between a physical object that needs to be preserved and a spiritual being that needs to be honored.

Seeing my colleagues’ profound experience with the Buddha reinforced the inspiration I had felt when first studying Bernini and Rubens in my art history classes. The quickening pulse, the otherworldly feeling, and the sense of timeless awe that come with viewing great works of art confirm that, yes, art has a spirit that inspires each person who encounters it.

Anne Marie Gan 08C graduated with a double major in art history and Italian studies and was a Luce Fellow in Cambodia. A longer version of this essay originally appeared in the spring 2011 issue of Emory in the World, the magazine of Emory’s Office of International Affairs.
Betty Marie Stewart 52BSN marvels at the changes that have taken place since graduating from Emory’s School of Nursing.

“Hardly a day goes by that I am not grateful for my nursing education at Emory. I consider including the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing in my will an investment both in my alma mater and in the future of health care for all,” she says.

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