Poet Laureate

Professor Natasha Trethewey gives voice to the power of poetry

Stopping River Blindness | Being Merle Black | Campaign Emory: Wise Hearts
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How a biracial daughter of the South and Emory professor became the US poet laureate—and what she believes words can do for the world, if we will only stop and listen.
BY MARY LOFTUS

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For many, it’s too late; another two million remain at risk. But The Carter Center’s Moses Katabarwa 97MPH is at the forefront of Uganda’s fight to eliminate river blindness in less than ten years, enlisting family and community to spread relief, hope, and shared determination.
BY PAIGE PARVIN 96G

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For years, political reporters have had Emory expert Merle Black on speed dial. Here’s why he’s one of the most oft-quoted authorities on Southern politics.
BY SCOTT HENRY

On the cover: Newly appointed US Poet Laureate and Woodruff Professor of English and Creative Writing Natasha Trethewey relaxes at her home in Decatur. Photo by Kay Hinton.

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ONLINE AT WWW.EMORY.EDU/MAGAZINE

EVOLUTION OF A POEM See four versions of US Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey’s poem “Calling” as it is transformed from rough draft to polished gem.

CREATIVE MINDS Find video of playwright Pearl Cleage (left, on right) and writer Alice Walker, both of whom have placed their archives at Emory, discussing their inspirations and influences in the Creativity Conversation series.

MY FATHER’S NAME Listen to an Emory Report podcast of Professor Lawrence Jackson discussing his most recent book, My Father’s Name: A Black Virginia Family after the Civil War.
This year’s celebration featured campus tours, activities, class reunions, a sustainable food fair, and the traditional parade and tailgate party.
16 New Kids on the Quad

Nearly half of this year’s Emory College freshmen were admitted and enrolled through early decision, becoming part of a class that just might be “the strongest, most interesting, talented, and diverse” ever, according to Dean Robin Forman. Photo by Ann Borden.
Works and Days

THE ROAD TO NORTHEASTERN UGANDA’S MOYO DISTRICT continues up to the Sudanese border, and there’s a reason why it’s known as “the boneshaker.” Wide, red, and deeply rutted from one side to the other, this road is what SUVs like Range Rovers and Land Cruisers were made for—despite their popularity on the paved streets of metro Atlanta, where they encounter the occasional pothole.

In Moyo’s remote Liwa Village, Amandua Rashid lives in a Muslim community surrounded by fertile farmland. For three years he has worked as a volunteer community drug distributor for Uganda’s national program to eliminate river blindness, a groundbreaking effort launched in partnership with The Carter Center.

In July, university photographer Kay Hinton and I visited Rashid’s village and others like it, shadowing senior epidemiologist Moses Katabarwa MPh to report on the progress and challenges of the River Blindness Program. (That’s me above, with the camera, and Moses standing on the right.)

Once a year, Rashid distributes the drug Mectizan to 111 people in thirty-four homes for the treatment and prevention of the disease, which causes severe itching, skin problems, and sometimes blindness. He said it is a good feeling to perform this service for his community, which takes him about three full days.

When we asked him what he does with the rest of his time, he shrugged shyly. “Nothing,” he said. “Just farming.” Carter Center staff member Stella Agunyo laughed, protesting, “Farming is not nothing! There is a good living in farming!”

Perhaps what Rashid meant was that his occupation should have been fairly obvious. Most of the area is devoted to agriculture, as is much of Uganda, where the land and climate are well suited to growing things from corn to cows.

It probably didn’t occur to him to proclaim, “I am a farmer,” when the day-to-day rhythm of his livelihood comes as naturally to him as breathing.

The question, “What do you do?” is a fairly common one for most of us in the US, at least in circles such as those that connect the broad Emory community. Many have a ready, straightforward answer; for others, their professional story is more complex.

Rashid’s response, though, made me reconsider the question, which is kind of odd to begin with if you think about it. “What do you do?” places the emphasis on behavior and action rather than character and passion, as if people’s external activity on any given day can effectively represent their engagement with their vocation. While there are undoubtedly those whose jobs are more chore than choice, it seems to me that most of us would strive for a more organic approach in which life and work are inseparable—woven so closely that, as for Rashid, profession and personal identity are one. With that as the ideal, it’s possible that a better way of phrasing the question might be, “Who are you?”

Our cover subject, Natasha Trethewey, has an answer both simple and profound: she is a poet. To be precise, she is the poet, the newest US poet laureate, an honor she told us she feels gives her “permission” to be the poet she is.

Professor Merle Black has a pretty straight answer, too. He’s a political scientist, one of the best-known experts in the country, particularly when it comes to Southern politics. And Katabarwa is an epidemiologist and public health advocate whose work with The Carter Center and other organizations has advanced, in tangible ways, the progress against neglected tropical diseases.

Of course, no one featured in this or any issue of Emory Magazine can be reduced to a word or a title; their lives are richly layered and their identities multidimensional. But one thing these subjects have in common is that they have reached a point in their careers marked by accrued wisdom, concrete accomplishment, and sustained dedication. Driven by spirit and vision, they likely will never stop pursuing new challenges; but professionally speaking, they know who they are—and there is real power in that.

This fall, Emory welcomed a bright new class of freshmen, all of whom are setting out to find their own answers to the question of who they will be and how they will spend their days. Among them are future health experts, political scientists, poets, maybe even farmers. As is increasingly the norm, many will have multiple occupations as the landscape shifts around them, and they will no doubt experience the ebb and flow of success.

Whatever they may become, I offer them one of my favorite lines from the Desiderata: “Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.” — P.P.P.
SOMETIMES YOU GET A nice surprise when you learn that a person who you just met or are reading about [“Pony Up,” summer 2012] is an Emory alumnus, like Dolph Orthwein Jr. 68L, a real polo enthusiast for so many years. During my undergraduate and law school years I remember going to polo games near Atlanta not knowing Emory grads were playing. Over the last twenty years I have become a sports agent and immigration attorney for foreign polo players and equestrian competition riders coming to the US to compete in the major polo tournaments and equestrian dressage festivals.

Chandler Finley 85C 88L
Miami and West Palm Beach, Florida

I JUST READ YOUR STORY ON THE GOOD HOPE equestrian program in Florida [“For Want of a Horse,” summer 2012]. I have been the director and therapist at Horse Time, an equine-facilitated health center in Covington, Georgia, for fifteen years. During nursing school at Emory I did not have a car so I took Marta to Chastain Park to volunteer at their therapeutic horsemanship program, beginning in 1983. My nursing faculty were very supportive of this endeavor. In 1997 I partnered with psychologist Priscilla Faulkner to launch Horse Time, a nonprofit with the highest level of accreditation in therapeutic horsemanship, at her family farm. We have served hundreds of special needs individuals of all ages.

Maureen Abbate Vidrine 85N
Monroe, Georgia

AS I OPENED MY NEW ISSUE OF EMORY Magazine today, I was very happy to see your article regarding the therapeutic work being done at the Good Hope Ranch. As a certified therapeutic riding instructor, I can fully understand the value that equines have in our lives. Being a longtime horse lover, rider, and later, devoted volunteer, I joined PATHI (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International) in 2006, and eventually became a registered instructor, and treasurer for PATHI of Georgia.

Karolyn (Carr) Diamond-Jones 85N 95MPH
Milton, Georgia

I READ THE ARTICLE ON “The Whole Globe Theater” in the latest issue [summer 2012] with great interest. One class at Emory accomplished this [cross-continent teaching] in 1998. In the spring semester, Professor Thomas S. Burns of the Department of History offered his regular seminar on the Early Roman Empire. It was shared by the Department of Ancient History at Augsburg University in Germany. Participants in both places were seen on a TV screen. An article ran about this in Augsburg’s main newspaper with a photo of me on the TV. That day the subject was the emperor Augustus, and I always spoke about him for Tom’s class. Tom had developed a very close relationship with the colleagues in Augsburg; there was a regular exchange of faculty.

Professor Emeritus Herbert W. Benario
Atlanta

MY WIFE AND I READ THE WONDERFUL article in Emory Magazine on our daughter Kirsten [“American Beauty,” summer 2012]. You did an exceptional job of describing the issues, concerns, and problems that faced our daughter and of course our family; but also did it in a manner that demonstrated the positive effects of family values, support, and love. The writer certainly did her homework, and we appreciate the hard work that culminated in a wonderfully written article.

Valdor Haglund Jr.
Detroit, Michigan

WHAT A LOVELY ARTICLE ABOUT KIRSTEN Haglund. So proud Emory has her among us.

Julie Carroll
Emory Department of Psychology
Atlanta

I WAS PROUD TO READ ABOUT VARIOUS sustainability initiatives that my fellow alums have undertaken [“Living Lightly,” spring 2012]. My story is similar to that of Solazyme’s founders. Three and a half years ago my roommate at Emory, Justin Manger 01C, and I started a website (2ndGreenRevolution.com) dedicated to presenting pertinent information on sustainability and the clean energy economy. We look forward to more stories of change from Emory and its constituents.

Eric Wilson 01C
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota

THANK YOU FOR A CONSISTENTLY FINE magazine that is always a source of pleasure and information about Emory. I am, however, a bit astonished—and a tad miffed—that a university publication participates in the lamentable effort to reduce Homo sapiens to a single sex, often with ludicrous result. In the summer issue of Emory Magazine we are told that Anne Tatlock is a board chair. That this lady is a crusty item of furniture made of undressed lumber I find hard to accept. We are also informed that Dr. [Fadlo] Khuri is a professor and chair. The photograph indicates that the good doctor is made of finer stuff. Actresses now call themselves actors; waitresses are now waiters, and waiters of both sexes sometimes identify themselves as, nauseatingly, waitpersons. In order to establish the commendable goal of gender equality is it necessary to neuter the species?

Douglass T. Acosta 42C
Brandon, Vermont

Has something in Emory Magazine raised your consciousness—or your hackles? Write to the editors at Emory Magazine, 1762 Clifton Road, Suite 1000, Atlanta, Georgia, 30322, or via email at paige.parvin@emory.edu. We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity. The views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors or the administrators of Emory University.
‘What We Care About’

NEW DEAN OF ADMISSION IS RESHAPING RECRUITMENT

“Here’s where you talk about Wonderful Wednesday. And while you’re at the WoodPEC, you only talk about Swoop, not Dooley yet. When you get to the Dooley statue, that’s when you tell them about Dooley.”

It’s Friday morning in Emory’s Office of Admission, and Jessica Vaccaro is training a student tour guide, walking him through the route and various stops via her computer screen. Other tour tips: it’s okay to joke about how messy a “typical” dorm room might be; wear a watch, don’t pull out your phone to check the time; and if a prospective student is passionate about college football, let’s face it, Emory may not be the best fit.

The admission office, completed in 2010, is spacious and stylish, looking out onto a landscaped courtyard; the two floors below house the Emory Barnes and Noble and a never-empty Starbucks. Along the lobby wall is a series of poster-size hallmarks of university history, including one titled “Human Wisdom and Moral Integrity.”

The notion of moral integrity is a delicate subject at this particular place and time, where the aftershock of an unwelcome revelation last spring can still be felt. In May, John Latting, assistant vice provost for undergraduate enrollment and dean of admission for Emory College, discovered discrepancies in the admission data that the university provides to external organizations. (See sidebar, opposite page.)

Five months later, though, Latting is once again fully consumed by the business he knows best: finding, selecting, and finally welcoming some of the nation’s most desirable college freshmen.

Even after more than two decades in admission work, Latting says, “What’s so exciting is, there’s still that sense of . . . there are three million kids graduating from high school, and they want to go to college somewhere. That’s our talent pool. Now how can we tell our story in a way that helps us grow the number of outstanding students who consider us?”

Before coming to Emory, Latting, who has a PhD in education policy and management research from the University of California, Berkeley, spent ten years as dean of admission at Johns Hopkins University. In January, he arrived at Emory at a historic time, taking the helm of an office that had seen considerable staff turnover and was struggling to define a communications vision.

Latting’s wife, economic historian Caroline Fohlin, also joins Emory as a distinguished visiting professor in economics; her second book, on financing industrial growth, appeared late last year. The couple has three children.

Since his arrival, Latting has been working to cultivate a strong team, including, most notably, several positions that are wholly focused on aspects of communication and outreach to potential students. On a deeper level, though, he’s attempting to create a culture shift—one that empowers the university’s admission program to be more proactive in targeting students who are right for Emory and vice versa. It’s easy for competitive schools to let recruitment be driven by external forces and assumptions about public opinion, he says, but a better approach is from the inside out.

“The public will define for you, as an admissions officer, what the criteria and the process are,” Latting says. “You can give in to that, or you can take control of your process. You can say, SAT scores are important, but these are the things we really value. We have begun an exercise of digging down to the roots of what qualities we are looking for and how we measure them—not just taking things at face value and letting the public tell us what we care about.”

Of the three fundamental qualities Latting looks for in an Emory student, the first is a genuine desire to learn. That may
sound simple, but it’s not so easy to measure, he allows.

“IT’s not just a number, it’s a pattern,” he explains. “IT’s a range of evidence that all points to one conclusion. The SAT is something you gear up and do on a given Saturday, but how does a kid behave every Monday through Friday? How do teachers describe their behavior in the classroom? We’re looking for the kid who is there for the business of learning—who does the work, answers the questions, comes in after class.”

Second, Latting says, one can’t ignore the advantages of raw talent—“Of course we want bright students.” And finally, he’s looking for some evidence that applicants “have a sense of community and care about other people. There is something distinctive about Emory’s emphasis on that.”

One of the obvious challenges facing Emory and similar institutions is how to help students get financial access to higher education in the midst of a flagging economy, Latting says. But there are compelling opportunities, too—such as the admission program’s expanding geographic reach, and its ability to engage thousands of prospective students at once through new communication channels. Latting wants to focus the spotlight on Emory’s current students and faculty and forge real connections between them and future prospects.

He and the admission team also are interested in taking a fresh approach to interviews, using them as a chance for recruitment officers to draw out what’s special about a student and flex their instincts rather than just ticking questions off a list.

“I am really eager to make recruiting each new cohort of freshmen a university-wide concern, engaging alumni as well as faculty and students,” Latting says. “I’d like to be a leader in that.”—P.P.P.

In August, Emory released publicly the results of its three-month investigation into how admission-related data were misreported to external audiences, including standard reference sources that generate rankings, such as US News & World Report. The report indicated that the practice had been going on for more than a decade, although the investigation was unable to determine how it began.

“As an institution that challenges itself, in the words of our vision statement, to be ‘ethically engaged,’ Emory has not been well served by representatives of the university in this history of misreporting,” said President James Wagner. “I am deeply disappointed.” (See more, page 38.)

The investigation, supported by an external firm hired by the university, revealed that individuals in both the Office of Admission serving Emory College and the Office of Institutional Research annually reported admitted students’ SAT and ACT scores—as opposed to enrolled student scores—since at least the year 2000, with the effect of overstating Emory’s test scores. The report found that class rankings were also overstated, although the methodology used was not clear. Employees responsible are no longer at Emory, and a corrective action plan is being implemented to ensure future data integrity.

“Obviously, the discovery of discrepancies in admission data reporting was shocking,” said Isabel Garcia 99L, president of the Emory Alumni Board. “However, President Wagner and the administration’s decision to immediately self-report and provide the corrected data in time for the new rankings exhibited the strength of character and integrity expected of all members of the Emory family.”

The investigation originated in May, when John Latting, Emory’s new dean of admission, began to compare the statistics for his first admitted class with those of the previous year. It was quickly apparent, he says, that something didn’t add up. Within a few days, he placed a call and wrote a memo to the office of Provost Earl Lewis.

“IT was stressful,” he admits. “But I was immediately reassured by the seriousness with which the university responded and the decision to conduct an investigation.”

Emory’s findings were released less than a month before the US News & World Report rankings were published September 12. Emory remains at No. 20, supporting a previous US News statement saying, “Our preliminary calculations show that the mis-reported data would not have changed the school’s ranking in the past two years and would likely have had a small to negligible effect in the several years prior.”

Reaction was mixed among students, but many have defended the university’s actions. “Instead of sweeping this under the rug and making silent changes, things were made public and with full disclosure,” wrote Stephen Fowler 16C in the Emory Wheel. “Emory stresses ethics and ethical decisions, and I feel even more confident enrolling here because of those decisions.”

The corrective action plan includes a new system of checks and balances and staff dedicated specifically to “providing oversight and review of all procedures and policies associated with collection and reporting of institutional data.”

The Emory investigation also brought fresh scrutiny to the rankings systems, which some higher ed experts feel are inevitably flawed and carry too much weight with the public.

“An education at Emory is the sum total of many distinguished components that are difficult to aggregate and rank in one numerical grade,” says Lewis.

That’s one reason Latting is focused on strengthening the recruitment process. “The numbers are important,” he says, “but the bigger story is more complex.”—P.P.P.
Drifting Back through Time

LAWRENCE JACKSON MAKES A RESEARCH PROJECT PERSONAL

“If you go there, you who never was there—if you go there and stand in the place where it was, it will happen again; it will be there for you, waiting for you.”
—Toni Morrison, Beloved

For his latest book, Professor Lawrence P. Jackson challenges himself to break with type in a couple of notable ways: first, he leaves the office and the library to chase down some clues to a family mystery from behind the wheel of his car—making a lot of wrong turns in the process. And second, he turns his scholar’s inquisitive-ness and research skills inward, applying them to his own life and family history.

In My Father’s Name: A Black Virginia Family after the Civil War, Jackson seeks greater knowledge of his father’s family. What he finds astonishes and pains him, despite his well-tempered expectations of race relations in this country and mastery of African American history.

The journey began on his deceased father’s birthday in 2001—the year before he joined Emory as professor of English and African American studies—when Jackson traveled to Danville, Virginia, the area where his family was from. Then in 2004, his curiosities still simmering and his first son Nathaniel (named for his father and grandfather) on the way, Jackson drove just north of Danville to the outlying town of Blairs, thinking that “walking the terrain of my forebears would put me in a paternal frame of mind and that, with luck, I might unearth my grandfather’s house by the railroad tracks.” He goes on, “I was curious about how my father’s people saw the world...I wanted to better understand my father, such a formidable presence in my own memory.”

What started as a day’s lark in 2001 became a meticulous search that didn’t end until eleven years later with the publication of the book. In between, a lot of gravel is scattered in convenience store parking lots as Jackson continually reorients himself, geographically and emotionally, for the truth that lies ahead.

“What am I really looking for?” Jackson wonders, early on. “A house? A man? A family? A memory?” As he encounters a diverse cast of characters along the way, he must make a series of social negotiations, adding layers to his identity as quickly as he adds miles to his odometer.

Jackson traces his family’s past—both across Virginia terrain and in various records offices—to ultimately discover that his great-great-grandfather, Granville Hundley, was either born a slave or sold into slavery by the 1840s. Similarly, his father’s grandfather, Edward Jackson, likely spent 1855 to 1865 as another man’s property.

That revelation is unnerving, despite the preparation of years as a historian. Jackson is unequivocal about the pain and degradation of slavery, calling it a “genocide involving tens of millions of people.”

“What being a member of a powerless but highly visible minority group descended from ex-chattels means is to look at yourself, your past, through the myths, the joys, the guilt, and the fear of someone else,” he says.
There are a thousand metaphorical miles between that moment and the assumptions that Jackson harbored as a younger man. In high school in Baltimore during the Reagan years, Jackson recalls, “The success of the civil rights movement, as I understood it then, was that my racial background would not hinder me if I lived an immaculate, cautious life.”

Jackson’s great-great-grandfather was able to purchase a forty-acre tract after his enslavement ended—land that was parceled out to six children and eventually lost. The physical search for it ends in late winter 2009, when Jackson stumbles upon a “compact graveyard” that was one of the concrete boundaries of Granville Hundley’s 1877 tract.

Immediately adjacent is land formerly owned by a white doctor, Edward Williams, and his wife, who had imagined themselves as Napoleon and Josephine and named their residence Malmaison after Napoleon’s residence. The current occupants of the house are the Chandlers, a white couple Jackson describes as “cheerful and gregarious. But our divergent paths spoke loudly. . . . In the hallway, they kept a bust of General Lee . . . and in the corner of the kitchen they had four ceramic figures, ‘smiling darkies.’”

As a boy, Jackson used to chide his father for driving below the fifty-five-mile-per-hour speed limit on family trips. As a result of the journey he makes in the book, Jackson is rethinking the haste of his modern life. “The rapid movement across space and time creates a mirage,” he writes. “I am more interested in looking for myself by way of gathering these ancestors of mine; I want my travel to go in that direction.”

Typically, his father wouldn’t respond when an exasperated teenage Jackson cajoled him to go faster. Once, though, his father did answer, saying simply, “I like to look at the trees.”

Lots of things, it turns out, can’t be done in haste. And all of Jackson’s wrong turns became chapters in a longer narrative about providing two sons a key to their past.—Susan Carini 04G

You’ve Had to Be Crazy

**PSYCHOPATHIC TRAITS LINKED TO PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESS**

The fearless dominance associated with psychopathy may be an important predictor of US presidential performance, suggests an analysis published in September in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.*

“Certain psychopathic traits may be like a double-edged sword,” says lead author Scott Lilienfeld, professor of psychology. “Fearless dominance, for example, may contribute to reckless criminality and violence, or to skillful leadership in the face of a crisis.”

In fact, fearless dominance, linked to low social and physical apprehensiveness, appears to correlate with better-rated presidential performance for leadership, persuasiveness, crisis management, and Congressional relations, the analysis showed.


The analysis drew upon personality assessments of forty-two presidents, up to George W. Bush, compiled by Steven Rubenz and Thomas Faschingbauer for their book *Personality, Character and Leadership in the White House.* More than one hundred experts, including biographers, journalists, and scholars who are established authorities on one or more US presidents, evaluated their target presidents using standardized psychological measures of personality, intelligence, and behavior.

For rankings on aspects of job performance, the analysis relied primarily on data from two large surveys of presidential historians: One conducted by C-SPAN in 2009 and a second conducted by Siena College in 2010. The combined information provided a window into an emerging theory that some aspects of psychopathy may actually be positive adaptations in certain social situations.

“The way many people think about mental illness is too cut-and-dried,” Lilienfeld says. “Certainly, full-blown psychopathy is maladaptive and undesirable. But what makes the psychopathic personality so interesting is that it’s not defined by a single trait, but a constellation of traits.”

A clinical psychopath encompasses myriad characteristics, such as fearless social dominance, self-centered impulsivity, superficial charm, guiltlessness, callousness, dishonesty, and immunity to anxiety. Each of these traits lies along a continuum, and all individuals may exhibit one or more of these traits to some degree.

“You can think of it like height and weight,” Lilienfeld explains. “Everyone has some degree of both, and they’re continuously distributed in the population.”

The analysis raised the possibility that the boldness often associated with psychopathy may confer advantages in a variety of occupations involving power and prestige, from politics to business, law, athletics, and the military. But in the extreme, adds Lilienfeld, fearless dominance is likely to become detrimental recklessness.—Carol Clark 04G

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**Top Christian scholars featured in new lecture series**

The Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory has been awarded a $250,000 grant from the McDonald Agape Foundation to create a new lecture series, the McDonald Distinguished Faculty Lectures on Christian Scholarship, designed to showcase the world’s preeminent Christian scholars on law, politics, and society. It will begin in fall 2013.

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**Emory experts coauthor book on predictive health**

Associate Vice President and Director of the Predictive Health Initiative Kenneth Brigham and former Chancellor and Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Michael M. E. Johns have coauthored *Predictive Health: How We Can Reinvent Medicine to Extend Our Best Years*, which focuses on how health care can be improved over the lifespan.
The Art of War
VISITING EXHIBITION SHOWS HOW WAR IMAGERY WAS ONCE CREATED

IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US to imagine now, but in the centuries before the advent of photography and mass media, printed images made powerful statements about warfare. A rich array of examples can be seen at the Michael C. Carlos Museum in The Plains of Mars: European War Prints, 1580–1825, from the collection of the Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation.

“For better or worse, war is always a timely topic,” says Andi McKenzie, assistant curator of the works on paper collection at the Carlos. “I was interested in bringing this show to Emory particularly because of the nuanced viewpoints it provides.”

Among the highlights are woodcuts by Albrecht Dürer—including the rarely exhibited The Knight on Horseback and the Landsknecht—ten aquatints from Francisco José de Goya’s The Disasters of War series, and Théodore Géricault’s 1818 lithograph, Return from Russia.

The exhibition, which is divided into two parts, spans three centuries from roughly the French invasion of Italy in 1494 to the end of the Napoleonic wars in 1815. Part one is on view through November 11; part two from December 8 through March 10, 2013.

“Each visitor will undoubtedly take away something different,” says McKenzie.
New Director for MARBL

The name Rosemary Magee 82PhD has long been associated—if not synonymous—with creative endeavor at Emory. Now the vice president and secretary of the university has been named director of the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL), one of Emory’s most vital and well-known repositories for exquisite scholarly resources.

“With her academic background in literature, Rosemary has been involved with the archives as a teacher and scholar,” says Richard Mendola, interim vice provost and director of Emory Libraries. “She already has been actively promoting MARBL and enhancing the collections.”

Appointed vice president and secretary of the university in 2005, Magee previously served as senior associate dean of Emory College, where she championed the completion of the Donna and Marvin Schwartz Center for Perfor­ming Arts, as well as Candler Library and the Mathematics and Science Center. She chaired the steering committee for the Arts at Emory, a diverse group of faculty and staff that set an ambitious agenda for the arts at Emory. In 2008, she received the Thomas Jefferson Award for service and leadership, among the highest awards given by the university.

Magee has conducted “Creativity Conversations” on the origins and nature of the creative process with authors including Salman Rushdie and Seamus Heaney—both of whose papers are at MARBL—and many others.

“With her academic background in literature, Rosemary has been involved with the archives as a teacher and scholar,” says Richard Mendola, interim vice provost and director of Emory Libraries. “She already has been actively promoting MARBL and enhancing the collections.”

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A noted writer herself, Magee has published essays, reviews, and short stories in a variety of journals and literary magazines.

“MARBL is a place that honors and treasures the past, but it’s a place that brings the past into the present,” Magee says. “It’s also a place that brings us all into the future as we experience these materials in ever-new ways.” —Elaine Justice

Carter’s 31st Emory town hall

Former President Jimmy Carter addressed the latest events in the Middle East, including the deaths of US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans in Libya, during his annual town hall meeting at Emory on September 12. It was the 31st time Carter has addressed the freshman class at Emory.

Emory and Coursera to offer online courses

Emory and 16 other institutions have announced an agreement with the online course provider Coursera to offer selected courses online at no cost, beginning next spring. In less than a year, Coursera has expanded to host more than 200 courses from 33 universities, reaching more than 1.3 million students globally.

Pearl Cleage Joins MARBL ‘Pantheon’

Nationally recognized playwright, poet, novelist, and social activist Pearl Cleage has placed her papers at Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL), adding new depth to the library’s extensive African American holdings.

Randall K. Burkett, curator of African American collections, says the acquisition of Cleage’s papers “adds luster to our holdings of brilliant African American women writers, artists, and activists, including Camille Billops, Elaine Brown, Lucille Clifton, and Alice Walker. Cleage fits well in this pantheon of leading creative figures of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.”

Cleage said she decided to place her papers with MARBL at Emory for several reasons, including prior discussions with the late Professor Rudolph Byrd, a MARBL supporter, and with Burkett.

“I really appreciated the way Randall approached collecting African American material as an integral part of American culture,” she says. “Emory was a place that would value the work that I’ve done and make the papers available in a way that would make it productive to place them there.”

Of special interest will be letters written to her parents, who were passionate social activists, from the time Cleage enrolled at Howard University in 1967 and continuing through the 1980s. The collection also includes documentation of her long collaboration with her husband, writer Zaron W. Burnett Jr. Cleage is best known for her novels What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day and Babylon Sisters, as well as for her plays Blues for an Alabama Sky and Flyin’ West.—Maureen McGavin
Origins Expand

SLAVE RECORD DATABASE IS NOW THE MOST COMPLETE AVAILABLE

The African Origins website, launched at Emory last year with the names of ten thousand Africans liberated from the slave trade in the nineteenth century, has added the names of more than eighty thousand African captives to the site, making it the largest and most comprehensive record of the identity of individuals caught up in the slave trade to the Americas.

Researchers are inviting those who recognize African names to share which modern country, language, and culture uses the name today. Woodruff Professor of History David Eltis, project leader, says they will use the identifications made by visitors to the site to construct a geographic profile of the origins of the African captives.

For most of the duration of the slave trade, once a person was forced onto a slaving vessel, his or her identity and history were effectively lost, says Eltis. But after the slave trade was outlawed in 1807, authorities began intercepting illegal slave transports, and for the first time maritime courts recorded the African captives’ true names. Registers containing information on more than ninety thousand individuals survived in the national archives of Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom; it is these records that researchers have been recreating on the website.

“The database contains the names and records of Africans found on board 515 different slave vessels captured between 1808 and 1862,” Eltis says. “There are records of captives leaving from and arriving at every significant slaving port on either side of the Atlantic.”

They have been able to identify the modern ties of nearly twenty-five thousand names, Eltis says. “With help from the public, we expect that we will be able to establish the origins of those of African descent in the Americas with an unprecedented degree of clarity and precision.”—Elaine Justice

African Origins
www.african-origins.org

GOING LIVE: Former project manager Elizabeth Milewicz (from left), adviser Kwesi DeGraft-Hanson, and project director David Eltis prepare the database for launch.

SUSTAINABLE EFFORTS

STALLED OR ON TRACK?

A MARTA light rail line through the heart of Emory has long been a dream of the community, and it seemed closer than ever with the proposed regional transportation referendum vote in July.

President James Wagner came out in strong support of the tax, saying it would unclog area roads, put more workers within reach of campus, help attract and retain academic talent, and generally improve quality of life for those in the Emory community and beyond. Atlanta voters, however, soundly defeated the one-cent sales tax, which would have supported $72 billion in road and transit improvements over the next ten years.

But it would be wrong to assume that a light rail project for Emory has lost all momentum, says Betty Willis, senior associate vice president for governmental and community affairs. The Clifton Corridor light rail project, which involves about 3.5 miles of light rail from MARTA’s Lindbergh Station to Emory, already has attracted more than $2 million from federal and local funding sources for completion of three out of six phases required for federal funding, including feasibility, alternative analysis, and locally preferred alternative studies. MARTA is moving forward with the next step in the process—the draft environmental impact study. The project remains a priority in the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), Willis says, and voter support for the referendum in the intown neighborhoods was strong.

“People recognize the Clifton Corridor as a unique place—with infamous congestion,” Willis says. “We’ve needed a light rail line for decades to maintain the vitality of this huge employment center, and no one has ever argued against that.”

The university will continue to work with officials to put together a strategy that advances the light rail line, which would benefit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and the VA Medical Center as well.

Emory’s Office of Sustainability Initiatives, which hosted a town hall with local leaders and educational forums around the referendum, remains “completely committed to working toward more alternative transportation options for Emory staff, faculty, and students,” says Emily Cumbie-Drake '10C, sustainability programs coordinator. “Emory has a lot of strength in numbers and reputation throughout the city and the state, and we’ll continue to be leaders in our work on sustainability and transportation.”

Paul Bryan Cronan ’14C, a native Atlantan and Emory junior, says he was disappointed that the referendum did not pass. “After graduation from Emory next year, there is a very high possibility I will leave this city now,” he says. “I refuse to live in a place where I waste precious hours of my life sitting in traffic. I believe many of my peers agree. We want a liveable city—one that we can invest in, and that will invest in us.”—M.J.L.
Thoughts about Thought

CENTER CULTIVATES RESEARCH CONNECTIONS AROUND HUMAN THINKING AND COGNITION

CLOSE YOUR EYES AND PICTURE A BRIDGE. What does it look like?

A faculty member sees a covered bridge on a river; a graduate student sees a suspension bridge; virtually every answer is different. How we construct and process mental imagery is the topic of discussion led by Laura Otis, professor of English, and Krish Sathian, professor of neurology, at a recent lunchtime gathering.

These professors, who cotaught a course last year on metaphors, images, and the brain, have delved deep into the cognitive and chemical processes that produce the pictures in our heads. Although mental imagery is a unique experience, there are patterns that can tell us about how the mind works—for instance, some people think in objects, while others think more in terms of spatial relationships.

“We tend to presume our mental experience is the same as others,” said Otis, who is working on a book based on interviews about what people envision when they read fiction. “But cognitive style is highly individual and can change over a lifetime.”

And everyone’s brain constructs some sort of mental imagery—even those who insist that they don’t see things in their minds.

This popular lunch series is one of the signature programs of the Center for Mind, Brain, and Culture (CMBC), a scholarly experiment celebrating its fifth anniversary this year. As one might gather from its name, the center’s figurative doors are thrown open to a fairly sweeping range of subjects—with one critical common denominator.

“Our target interests stretch from the brain to culture, with the mind, arguably, in between. It’s a lot of territory,” allows center director Robert McCauley, William Rand Kenan Jr. University Professor of Psychology. “But our focus is on the human.”

Led by McCauley and associate director Laura Namy, also a psychologist, the center has some 260 affiliates among Emory faculty, students, and alumni. Loosely defined by the study of what is human, the CMBC prioritizes projects that take a scientific approach, although that’s not a hard-and-fast rule. Its primary role is to showcase research and teaching by bridging disciplines—which is how a neurologist and an English professor wound up trading ideas over sandwiches.

“The notion of teaming people up has been incredibly successful,” McCauley says. “We have had to limit attendance to twenty people, and they always fill up. In a few cases the faculty members did not even know each other beforehand, so new connections are formed.”

QUOTATION: “It’s taught me, and it keeps teaching me, that everyone is worth more than the worst thing they’ve ever done in their life.”—Sister Helen Prejean (at left, with Oxford Chaplain Lyn Pace 02MDiv), speaking at Oxford College and Emory’s Aquinas Center of Theology in September, about her time spent as a spiritual adviser to death row inmates.
Ah...There’s the Rub
You just knew something that feels so good had to be good for you—and now there’s proof. Repeated massage therapy has sustained, cumulative benefits that last for several days to a week, a new study has found. Researchers led by Mark Hyman Rapaport, chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, examined the biological effects of repeated Swedish massage therapy versus light touch intervention. (The control group received only a light touch with the back of the hand.)

A previous study by Rapaport showed that even a single session of Swedish massage had a measurable biological effect, increasing oxytocin levels and stimulating immune function.

“Now we know that the frequency of, or the interval between, massages has different biological and psychological effects than a single session,” he says.

Results were reported online in the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine.—M.I.L.

Hello, Is this an Ear Infection?

A NEW PEDIATRIC MEDICAL DEVICE BEING developed by Georgia Tech and Emory could make life easier for every parent who has rushed to the doctor with a child screaming from an ear infection.

Soon, parents may be able to skip the doctor’s visit and receive a diagnosis without leaving home by using Remotoscope, a clip-on attachment and software app that turns an iPhone into an otoscope.

Pediatricians currently diagnose ear infections using the standard otoscope to examine the eardrum. With Remotoscope, parents would be able to take a picture or video of their child’s eardrum using the iPhone and send the images digitally to a physician for diagnostic review.

Wilbur Lam, assistant professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory, along with colleagues at the University of California, Berkeley, is developing the device, with plans to commercialize it.

“Ultimately we think parents could receive a diagnosis at home and forgo the late-night trips to the emergency room,” says Lam, who is also a physician at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and an assistant professor of pediatrics at Emory’s School of Medicine. “It’s known that kids who get ear infections early in life are at risk for recurrent ear infections. It can be a big deal and really affect families’ quality of life.”

The device has the potential to save money for both families and health care systems, Lam says. Ear infection, or otitis media, is the most common diagnosis for preschoolers, resulting in more than fifteen million office visits per year in the US and thousands of prescriptions for antibiotics, which are not always needed.

A clinical trial for the Remotoscope is currently under way to see if the device can obtain images of the same diagnostic quality as what a physician sees with a traditional otoscope. The Food and Drug Administration is partially funding the trial through the Atlanta Pediatric Device Consortium, a partnership among Georgia Tech, Children’s, and Emory.

Lam and a colleague, Erik Douglas, started the Remotoscope project while doctoral students at Berkeley. The two researchers went on to create the startup CellScope, which aims to commercialize Remotoscope once clinical studies are complete and the device has FDA approval.—Liz Klipp

Alzheimer’s-Positive?

Scientists have taken a step toward developing a long-sought blood test for Alzheimer’s, finding a group of markers that hold up in statistical analyses in three independent groups of patients, according to a study published online and in the journal Neurology.

“Reliability and failure to replicate initial results have been the biggest challenges in this field,” says lead author William Hu, assistant professor of neurology at Emory’s School of Medicine. “We demonstrate here that it is possible to show consistent findings.”

Hu and collaborators at the University of Pennsylvania and Washington University in St. Louis measured the levels of 190 proteins in the blood of six hundred study participants at those institutions. Participants included healthy volunteers and those who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease or mild cognitive impairment (MCI), often considered a harbinger of Alzheimer’s disease.

A subset of the 190 protein levels (seventeen) were significantly different in people with MCI or Alzheimer’s. When those markers were checked against data from 566 participants in the multicenter Alzheimer’s Disease Neuroimaging Initiative, only four markers remained.

“Though a blood test to identify underlying Alzheimer’s disease is not quite ready for prime time, we now have identified ways to make sure that a test will be reliable,” says Hu, who began the research while a fellow at the University of Pennsylvania. “In the meantime, the combination of a clinical exam and cerebrospinal fluid analysis remains the best tool for diagnosis in someone with mild memory or cognitive troubles.” —Quinn Eastman
Lawley’s Legacy

MEDICAL SCHOOL DEAN HELPED THE SCHOOL RISE TO NATIONAL PROMINENCE

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEAN TOM LAWLEY stepped down this fall after sixteen years, during which he led the construction of a new medical education building, oversaw a five-fold rise in research funding, spearheaded a revised curriculum, doubled the faculty size, and created six new departments.

Before becoming dean, Lawley served as chair of dermatology for eight years, helping to increase the department’s National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding and its expansion from three to eighteen faculty.

“At that time, the medical school was a sleeping giant,” Lawley says. “It was just beginning to wake up to how good it could be, to realize it had the potential and the resources to become a national leader.”

Colleagues say Lawley’s ability to develop strong, trusting professional relationships, his integrity, and his calm temperament marked his response to steep challenges, such as the near-demise of Grady Memorial Hospital or the restructuring of the Emory Clinic.

“Tom balances competing interests with dignity and respect, even when personalities are strong and the noise level rises,” says Ray Dingledine, executive associate dean for research.

The medical school now ranks fifteenth in NIH funding and received more than $427 million last year overall. Lawley also oversaw the design of a new building and a new curriculum simultaneously.

“The medical school is in a good place now, and there are other things I want to do professionally and personally,” he says, including traveling with his wife, Chris. Lawley will continue to teach in a faculty position at Emory, write, and spend time with patients.—Sylvia Wrobel

Winship Wins Renewal

THE WINSHIP CANCER INSTITUTE, THE ONLY National Cancer Institute (NCI)–designated cancer center in Georgia, has had its designation status renewed by the NCI, with a rating of “outstanding.” Just fifty-seven centers nationwide that provide care to adult cancer patients and conduct research hold the designation.

The renewal, which includes $7.5 million in funding to Winship during the next five years, is the result of many factors—including continued advances in lung cancer research, a world-class multiple myeloma program, the Southeast’s largest head and neck cancer research effort, a host of other clinical trials, and a cadre of leading researchers in their fields. The national reviewers particularly noted outstanding science in the area of cancer genetics and cell biology, drug development, and efforts in cancer prevention, as well as Winship’s facilities.

“The designation is not about bragging rights,” says Walter J. Curran Jr., Winship’s executive director. “It’s about a standard of cancer research excellence in clinical, laboratory, and community environments. This designation facilitates our ability to better understand cancer and to work cooperatively with other NCI–designated centers in conducting impactful research.”

Two Emory hospitals receive quality awards

University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC), a national organization focusing on excellence in quality and safety and comprising most of the nation’s leading medical centers, has ranked Emory University Hospital (combined with Emory University Orthopaedics & Spine Hospital) second and Emory University Hospital Midtown sixth in the 2012 UHC Quality Leadership Awards. This is the first time UHC has ever had two hospitals from one health care system rank in the national top ten.
Welcome, Class of 2016

EMORY DREAM BECOMES A REALITY FOR THIRD-GENERATION FRESHMAN

In many ways, Stephen Fowler 16C is just as new to Emory as the rest of his freshman class: he’s attending orientation, signing up for classes, getting to know his roommate, and finding his way around the library and Cox Hall.

But Fowler, who is from McDonough, Georgia, has a lifelong connection to the university through his mother and grandmother. He says he grew up in a home with Emory Magazine on the coffee table (and he even claims he read it). His grandmother, Janice Astin 65C 66G, earned a master’s degree in mathematics and went on to teach math at Georgia State and Oxford College; his mother, Catherine Astin Fowler 92C, was a music major who became a band director and chorus teacher. “Emory has always just been there, a part of my life,” Fowler says.

Although he considered other colleges while a student at Union Grove High School, Fowler eventually decided to follow the family legacy—and to accept the prestigious Emory Coke Scholarship, an Emory-specific award funded by George Overend 64C and Carol Overend 64C since 1991. Administered through the Coca-Cola Scholars Program, the Emory scholarship provides $20,000 total over the scholars’ four years as undergraduates.

“When I found out I was the Emory Coke Scholar, I almost dropped the phone,” Fowler said in a statement for the program newsletter. “Emory has always been my dream school and to get a scholarship specifically to go there was surreal. I distinctly remember laughing like a maniac and pinching my arm to see if I was dreaming.”

In high school, Fowler was heavily involved in music through marching band and other ensembles and also served on the student council, becoming school president his senior year. A French horn player, he plans to double major in music and political science at Emory and began connecting with faculty in both departments even before school started.

“Emory just has this aura of community and learning, and basically there is no stereotypical major or stereotypical student that I felt I had to fit in with,” he says. “There’s a lot of academic and social diversity.”

Fowler joins a class of some 1,371 currently enrolled for Emory College as well as about 470 for Oxford College. The first-year students come from five continents and from across all regions of the United States.

“The Emory College Class of 2016 is spectacular—by almost any measure the strongest, most interesting, talented, and diverse class we have seen,” says Emory College Dean Robin Forman. “Based on the contact we have had with them, they are just as excited as we are. It’s going to be a phenomenal fall—followed by a wonderful four years with them.”

Forty-six percent of Emory College freshmen were admitted and enrolled through early decision, indicating a rise in those who made Emory a first-choice school. Oxford also offered early-decision admission for the first time, and 24 percent of the class entered through that option.

“We’re also seeing an expansion of the Emory footprint with increased numbers of students coming from the West and New England, and notable increases in international students,” says John Latting, dean of admission.

The first-year class comes to Emory College from more than forty states. About 16 percent of the class is international, and it also exhibits racial and ethnic diversity, with 43 percent Caucasian; 34 percent Asian, Asian American or Pacific Islander; 8 percent African American; 8 percent Latino/Hispanic; and 3 percent multiracial, with 4 percent not reporting.

Oxford College’s first-year students come from 367 high schools in thirty-eight states and twenty nations, and 75 percent came from outside Georgia. Total enrollment is about nine hundred for Oxford’s freshman/sophomore program located on Emory’s original, historic campus. —P.P.P. •
VISIT TO A CLASSROOM  ENGL 389: CLASSIC HIP-HOP MUSIC, AUTHENTICITY, DOMESTIC COLONIALISM, AND THE CULTURE OF MODERN AMERICA

HIP-HOP: KEEPING IT REAL

PROFESSOR’S CV: Lawrence Jackson, professor of African American studies and English, earned a PhD at Stanford University. He is the author of Ralph Ellison: Emergence of Genius; The Indignant Generation: A Narrative History of African American Writers and Critics, 1934–1960; and My Father’s Name: A Black Virginia Family after the Civil War (see page 8).

SYLLABUS: “In this course, we study the development of hip-hop music from the 1970s through the 1990s,” Jackson says. “Mainly hip-hop musicians and lyricists who conceive of their role as providing a public voice for the voiceless and the oppressed, the erased Americans, challenging the sonic, political hegemony of popular mainstream American cultural discourse.”

TODAY’S LECTURE: Each class has a “soundtrack” that underscores Jackson’s lecture. Today the class listened to Sugar Hill Gang’s “Rapper’s Delight,” and read the narrative poem “Shine and the Titanic,” as well as the lyrics to Gil Scott-Heron’s “The Revolution Will Not Be Televised.”

QUOTES TO NOTE: “This is when American urban landscapes were being dramatically transformed, not just by the burnings—although you can see evidence of the 1968 riots today in some places, like D.C., on Georgia Avenue, the old Howard theater, some fifty years later—but by the highways that cut through black and brown neighborhoods.”

“Some of these songs are radical criticism of black complacency after the passage of civil rights, fair housing, and I might say the same thing [to the artists] that I would say to you all in your papers: don’t get preachy, convince me with the evidence.”

STUDENTS SAY: “Hip-hop is a large part of African American culture, and being from its birthplace—Bronx, New York—it has always been a vital part of my life. Dr. Jackson gives us a chance to express our points of view while giving us historical context.” — Leeanne Fagan 13C, African American studies major

“Dr. Jackson discusses hip-hop, a genre that is maligned by much of the general public, in a scholarly manner to open up minds. So far, I found James Brown and his effects on hip-hop as well as the history of Grandmaster Flash’s ‘The Message’ very compelling.” — Vikram Pursnani 14C, English and econ major—M.J.L.

New Priorities for the College

THIS FALL, EMMORY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND Sciences begins a multiyear plan to bolster current academic strengths and allocate resources to new and emerging areas, announced Dean Robin Forman in September.

The plan, developed over four years in collaboration with faculty and top administrators, calls for investment in the arts and sciences, including departments across the humanities, social and natural sciences; and in new, interdisciplinary areas, including contemporary China studies, digital and new media studies, and neuroscience.

The college also will close three academic departments and several programs to accommodate these priorities, Forman said. The departments of physical education and visual arts, the division of educational studies, and the program in journalism are being closed, and will be phased out during the next several years. Graduate programs in economics, educational studies, Spanish, and the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts are also suspending new admissions.

The financial challenges of the past several years have stretched the college’s resources, said Forman, but “these are fundamentally academic decisions about the size and scope of our mission.”

President James Wagner endorsed the plan, saying he respects Forman’s “willingness to go back to first principles, look at each department and program afresh, and begin the process of reallocating resources for emerging needs and opportunities.”

Tenured faculty who are affected are being offered comparable positions in other departments, Forman said, and all current students will be able to complete the degree programs in which they are now enrolled.

Forman said the departments and programs affected by these changes have made “important and fundamental contributions to our campus, and they have passionate supporters. . . . There is nothing about this process that has been easy. However, we have a primary obligation to our students to allocate resources in a way that will allow us to train leaders of the century to come.”

For more, visit www.news.emory.edu/EsmoryCollegePlan. — Nancy Seideman
dynamic Forces

Medicine Woman

CASSANDRA QUAVE TURNS TO TRADITIONAL REMEDIES FOR NEW WEAPONS AGAINST MODERN SUBERBUGS

CASSANDRA QUAVE first encountered the battle against infectious diseases when she was three years old and hospitalized with a life-threatening case of staph. “That’s probably why I feel a strong connection to people who deal with these kinds of infections,” says Quave, now a visiting assistant professor at Emory’s Center for the Study of Human Health.

She recently received a $1.8 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (nih) to pursue her research on how an extract from a tree common in forests across Europe might help fight antibiotic-resistant staph. The five-year project, led by Quave, will include collaborators from the Emory Institute for Drug Development, the University of Iowa, and Montana State University.

Prolific use of modern drugs has helped turn multi-drug-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (mrsa) into the leading cause of invasive disease, killing more people every year than AIDS. Quave believes the remedies of traditional healers may lead to better ways of treating it. “Ideally, we should combine the best of both modern medicine and complementary alternative medicine,” says Quave (rhymes with “wave”). She bridges the two worlds as a medical ethnobotanist, studying human interactions with plants.

At thirty-four, Quave already has a utility patent for one promising medicinal plant extract and has filed a disclosure for a second patent. In 2011, she formed the bio-venture startup Phytotek with Emory friend Sahil Patel 00B, who is now at Harvard Business School. Phytotek advanced to the final round of Harvard Business School’s Alumni New Venture Contest, placing in the top three.

Quave grew up in the small town of Arcadia, in a rural area of South Florida, where her mother was a teacher and her father ran a land-clearing business. She had multiple congenital birth defects of her skeletal system, including missing part of her right calf bone. When she was three, her right leg was amputated below the knee in an effort to improve her mobility. “The doctors told my mother not to unwrap the bandages, but she noticed this horrible stench coming from my leg and knew that something wasn’t right,” Quave says. “As she took off the bandages, the flesh just fell off the bone.” The toddler returned to the hospital for treatment of a severe staph infection. Her leg had to be cut off even shorter, leaving her with a heavily scarred stump that lacks fatty tissue, making prosthetics less comfortable.

During high school, she learned to operate the bulldozer and backhoe parked in the family’s yard, so she could help her father on summer breaks. She excelled in science fairs, competing at the state and international level. For her first science project, in the sixth grade, she took saliva samples from her dog, a horse, and a cow for a comparative analysis.

Nearly every year, Quave had to return to the hospital for more operations on her leg. She later made history as one of the first amputees to have bone lengthening surgery. “They broke my femur and implanted a kind of knob that you twist,” Quave explains matter-of-factly. At thirteen, she developed scoliosis. Metal rods were surgically implanted in her back. She also had hip dysplasia, requiring her pelvis to be broken and rebuilt.

One bright spot in her storm of medical problems was pediatric orthopedist Chad Price 67C. He performed almost every surgery on Quave, except for the initial leg amputation, and became a friend and mentor that Quave
path opened up when she took a tropical ecology class from Larry Wilson, adjunct faculty in Emory’s department of environmental studies and an ecologist at Atlanta’s Fernbank Science Center. Under Wilson’s tutelage, Quave spent several months in the Peruvian Amazon, researching the therapies of traditional healers.

An acceptance letter to medical school was waiting for her when she returned to Atlanta during her senior year at Emory, but the Amazon had changed Quave. She no longer wanted to be an MD. A chance meeting with an Italian ethnobiologist at a conference led Quave to southern Italy, where she conducted field research on the traditional remedies of rural people there and eventually wrote a sort of cookbook of traditional medicine in the region. Quave also fell in love while in Italy, marrying Marco Caputo, a resident of the tiny town of Ginestra; they now have two young children.

Back in the United States, Quave pursued a PhD in biology at Florida International University, where she focused on an ethnobotanical approach to drug discovery. “I felt strongly that people who dismissed traditional healing plants as medicine because the plants don’t kill a pathogen were not asking the right questions,” she says. “What if these plants play some other role in fighting a disease?”

She led a project to analyze extracts from one hundred different species of plants she had collected in Italy, guided by clues from hundreds of interviews with locals. She was particularly interested in finding treatments for skin and soft-tissue infections to help in the fight against MRSA. “This “superbug” bacterium can cause everything from mild skin irritation to death, and is difficult to treat because it’s constantly adapting and has become resistant to many antibiotics. It is common in people with weak immune systems in hospitals and nursing homes.

People with implanted medical devices, like knee or hip replacements, also are at higher risk since the implants provide a smooth surface that the sugary matrix of the bacteria can adhere to. Even more alarming, MRSA infections are on the rise in healthy young people outside of hospitals.

Quave is uncovering promising ways to treat MRSA by teasing apart leaves, stems, roots, and bark, isolating individual plant compounds for analysis. Her first patent involves a compound from the roots of an Italian elm leaf blackberry that neutralizes the staph defense system. “Think of it like Star Trek,” she says, explaining that after MRSA attaches to something, it can grow a biofilm that acts as a shield against antibiotics—much like a villainous space ship uses a force field to ward off attacks from the Starship Enterprise. The plant extract prevents the MRSA bacteria from attaching to anything, so it can’t throw up a force field.

Quave hopes the extract could one day be used to coat artificial implants and catheters before they are implanted, preventing MRSA from ever gaining a foothold on them. The recent NIH grant she received will further her research on a second compound from a European tree, “Extract 134,” which inhibits the toxic effects of MRSA. “One reason that MRSA can infect healthy people is that it’s really good at producing a ton of toxins that it shoots out like lasers to cause tissue damage,” she says. “Extract 134 turns off the MRSA system responsible for toxin production. The bacteria are still able to grow, but the weapons are turned off.”

Taking away MRSA’s tissue-damaging weapons or its force field could tip the battle back in favor of the host’s immune system, with little or no help from antibiotics, Quave theorizes. “It’s more of a delicate approach. The goal is to improve patient therapy, reduce infection rates, and avoid creating more virulent strains of MRSA,” she says.

After a postdoctoral stint at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Quave returned to Emory last fall. She was recruited by another one of her longtime mentors, Michelle Lampl, a physician and anthropologist who heads Emory’s Center for the Study of Human Health. Lampl founded the center last year to serve as a nexus for Emory’s diverse efforts in health education, research, and practices.

Quave teaches a course on medical botany while pursuing her drug discovery research that will draw on expertise from anthropology, biology, chemistry, and environmental studies. High hurdles remain to getting the plant-based MRSA treatments from the laboratory into clinical trials, but Quave is undaunted. “I’m used to obstacles,” she says. “I’ve climbed a lot of brick walls in my life.” —Carol Clark
As the new US poet laureate, professor Natasha Trethewey hopes to illuminate histories ‘lost or forgotten’
Natasha Trethewey’s earliest memory is of taking a trip from Mississippi to Mexico with her parents when she was three years old. She knows how old she was because she has a photograph her father took of her sitting on a mule, the Monterrey mountains in the background, with “Tasha, 1969” written on the back.

Eric Trethewey was a white college professor and poet originally from Canada, and Natasha’s mother, Gwendolyn Ann Turnbough, a black social worker from Gulfport. Her parents married when it was still illegal for interracial couples to do so in Mississippi, driving to Ohio and back for the ceremony.

The images from Mexico that stayed with a young Trethewey: the drive through the desert and the mountains, a hotel room with light coming in the bathroom window, someone washing their hands in the sink, a white tile floor.

And this: nearly drowning in the hotel swimming pool.

“I vividly remember sinking into the water and looking up. The sun was bright and I could see the rings on the surface of the water as it was smoothing back above me,” says Trethewey. “Then I saw my mother leaning over me, the outline of her, backlit by the sun.”

From this enduring memory came the poem “Calling,” from Thrall, her recently released fourth collection of poetry:

“... What comes back
is the sun’s dazzle on a pool’s surface,
light filtered through water
closing over my head, my mother—her body
between me and the high sun, a corona of light
around her face. Why not call it
a vision? What I know is this:
I was drowning and saw a dark Madonna . . .”

Trethewey, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of English and Creative Writing at Emory, was named the country’s nineteenth poet laureate consultant in poetry on June 7. At forty-six, she is one of the youngest to hold the title, and the first Southerner in more than a quarter-century.

“Permission” is the word that I think of first,” she says of the appointment. “I feel as if I have permission to be the poet that I am, to have my concerns and investigate them, and that’s liberating.”

Established in 1936 as the chair of poetry with a gift from the philanthropist Archer Huntington, the US poet laureate is selected by the librarian of Congress with input from former poet laureates, the library’s Poetry and Literature Center, critics, and recommendations from the public.

“Natasha Trethewey is an outstanding poet and historian in the mold of Robert Penn Warren, our first poet laureate consultant in poetry,” said Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. “Her poems dig beneath the surface of history—personal or communal, from childhood or from a century ago—to explore the human struggles that we all face.”

The poet laureate receives $35,000 and serves from October through May; he or she may be appointed for an additional term. A sampling of past poets laureate includes Robert Lowell, Elizabeth Bishop, Conrad Aiken, Robert Frost, James Dickey, Gwendolyn Brooks, Rita Dove, and Billy Collins (who, during a talk at Emory in January, said that his first reading in front of Congress was “terrifying. They were cocking their heads at me like border collies”).

The “poet-in-chief” has few official duties. Over the years, these have included working on his or her own poetry, giving public readings, surveying the existing collections at the Library of Congress, corresponding with authors and collectors, conferring with scholars and other poets, answering inquiries from the public, and editing a quarterly literary magazine. Trethewey sees the laureateship as a type of ambassador role, through which she can welcome the public to the unexpected power of poetry.

“Social justice may not be the aim when poets sit down to write, but it can be an outcome,” she says.

Born on April 26, 1966 (Confederate Memorial Day, as she often notes), in the seaport city of Gulfport, Mississippi, Trethewey moved to Atlanta with her mother after her parents divorced when she was six. She made frequent visits to her father and stepmother’s home in New Orleans and spent summers with her maternal grandmother in Gulfport.

Bored and lonely, with no one her age around, she immersed herself in books, taking on an entire set of 1967 encyclopedias. “One day I came upon the section ‘Races of Man,’ where I learned what were supposed to be distinguishing racial characteristics—that if you were white, the ratio of femur to tibia was different than if you were black . . . I sneaked into my grandmother’s workroom to steal away with her tape measure, thinking it would finally reveal to me
“the craft is a made thing, it’s made to feel intimate and direct, as if I am speaking directly into your ear.”

who and what I was,” she recalled in a Distinguished Faculty Lecture. Encouraged by her father to write about her feelings and experiences, Trethewey earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Georgia, a master’s degree in English and creative writing from Virginia’s Hollins University, and an MFA in poetry from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Poetry, says Trethewey, makes us “more observant, more compassionate, empathetic. I write because I cannot stand by and say nothing, because I strive to make sense of the world I’ve been given.”

In addition to Thrall, which focuses on racial complexities in the Americas and her somewhat fraught relationship with her father, Trethewey has published Domestic Work (2000), which recognizes generations of anonymous women who cooked, cleaned, and tended to families not their own; Belloq’s Ophelia (2001), inspired by early 1900 photos by E. J. Belloq of prostitutes in the red-light district of New Orleans; the Pulitzer Prize–winning Native Guard (2006), which memorializes both the Louisiana Native Guard and her mother, who was killed by her abusive second husband; and a nonfiction work, Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast (2010). She has been honored with the Cave Canem Poetry Prize, a Guggenheim fellowship, the Grolier Poetry Prize, and a Pushcart Prize, as well as the Pulitzer.

Her poetry is often elegiac; she writes about “buried history, and what was lost or forgotten”—whether the bravery of black Union soldiers, grief over her mother’s untimely death, or the dreams of domestic workers for something better.” These poems are not only about racism and the sense of psychological exile created by that, but they are very much an assertion of my entitlement to own the South, much as white Southerners own it—the deep knowledge that this is where they’ll bury me,” says Trethewey, who is also Mississippi's current poet laureate.

She has even written, presciently, of being included in a dream gathering of “Fugitive Poets” lining up for a photo against the backdrop of Atlanta’s skyline.

“…Yes, I say to the glass of bourbon I’m offered. We’re lining up now—Robert Penn Warren, his voice just audible above the drone of bulldozers, telling us where to stand.

Say ‘race,’ the photographer croons. I’m in blackface again when the flash freezes us. My father’s white, I tell them, and rural.

You don’t hate the South? They ask. You don’t hate it? ”

Since the Library of Congress announcement in early June, Trethewey has been the focus of a media maelstrom, with coverage by NPR ("New US Poet Laureate: A Southerner to the Core"), the Atlantic ("How Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey Wrote Her Father’s ‘Elegy’"), the New York Times ("New Laureate Looks Deep into Memory"), the cover of Poets and Writers magazine, and dozens more.

The attention is both wonderful and wearying, since, despite the personal nature of her work, Trethewey considers herself a very private person. “I know that must sound strange once you read my poems,” she says, “But even a poet writing very close to their own experience will still put on a mask. There is a kind of elegant control of the material in terms of what is revealed and what is held back.”

On sabbatical from teaching at Emory for the fall, Trethewey has nevertheless made time to serve as a faculty adviser to incoming students (who were no doubt surprised to find the sitting poet laureate as their freshman adviser), a returning faculty member at the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference at Middlebury College in Vermont, and the opening night keynote for the annual book festival in Decatur, where she lives with her husband, Brett Gadsden, an associate professor of African American studies at Emory.

She gave her inaugural reading as poet laureate on September 13 at the Library of Congress, where she filled the 485-seat Coolidge Auditorium and an overflow room, and was greeted with a standing ovation.

“I already feel like that space is a poetic space for me,” she told Middlebury Magazine, soon after the announcement. “When I was working on Native Guard I did a lot of writing and research in the library—I would go over to the Madison building, which houses all of the manuscripts, and read through the letters from Civil War soldiers in the collections there. And then I would go back over to the Jefferson, which is where the big beautiful reading room is, and I would sit there with my notes and start writing.”

Trethewey’s poems, which range from ballad to sonnet to free verse, are meditative yet straightforward, bursting with sensory imagery but not overwrought. Her metaphors take root in the natural world, offering a plum’s tautness, palm fronds blown back like a woman’s hair, gliding pelican
The poet’s hand

US Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of English and Creative Writing, shares the original manuscript of her poem “Calling” to reveal “the progression through the changes, avenues, dead ends, and all the strange places a poem may go before it is pared away to the shimmering thing it becomes.” The poem appears in her latest collection, Thrall (2012).
from one life into another.

the water’s bright ceiling
someone pulled me through
I was drowning and saw a dark Madonna;
I want to imagine her before
the altar, rising to meet us, my father
kneeling at the altar of the Black Virgin,
enthralled—light streaming in
a window, the sun
at her back, holy water
in a bowl she must have touched.

What’s left is palimpsest—one memory
bleeding into another, overwriting it.
How else to explain
what remains? The sound
of water in a basin I know is white,
the sun behind her, light streaming in,
her face—
as if she were already dead—blurred
as it will become.

I want to imagine her before
the altar, rising to meet us, my father
lifting me
toward her outstretched arms.

What else to make
of the mind’s slick confabulations?
What comes back
is the sun’s dazzle on a pool’s surface,
light filtered through water
closing over my head, my mother—her body
between me and the high sun, a corona of light
around her face. Why not call it
the water’s bright ceiling
and I rose, initiate,
from one life into another.

shadows as dark thoughts crossing the
mind. She doesn’t steer clear of emo-
tions, but embraces them, giving voice to
scarred-over grievances, tightly held joys,
loved ones’ casual betrayals, our nation’s
collective dirty laundry—sometimes
quite literally.

Domestic Work, writes friend and
former US Poet Laureate Rita Dove,
“tells the hard facts of lives pursued on
the margins, lived out under oppression
and in scripted oblivion, with fear and a
tremulous hope . . . reclaiming for us that
interior life where the true self flour-
ishes and to which we return, in solitary
reverie, for strength.”

The title poem, which was selected
for “Poetry 180: A poem a day for Ameri-
can schools,” begins:

“All week she’s cleaned
someone else’s house,
stared down her own face
in the shine of copper-
bottomed pots, polished
wood, toilets she’d pull
the lid to—that look saying
Let’s make a change, girl.”

Trethewey’s poems have been called
“accessible,” which is not always a
compliment, especially in literary circles.
She’s unabashed.

“I try to write in such a way that even
a casual reader might say, ‘I know what’s
being said to me, that someone is talking
to me.’ I want the surface of my poems
to shimmer with a type of clarity. Some
people expect obfuscation in poetry, and
I’m against that. . . . I can’t tell you how
many times I’ve had students hear some-
thing they can’t understand, and say, ‘Oh,
that’s deep.’ Why is it deep, because you
don’t get it?”

Trethewey intends for her poems
not to be impenetrable, but rather, to
penetrate. When she read from her new
collection, Thrall, for nearly an hour at
the Schwartz Center for Performing
Arts in late August, she kept the capacity
crowd spellbound in a time when audi-
ences often seem to have moved beyond
such singular attention.

In his introduction, Atticus Haygood
Professor of Poetry and Creative Writing
Kevin Young said, “Natasha . . . knows
music can be made of anything, of dis-
tances as well as intimacies.”

Trethewey read of historic limb
transplants between a black donor and
white recipient (“always, the dark body
hewn asunder”), the taxonomy of mixed-
race children captured in Mexican casta

 paintings (“de Espanol y de India produce
mestizo, de Espanol y Negra produce
mulato”), and a line from her own
father’s poetry (“like a curtain drawn
upon a room in which/each learned
man is my father/and I hear, again, his
words—I study/my crossbreed child”).

The intimacies of mixed blood;
the detachment of the doctor, the conqueror,
the father. And still, Trethewey seems less
angst-filled Sylvia Plath than a cautious
optimist who sees poetry as a unifying,
healing force.

A week earlier, Trethewey had
welcomed the university’s Class of 2016
by saying that poetry remains “our best
means of communicating with each
other, of touching not only the intellect
but the heart.”

Emory, she says, has proven itself
as a center for poetry, holding the
discipline in high esteem and building
outstanding poetry collections in its
Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book
Library (MARBL), from the seventy-five-
thousand-volume Raymond Danowski
Poetry Library, to the papers of Irish
poets Ted Hughes and Seamus Heaney,
to African American writers Alice
Walker and Lucille Clifton.

“I talk to a lot of writers and poets
at other institutions who don’t seem
to have that kind of support for such
endeavors,” she says. “Emory is unique
because, from the moment I got here,
I studied 

To our collective good fortune, Trethewey
is the first poet laureate to serve in resi-
dence for part of her term at the Library
of Congress, where she will work in the
Poetry Room—famously known as the
Catbird Seat—next year.

“The last thing I want to do is sound
like a Pollyanna in any of this, but I truly
believe that poetry is the best repository
for our most humane, ethical, and just
feelings,” she says. “We can be made to
experience the world, the interior lives of
other human beings, by reading poetry.”

A professor once told Trethewey
to “unburden yourself of being black,
unburden yourself of the death of your
mother, and write about the situation in
Northern Ireland,” she recounts.

Unburden herself of her self, in other
words.

To our collective good fortune, she
ignored him. ■
2020 Vision

In 2007, Uganda announced a bold plan to eliminate river blindness by 2020.

The Carter Center’s Moses Katabarwa 97MPH has been in the battle from the beginning—and he believes they’re going to win.
The River Nile is the longest in the world, moving mightily over more than four thousand miles and through ten African countries before emptying itself into the Mediterranean Sea. For millions it is the source of life and legend, death and mystery, symbol and song—not to mention water, food, transportation, and money. It is at once mythic and utterly real, visible from space and from bridges, banks, and boats.

With all its power, you’d think the source of the Nile would be well established, but pinpointing the beginnings of a force so vast is no simple thing. Although the longer of its two major tributaries, the White Nile, is thought to originate at Lake Victoria—probably in Burundi or Rwanda—many say the Nile has its source in Uganda.

Of course, the river itself pays no mind to what people think about it—like the Mississippi of the song Old Man River, it just keeps rolling along. But Ugandans are proud to claim its possible origins in the country that Winston Churchill famously called the “pearl of Africa” for its lush, landlocked beauty.

As the matriarch of Uganda’s many rivers and streams, the Nile holds innumerable secrets, including a tiny black fly that breeds only in swift-moving waters and carries inside it the makings of a particular sort of human misery: onchocerciasis, or river blindness.

It’s this fly that Moses Katabarwa 97MPH, a Uganda native and senior epidemiologist for The Carter Center’s River Blindness Program, has been chasing for more than twenty years—most recently this summer, when he visited his homeland to conduct field research and attend a national meeting on river blindness.

The black fly Simulium—about the size of a Georgia gnat—is unusual in its preference for moving water, since so many of its brethren pests like to breed in warm, stagnant puddles or ponds. Two different types of the fly carry the river blindness parasite, Onchocerca volvulus—one, S. damnosum, dives into flowing waters to lay its eggs, shooting them from its tiny body bundled in a superglue-like substance that sticks them firmly to underwater rocks or vegetation. The other, S. neavei, can lay its eggs only in small river crabs and has a shorter flight range than its wily cousin.

When people are bitten by female flies (the males don’t bite), they can become infected with onchocerciasis microfilaria, pre-larval-stage parasitic worms that wriggle their way around under the skin. Like the Guinea worm parasite—another of The Carter Center’s targeted diseases—these worms can breed inside the body; they multiply and sometimes form writhing nodules that can be felt and even seen.

And they love to migrate up to the eye, where they cause irritation and nerve damage, and eventually, as they die, leave debris that can build up to the point of diminished vision and permanent blindness. Affecting some eighteen million people in Africa and the Americas, the disease is the second-leading cause of preventable blindness in the world.

River blindness infection triggers an immune response similar to that of an allergic reaction, which is why it causes intense itching, swelling, rashes, lesions, and skin discoloration—a pattern commonly referred to as “leopard skin.” Ironically, a strong immune system can produce a more severe reaction.

“If you have an efficient immune system, you will suffer much more,” says Katabarwa. “The more you scratch, the more you want to.”

It takes many fly bites to produce a bad infection—what health workers offhandedly call a high “worm load”—but in rural villages that are situated near swift-moving rivers and streams, it’s not hard to become bait.

The village of Lapaya, in northeast Uganda’s Pader district, is within a half-mile of Aru Falls, a rushing tributary that eventually feeds into the Nile. It’s the home of Ojok Charles, a sixteen-year-old boy with a soft voice and a gentle manner who spends most of his days sweeping the dirt yards and public areas of the village.

When he was twelve, Ojok was out cutting timber to make charcoal that he could then sell to earn money for his school uniform. As he worked for days in the dense brush, he was bitten thousands of times by black flies, contracting a high level of onchocerciasis infection. Ojok describes being able to feel the worms moving in his eyes as the disease progressed. By 2009, Ojok’s vision was so poor that he had to leave school. In 2010 he went completely blind.

Ojok’s mother, Acan Bicentina, has three other children who go to work with her in the fields nearly two miles away. She has to leave Ojok behind each day, and although she tries to provide food for him, she is not always able.

“I have no hope for him,” she says. “He will always depend on me.”

“This is a terrible hardship for a family like this,” says Katabarwa. “You see him, but he is not alone. There are many like him.”

An estimated 1.4 million people in Uganda are affected by river blindness, and two million are at risk.

River blindness is endemic to thirty-seven countries in Africa and Latin America, with some 99 percent of cases in Africa. But Uganda is unique: in 2007, the government and its Ministry of Health announced their intention to eliminate the disease completely—something many believed couldn’t be done.

Carter Center leaders hope that bold step will pave the way for other African countries to follow suit. “Moving from control to elimination is a crucial turning point in the fight against river blindness,” says Frank O. Richards, director of the Center’s River Blindness Program. “Once elimination becomes the goal, it is no longer business as usual. A program and its partners must ratchet up interventions.”
Working in close partnership with The Carter Center, Ugandan health officials are taking a multifaceted approach that includes annual or semiannual treatment with the drug ivermectin, or Mectizan; and vector control and elimination with Abate, a pesticide compound that doesn’t harm humans or the environment.

Pader, one of thirty-five endemic districts, is a relatively new one for the program, which began treatment here in 2009. William Oyet, the Ministry of Health vector control officer for the Pader district, says the rate of blindness is very high. Each year he schedules a day for Mectizan distribution and sends word through village networks. “The people know us now,” he says. “They go very deep into the bush to tell others, ‘This is the one giving out the drug.’”

Oyet shows Carter Center visitors the detailed journal in which he records drug recipients. The first year, nearly all 186 residents in his area showed up at the central clearing to receive the medicine; the following year, though, turnout was lower due to the side effects. Because Mectizan kills the onchocerciasis microfilaria in the body, the autoimmune response is temporarily ramped up, causing increased itching and swelling. Last year, community compliance rose again as those affected began to understand the benefits.

Ivermectin is provided by Merck through the Mectizan Donation Program, part of the Emory-affiliated Task Force for Global Health, to treat river blindness and lymphatic filariasis. The program, which provides 140 million doses annually, celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary this year.

“As the pioneer drug donation program for neglected tropical diseases, our success has had an enormous impact on global health by creating innovative health interventions and by spawning remarkable public-private partnerships,” says Joni Lawrence, associate director of the program.

In remote areas of Uganda where river blindness is most common, treatment with Mectizan is administered at the community level, led by district coordinators like Oyet who organize distribution through kinship structures—the complicated, far-reaching network of family and marital relationships that connects people from village to village.

This public health strategy was pioneered by Katabarwa, who knows from personal experience that in rural communities, one of the most powerful drivers of behavior is the shared obligation to care for those in need.

TRAVELING IN UGANDA WITH KATABARWA IS LIKE having a complete guidebook, a botanical field reference, and a dramatic novel set in the country, all wrapped in one.

Driving north from the capital city of Kampala, Katabarwa points out the various crops grown in the acres of rich farmland stretching in every direction: corn, millet, cassava. “You can literally grow anything here,” Katabarwa says.

Without preamble, he also points out the area where his older brother’s body was dumped after he was killed by soldiers during the second reign of President Milton Obote, who both preceded and followed the rule of dictator Idi Amin. Katabarwa describes how he later went to the area and enlisted the help of the surrounding community to search for the body. It took two weeks to locate his brother’s bones, which were then given a national burial.

Katabarwa was one of eleven children, raised in southwestern Uganda’s Bushenyi district by parents who were relatively prosperous in dairy and crop farming. His father was a local leader and a devout Anglican Christian, leading the family in prayer and song each evening—often after heated debate over politics and religion.

Unlike most boys of the time, Katabarwa wanted to go to medical school. “I never wanted to be a policeman,” he says,
with typical mischievous humor, adding that it was common for boys to equate uniforms with power and seek out such jobs.

As Katabarwa grew up, the widespread tensions and violence created by the Amin and Obote governments rose steadily, eventually pushing his older brothers to form a liberation group that trained in neighboring Tanzania.

That turned out to be bad luck for Katabarwa. When he was in high school, in 1977, he was mistakenly identified by the Ugandan government as one of his brothers involved in revolutionary activity. The government, he says, arranged for him and two schoolmates to be poisoned—enlisting a "friend" to put a deadly neurotoxin in their tea.

Katabarwa survived; his schoolmates were not so fortunate. But he was bedridden for two years and spent a third relearning to walk and reconstructing memories of his life before. By the time he was able to go back and finish high school, his dream of medical school had faded in the light of a new reality.

That’s how Katabarwa wound up studying agronomy at Kampala’s Makerere University, where he completed a research project on the diseases of tea plants. It’s one of the many notable ironies of Katabarwa’s life that it nearly killed him. "As he saw the Karamajong suffering from the diseases of tea plants. It’s one of the many notable ironies of Katabarwa’s life that it nearly killed him."

After college, Katabarwa took a position with the British nonprofit Oxfam, working with the Karamajong people of northeast Uganda. His charge was to convince the nomadic tribe to resettle in a more hospitable area, plant viable crops, create buildings and roads, and practice basic public health.

"Living in a grass hut deep in the bush, Katabarwa found life among the Karamajong wild and exhilarating. "I was young and adventurous, and I didn’t care about the conditions," he says. "I was enjoying everything."

But this was also when, as he puts it, the former would-be doctor “accidentally got involved in public health without knowing it.” As he saw the Karamajong suffering from high levels of malaria, tuberculosis, and a host of other diseases—with virtually no access to traditional health care—Katabarwa began to understand the need to educate and empower them to take care of themselves.

He brought in health workers to help teach them the basics of public health, such as hygiene, midwifery, and vaccination. He also began to see the potential for using the kinship model to facilitate community-driven care.

"We were training people with no education to do immunizations," he says. "But there were no hospitals for miles. They had to be able to do it themselves."

When Katabarwa met his wife, Lois, he was obliged to leave the jungles of the Karamajong. In 1992, he landed a position with the River Blindness Foundation, a young organization that was expanding efforts to control onchocerciasis through the use of Mectizan. The foundation was cofounded and funded by philanthropist John Moores, who later became board chair for The Carter Center.

Katabarwa rapidly emerged as an early leader in the fight against the disease, helping to establish the foundation’s office and traveling the country to map endemic areas. In those days, he says, many of the affected communities couldn’t be reached by car; he spent days in the field on foot, hacking through the jungle with an axe and shovel to locate areas where river blindness was common.

"We joke that where the road ends is where you find these diseases," he says.
In 1996, The Carter Center—an Emory institutional partner since it was founded by former US President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, thirty years ago—assumed the activities of the River Blindness Foundation, and leaders helped send Katabarwa to Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health for an MPH. He later earned a PhD in anthropology in the UK. A recipient of Emory’s Sheth Distinguished International Alumni Award, he also serves as adjunct faculty at Rollins.

From 1998 to 2003, he served as country director for The Carter Center’s Uganda office. “When we started, it was just the main building, and one small Suzuki sitting up on blocks,” Katabarwa says, surveying the office, which is just a few blocks from the Ministry of Health. Katabarwa’s pride is well-founded: the office has expanded to several buildings, a small fleet of Land Cruisers, a scientific research laboratory, and six full-time Carter Center staff, several of whom were recruited by Katabarwa.

Now led by country representative Peace Habomugisha, who has been with the program since 1999, the office is a critical strategic partner for the Ministry of Health and its Onchocerciasis Elimination Expert Advisory Committee—working alongside the Lions Clubs, Sightsavers, the African Program for Onchocerciasis Control, and the World Health Organization, among others.

Habomugisha, a quiet woman who exudes unflappable calm, has become a well-recognized figure among ministry officials and public health leaders. To navigate the complexities of the Ugandan health care system, she must act as manager, facilitator, strategist, and politician—which may be why she prefers field work to the office. “In the communities, you can truly see that you are helping people,” she says.

In July, Katabarwa and Habomugisha met with Dennis Lwamafa, the Ministry of Health’s Commissioner for Health Services, National Disease Control. The three discussed the positive progress of the elimination effort. But they also agreed on the need to continue surveillance and even intensify efforts in remote areas. “Today, we have interrupted transmission in several areas, but challenges remain,” Lwamafa said. “We must be prepared for the long haul as we see the fruits of our efforts over time. We really value this friendship with The Carter Center.”

A critical part of that ongoing surveillance takes place in the lab located on the second floor of The Carter Center offices. To the untrained eye, it doesn’t look terribly high-tech—but this lab is specially equipped to perform two meticulous processes. One is the analysis of blood samples using the ov-16 antigen to detect exposure to onchocerciasis microfilaria; the other is the testing of black flies and “skin snips,” or human tissue, to learn whether they contain the DNA of the parasite.

Katabarwa estimates that this lab has performed more ov-16 analysis than any other in the world. Overseeing this enterprise is David Oguttu, senior lab technician, who studied biomedical lab technology at Makerere University.

“I like being out in the communities, meeting with the people. I don’t really like staying behind a desk.”

—STELLA AGUNYO, THE CARTER CENTER
bring these services to the people. This is great
department going out into the communities to
services. No one cares about them. We are the only
elimination by 2020.
cal data they are producing in the lab is more
areas of the country. But, he says, the statisti-
responses as transmission is reduced in some
Oguttu and the lab staff are seeing fewer positive
rates of onchocerciasis exposure become low.
sensitive, which is a distinct advantage as
procedures, including laboratory staff Monica
machine that creates a polymerase chain reac-
the University of South Florida.
program in practical molecular epidemiology,
in 2007 to travel to the US for a five-week
Oguttu was sponsored by The Carter Center
in 2007 to travel to the US for a five-week
program in practical molecular epidemiology,
training with noted expert Thomas Unnasch of
the University of South Florida.
Oguttu learned lab techniques including
ov-16 testing and DNA analysis using a special
machine that creates a polymerase chain reac-
When he returned to Kampala, he trained
eight other technicians to conduct these
procedures, including laboratory staff Monica
Ngabenano and Christine Nahabwe.
Both these methods of analysis are extremely
sensitive, which is a distinct advantage as
rates of onchocerciasis exposure become low.
Oguttu and the lab staff are seeing fewer positive
responses as transmission is reduced in some
areas of the country. But, he says, the statisti-
cal data they are producing in the lab is more
important than ever as the country strives for
elimination by 2020.
“We are the only lab doing this in Uganda,”
Oguttu says. “These are neglected tropical
diseases. No one cares about them. We are the only
department going out into the communities to
bring these services to the people. This is great
work, and I am very grateful to be doing it.”
IN THE DISTRICT OF
Hoima, one of the
areas longest-targeted
for river blindness
control and now
elimination, memo-
ries of the disease are
already fading into
the past.
As guests from
The Carter Center
approach Nyabuhuku
Village for a site visit,
there is a ripple of
excitement among
the villagers gathered
in the central area
under the trees. The
visitors are welcomed
by the local coun-
cil chairman and
formal greetings are
exchanged. When
leaders ask the assem-
bled crowd about the
impact of continu-
ous treatment, hands
fly up in response:
the villagers eagerly
describe the itchiness,
swelling, poor vision,
and rough, discolored
skin that once affected
most of them.
But since they
have been receiving Mectizan twice a year,
those symptoms are mostly gone. Owinji
Charles, who is fifty-seven and a farmer, says
he had trouble working for years due to river
blindness, but then began receiving treatment;
when he relocated to this village, where distri-
bution occurs twice a year rather than once, he
got better even faster.
“He says it is a positive experience,” trans-
lates Ochumu Morris, district coordinator for
the nearby Buliisa district. “The itching stopped
and he was not inconvenienced anymore. He is
now comfortable, a free man.”
In a complementary effort, explains Morris,
while water sources have been dosed with
Abate—a chemical donated by BASF—to kill
the black flies that carry the disease. These flies
are the type that require small river crabs for
breeding and can’t fly very far, so elimination
efforts are highly productive. As part of ongo-
ing quarterly monitoring, hundreds of crabs
are regularly trapped and checked for the pres-
ence of fly larvae or pupae. Treatment of the
water began in 2009, and by late 2010, it was
stopped because no more flies were found.
“We stopped because it was so successful,” says Morris, a vector control officer for
the Ministry of Health. “We have to continue
monitoring for two years, but we are optimis-
tic because the chemical was very effective. It
looks promising.”
Katabarwa tells the villagers of Nyabuhuku
that the intervention efforts have worked. “Your
children will never know this terrible disease,”
he says.
This area will soon join the country’s three
others where transmission of river blindness
has officially been declared interrupted—a
major step toward the goal of nationwide
elimination.
“We have started with the easy places, and
are moving on to harder areas,” says Stella
Agunyo, a data analyst who has worked in The
Carter Center’s Uganda field office since 2003.
“It is more difficult in places such as Pader,
where we do not have enough information
from fly-catching sites.”
Agunyo goes out into the field about four
times a year to conduct research and surveil-
ance. Fluent in several local languages, she says
she relishes the opportunity to share informa-
tion and hear stories face-to-face—visiting
communities, interacting with local people,
and doing the ground-level research that is essential
to the River Blindness Program’s success.
“We need to work closely with the districts
to make sure they are following the protocol,”
she says.
For that, they depend on the broad
network of local health workers. Nicholas
Ogweng, district coordinator for Moyo and
nearby Adjumani, has worked as a vector
control officer for the Ministry of Health for
more than fourteen years. During that time,
the incidence of river blindness in his area has
gone from 90 percent of the population to less
than one percent.
“This has been a very positive interven-
tion for these communities,” he says. “There is
almost no leopard skin or blindness now.”
Still, scattered cases remain—as do scars.
In Moyo’s Liwa Village North, James Waya
sits in the shade of a tree so broad its lowest
branches nearly touch the ground, tending
a fire where he does metalwork by using the
red-hot embers to shape spears and other tools.
At sixty-seven, Waya has lived a lifetime of
hardship. His lips and ears were chopped off by
rebels during the rule of Amin, whose shadow
still looms over the country.
And his legs are permanently marked by
the extreme leopard skin pattern that is a sign
of severe, prolonged infection with river blind-
ness. Waya describes suffering for years from
the itching and agony that accompany the
disease, which he believed he had contracted
from stepping in elephant dung.
After seven years of treatment with Mecti-
zan, his symptoms have receded.
“Now,” he says, “my suffering is simply
going old.”
The Importance of Being
MERLE
HOW EMMORY POLITICAL SCIENTIST
MERLE BLACK BECAME THE VOICE
OF SOUTHERN POLITICS

BY SCOTT HENRY • ILLUSTRATION BY JOE CIARDIELLO
In 1961, Merle Black began shuttling between two worlds that could not have seemed more different.

As a nineteen-year-old freshman history major at Harvard, he’d seen the university, a bastion of East Coast liberalism, go crazy over the election of alumnus John F. Kennedy as president.

Then, for his summer job as a roustabout at a gas distillation plant, he traveled to a small town in East Texas, a place soaked in working-class conservatism, where the civil rights movement was still years away from gaining a foothold.

Coming from a family where money was never discussed, Black was shocked to hear his fellow laborers complain—in very colorful terms—about the bite that income taxes took out of their paychecks. During the course of the three summers he worked at the plant, he also was keenly aware of his coworkers’ distaste for the gradual undermining of segregation by the federal government.

“I got a real education on race and economics while I was there,” Black now recalls. “I was seeing the first signs of disaffection with the Democratic Party in the deep South.”

The seeds of interest in this social change that were sown in those early years grew long ago into what, for Black, became a distinguished career as the country’s leading scholar on the subject of Southern politics—a distinction shared with his twin brother, Earl, who taught at Rice University until his retirement. Beginning in the late eighties, the two have coauthored four books considered essential reading in the political canon.

As Asa G. Candler Professor of Politics and Government at Emory since 1989—and for more than a decade before that, as a faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill—Black also has enjoyed nearly unprecedented longevity as one of the nation’s most-quoted political pundits. Even as he enters his eighth decade, Merle Black remains a most-quoted political pundit. Even as he

Besides his roles as a political analyst and scholar, Black has authored four books considered essential reading in the political canon.

### Black is at Heart

- **A Political Junkie**
- **With a Head for Applying the Tools of the Social Scientist.**

Longtime political reporter Tom Baxter, who spent twenty-seven years at the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, agrees that Black manages to walk the tightrope between ivory-tower scholarship and down-in-the-trenches observation.

“I don’t think he’d deny being an empiricist,” Baxter says. “He’s very into the minutiae of polling numbers and what they mean. But he also loves to talk to political operatives and reporters to get their opinion. He likes to stay plugged in and up to date.”

### The Rise of Southern Republicans

By all accounts, Black is at heart a political junkie with a head for applying the tools of the social scientist.

### The Vital South: How Presidents Are Elected

Just this fall, the outlets seeking Black’s insight have included: the *Christian Science Monitor* in a story on the political fallout of Chick-fil-A CEO Dan Cathy’s comments about gay marriage, the *Weekly Standard* in an article about the Democrats’ chances of hanging onto Southern legislative and congressional seats in the fall elections, the Associated Press (AP) for a piece about whether Ann Romney’s convention speech revealed too much personal information, and the AP again for a post-convention look at how uncivil political discourse has become.

Bill Shipp, the veteran newsman known as the dean of Georgia political journalism, says he and other reporters have long placed confidence in Black’s skill for summing up the political landscape. Says Shipp: “I don’t think there’s anyone equal to Merle in terms of talking about the political climate of the South.”

Black’s cramped, shotgun office on the second floor of Tarbutton Hall, which looks out on the Woodruff P. E. Center, is notable for what you expect to see, but don’t. Whereas most academic chambers are piled high with books, Black’s has only a relative handful, mostly stacked atop a filing cabinet near the door. Instead, the floor-to-ceiling bookcase that takes up the entire east wall of the room is filled with large binders—somewhere between two and three hundred of them, estimates Black, who’s never taken the time to count them.

The binders do not, however, contain course notes or teaching guides, again as one might expect. Instead, they’re stocked with exit-poll data from voting districts across the country, going back to 1976—the year a little-known governor from Georgia was elected president.

Taped to the wall next to Black’s desk is a busy mosaic of charts and graphs. Here’s a timeline showing the growing importance of political ideology in party identity; another tells, at a glance, how the percentage of white Christians in the Democratic Party declined as the number of minorities and non-Christian whites rose over the past four decades.

Scholars who make political science their life’s work often can be divided into one of two camps: those who place the emphasis on the science, and those whose primary interest lies in the politics. By all accounts, Black is at heart a political junkie with a head for applying the tools of the social scientist.

“Sometimes political scientists can get caught up in the numbers or the methods,” explains his colleague in the Department of Political Science, Associate Professor Andra Gillespie. “But Merle has a great sense of realpolitik.”

### The Vital South: How Presidents Are Elected

This ability to apply a broad perspective to specific current events is what sets Black apart from most other researchers, says Whit Ayres, a top Republican pollster and campaign strategist in Washington, D.C. “Among all academics, I can think of no one whose work is more directly relevant to those of us in the political consulting industry,” Ayres says. “For instance, he can tell you what percentage of the white vote a candidate needs to win a certain district.”

The Black twins spent a decade researching and writing *Politics and Society in the South*, a 1987 opus that traced the development of the eleven states of the old Confederacy from a one-party stronghold where only white voters determined the outcome of elections to a region where blacks were gaining economic and political power, the rural landscape was giving way to urbanism, and the first cracks were appearing in Democratic Party hegemony.


Call it good fortune or foresight, but the Black twins’ chosen specialized field of study has hardly coincided with the biggest story in American politics in the twentieth century: the near-total shift of the South from staunchly Democratic—or Dixiecratic—to solidly Republican.

“Since the South is the largest region in the country, this change in American politics would have a great impact on the rest of the country,” says Black, as he animatedly describes...
How this transformation was accelerated by GOP icon Ronald Reagan. In the first half of the century, he explains, the two parties were separated more by geography and history than ideology: the South was conservative but overwhelmingly Democratic while the liberalism of the Northeast was more politically diverse, home to both the Kennedy clan and the Republican Rockefellers.

“Reagan was the first really successful conservative politician,” Black says. “Since the thirties, the Republicans had been the minority party, and it was assumed that the House would always be controlled by the Democrats. But Reagan helped unite conservatives under the Republican banner.”

That political shift continues, of course, to the present day, as both parties become ever more ideologically homogeneous and compromise becomes a dirty word. The brothers Black described this phenomenon as well, in the well-received Divided America: The Ferocious Power Struggle in American Politics (Simon and Schuster, 2007), which further charted the ideological realignment of the parties in various regions across the country.

Black says he considers the increasingly divisive nature of current politics more interesting than depressing—adding, with a shrug: “It is what it is.” But his scholar’s objectivity fades when he notes that neither party is willing to make tough decisions to put the federal government back on track.

“We’re in one of the worst situations as a country right now because of all of the debt and entitlement spending,” he says. “We’ve made huge promises for programs—we’re talking about trillions of dollars—but we don’t know where the money’s coming from.”

Born in Oklahoma, Merle and his twin brother—his elder by fifteen minutes—were brought as toddlers by their parents to Sulphur Springs, Texas, about eighty miles northeast of Dallas. At the time, their father helped farmers recover from the dust bowl as an employee of the Soil Conservation Service, one of the first programs created by Franklin D. Roosevelt. Later, Black would see how people butted heads with the federal government when his dad changed jobs to a position in which he was responsible for enforcing watershed regulations.

He got an early glimpse of politics at work as he watched his mother hand-counting ballots as a vote tallyer at the local precinct. He recalls his father, a staunch Democrat, watching the Eisenhower-Stephenson race of that year. By the time Black left for Harvard, he’d developed a strong interest in history and the dynamics of social change. But it wasn’t until he’d seen the early signs of alienation with the Democratic Party during his first summer at the distillation plant that he switched the focus of his studies to government and political history.

After graduating magna cum laude from Harvard in 1964, Black joined the Peace Corps, teaching elementary school in the West African nation of Liberia for two years before enrolling in the University of Chicago. For his doctoral studies, he changed direction again, moving from an initial focus on global politics to the wide-open field of Southern politics.

In 1970, Black accepted an instructor position in political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), where he taught the college’s first course dedicated to the study of Southern politics. It was in the early eighties that reporters from the New York Times, Associated Press, and other publications began regularly calling Black for his insight into voting trends and predictions about particular races. Moving to Emory in 1989 helped boost his profile by virtue of being closer to CNN and thus more accessible to national television.

Larry Sabato, director of the oft-cited Center for Politics at the University of Virginia, says Black’s popularity as a pundit stems in part from his talent for making the complex easily understandable.

“As a classroom teacher, he knows how to explain complicated subject matter and is good at communicating a lot of information in a succinct way,” Sabato says.

**SOUND BITES**

Emory faculty experts help drive political news and views

> “What you are seeing reflects some of the ideological division within the Republican party between the center right and the far right.” —Barkley Professor of Political Science Alan Abramowitz in Bloomberg News, on the impact of candidate Todd Akin’s comments about rape

> “The good thing about this current era is that whites are more receptive and open to voting for African Americans. There are some whites out there who won’t vote for black candidates, but this is certainly not true of most white voters. It’s not so much about race anymore as it is about party.” —Associate Professor of Political Science Andrea Gillespie, on the international news site France24.com about the “Obama effect”

> “Even though there might be some degree of apathy and distrust of the electoral process, I think a lot of people are going to turn out on election day. We should have hope that citizens recognize that . . . elections really can matter in the lives of families and individuals, particularly in African American communities.” —Associate Professor of Political Science Michael Leo Owens on WABE’s “All Things Considered,” about voter turnout
Also, adds journalist Shipp, Black’s analyses are untainted by personal politics. “If you wanted an unbiased overview of a particular district or race, you’d call Merle,” Shipp says. “You could take what he tells you, hold it up to the light and not be able to see any color.”

Pollster Ayres was a grad student at UNC in the mid-seventies when Black was head of graduate studies there. “He was a superb scholar and teacher,” remembers Ayres, who later briefly joined Earl Black on the faculty at the University of South Carolina.

As Ayres launched his polling career in Atlanta, he again caught up with his former instructor, who’d come to Emory in 1989. Together with the AJC’s Baxter and other political operatives, they formed what was called the Political Junkies Book Club. The group met monthly, ostensibly to discuss the latest book on politics, but mostly to swap observations and opinions about current races, candidates, and political trends.

Ayes believes that much of the Black brothers’ renown stems from the fact that, instead of churning out articles for scholarly periodicals that are read only by other academics, they apply their “clear and methodical analysis to writing books that are widely read and quoted and have a much longer shelf life.”

Those books have ensured the twin professors an unrivaled authority in their field. Charles Bullock, the University of Georgia’s foremost political science expert, says, “It’s hard to imagine anyone doing research into Southern politics and not citing one or more of their books. I’ve used them in my own classes.”

Over the decades, the Blacks have spent a good deal of time on TV and radio talking about their books. But that doesn’t mean Black seeks out the limelight, says his colleague Gillespie. “He’s quite generous” in his willingness to refer a reporter to another professor who’s better versed on a particular subject.

Black has had occasion to meet plenty of his research subjects over the years, but a few stand out. Just before coming to Emory, he says, he attended a campus appearance at UNC by then-Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton, who at the time was still trying to live down his lackluster keynote address at the 1988 Democratic Convention in Atlanta.

As Clinton lingered on the quad to discuss and debate issues with conservative students, Black recalls, “I thought to myself, ‘This guy’s pretty sharp. This is someone the Democrats could really use.’”

Now, more than twenty years later, Black still calls Clinton “the best natural political talent I think I’ve ever seen.”

Black himself is a noted workaholic who, when not teaching his two courses a semester or giving interviews, is happily reading up on various campaigns. Married since 1981, Black and his wife, Debra, have two grown daughters, one of whom—Julia Black ‘08—graduated from Emory. At seventy, with four decades of teaching behind him, Black appears to have no thoughts of retirement.

“Despite his seniority, Merle hasn’t slowed down at all,” says Dan Reiter, who chairs the political science department. “He’s highly dedicated to his students and his research.”

Even though he’s taught most of his courses many times over the years, Black still gets excited when his students are engaged by the material.

“The class I enjoyed most last year was a freshman seminar where the students simply came in and talked about the books we were reading,” he says.

As for the presidential election, Black hasn’t made a solid prediction. But if you follow political coverage in print or on TV, you’re pretty much guaranteed to see Black quoted—and it would be a good idea to pay attention.

**THE LIFE AND TIMES OF STROM THURMOND**

The late senator Strom Thurmond is viewed today mostly as a relic from another time. A Southern politician who was shaped by the Great Depression, World War II, and Jim Crow, Thurmond infamously fought tooth and nail to preserve segregation in his home state of South Carolina. If a distinction is made between the old right and the new right, then Thurmond’s racist politics would seem to place him firmly with the old.

Emory Professor of History Joseph Crescino’s new political biography of the senator, Strom Thurmond’s America, shows that while Thurmond may have been one of the last Jim Crow demagogues, he was also one of the first Sunbelt conservatives, and a seminal figure who led the rightward march of the modern Republican Party. Crescino finds he was a man ahead of his time who paved the way for Ronald Reagan and other modern Republicans.

“There’s a good chance that Strom Thurmond would be run out of the Republican Party today,” Crescino told Emory history professor Patrick Allitt in a recent interview. “He’s far too moderate.”

**MORE ONLINE**

Visit www.emory.edu/magazine to see a conversation between history professor Patrick Allitt and Crescino

**“In studying voters’ responses to a range of messages, we discovered that Americans understand that our government is bought—and they want it back. You just have to speak with them in ways they can hear.”**—Psychology Professor Drew Westen in a *New York Times* opinion, “How to Get Our Citizens Actually United,” about the Fair Elections Bill

Gay rights “was never the most salient thing for African-Americans. . . . Race is still important, poverty is still important, and the Democrats are still the party that does a better job of advocating on those issues, in their view.”—Andra Gillespie on NPR, on whether Obama’s support of gay marriage will turn off black voters

“There’s a very strong division among white voters that didn’t used to exist, or used to be very small, based on religious beliefs and practices. For the people who care about them, on those issues, it’s very hard to compromise.”—Alan Abramowitz on NPR, about growing divisions among voters

“These days . . . you’ve got a generation of working class folks in the Deep South who have no memory of the Southern Democratic parties that produced Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.”—Associate Professor of History Joseph Crescino in a *New York Times* opinion, “Moderate White Democrats Silenced”
Lessons Unsought

ONE HALLMARK OF EMORY THAT I ADMIRE BEFORE interviewing for the job of being its president was the willingness, even eagerness, of this community to seize on “learning moments.” Those are the unexpected and unpleasant episodes that force us to take stock of ourselves as a community, as an institution.

Every university experiences them. They can range from the disruptive and embarrassing, like the firing and then rehiring of the president of the University of Virginia last spring, to the truly horrific, like the criminal abuse perpetrated by a once-respected football coach at Penn State.

Over the years we at Emory have had our own share of “learning moments”—incidents that have caught us up short and prompted us to pause and make some adjustments before continuing on in our mission. When a regrettable racial incident nine years ago forced us to examine personal and institutional commitments to nondiscrimination, that moment of introspection led to the Transforming Community Project, which in turn had broad personal and institutional impact on our understanding of America’s racial history and our own.

Similarly, two years ago, student protests over contract labor on campus led to very wide-ranging, thoughtful, and extended conversations that have grown to involve faculty, students, and staff members through the Committee on Class and Labor and the Task Force on Dissent, Protest, and Community. We are learning a lot about how we perceive each other and behave toward each other on the basis of our perceptions. I expect that we will gain from these conversations a deeper sense of community as well as a stronger commitment to what makes a university excellent.

We have experienced another learning moment since we discovered last spring that administrators responsible for representing Emory to the world through data were, for more than a decade, intentionally misreporting statistics that measure our success in admission. Those responsible are no longer at Emory. But for those of us who remain—including our devoted alumni and supporters around the world—the sense of loss has been great.

There are no doubt many lessons to be learned from this moment, but one in particular stands out for me. It is the old truth taught to us by the Greek tragedies. It is the reminder that our virtues can often be our undoing, that our focus on excellence can blind us. It is the lesson that an institution’s place of strength can also be its blind spot, making it vulnerable to human error or misguided intentions. One of Emory’s strengths—and hence a point of risk—may be our institutional language about ethics and integrity.

Martha Nussbaum, one of our 2011 honorary degree recipients, wrote a book about “the fragility of goodness.” Delving into Greek philosophy, she underscores that reason, systems, careful discipline, and watchfulness can carry us only so far toward fulfillment of “the good life” that was so highly prized by the Greeks. Some degree of luck is also necessary. Goodness continually stands vulnerable to the “slings and arrows of outrageous fortune.”

The integrity of an institution is equally fragile. It can be broken without warning, and once it is broken the repair work carries an enormous cost in terms of morale, pride, momentum, and trust.

Emory is especially vulnerable in matters of integrity, because we so baldly state our intention to strive to engage ethically. Emory traditionally has prided itself on education of the heart as well as the mind, a legacy of our Methodist founders. Their theology called them to be continually “going on to perfection.” They fully understood that the aspiration for goodness is continually a work in progress. That work takes a step backward when aspiration for one kind of good—say, the good of claiming outstanding students—undermines an aspiration for a better kind of good—say, the institution’s integrity and transparency.

I have no doubt that we have learned from this latest episode three further valuable lessons. The first is that we must have a process of data review that offers checks against misreporting. We now have that process in place.

The second lesson is that our vulnerability to fortune makes humility imperative. We do not need to give up our aspiration for excellence; we should recognize, though, how much it depends on good fortune as well as vigilance and talent.

Finally, we can learn to continue imbuing our community with the soundest ethical principles lived out through good practices, making the habit of integrity a daily part of our individual and communal life. The human condition might make the betrayal of trust inevitable, or at least unsurprising. But our regard for each other and our accountability to each other make it more difficult. The habit of caring about our own integrity and each other’s can make the goodness of this place less fragile. That seems to me a lesson worth keeping, even if unasked for.
One of the primary goals established in the Oxford College Strategic Plan for 2010–2015 is the building and improvement of a physical infrastructure “that effectively supports Oxford’s academic mission and vision.” During the past year and a half, Oxford has greatly advanced that goal through an intense period of construction and renovation. Bookended by the exterior renovation of Seney Hall, begun in summer 2011, and the opening of a new library and academic commons expected in August 2013, these projects are making an impact on virtually every inch of the Oxford landscape. “We are expanding our facilities in mission-critical areas while also improving the overall appearance and architectural integrity of the campus,” says Dean Stephen Bowen.

The buildings and associated projects include:

Seney Hall. The final phase of improvements to the exterior of Seney Hall will be completed by year end. East- and west-side windows and the front entrance doors have been removed, sent to restoration experts to be refurbished, and reinstalled.

The remaining windows are now being refurbished and will be reinstalled by year end. During the first phase of the project, in summer and fall 2011, Seney’s roof was replaced with a slate roof in keeping with the building’s original design, water-damaged soffits and fascia were replaced, and improvements were made to the guttering and water runoff systems.

Language Hall. An extensive interior demolition has been done to accommodate a redesign that includes four classrooms with state-of-the-art technology, faculty offices, modern HVAC, and a more aesthetic entrance. The exterior will include details that are reminiscent of the original 1874 design. An addition to the building will bring it to ADA standards and allow for needed ancillary space.

Oxford College Library and Academic Commons. Ground was broken on the new library and academic commons on May 12 during Commencement 2012. Following interior demolition, the original 1970 building is being repurposed for the new facility and 10,000 square feet added to the footprint. The interior will be brought up to twenty-first-century standards from the standpoint of both design and technology. The exterior will more closely

To see a gallery of photos of Oxford’s construction and renovation, scan the QR code below or go to oxford.emory.edu/construction.
Dear Alumni and Friends of Oxford:

An essential part of the Oxford College identity is our role as custodians of the birthplace of Emory University. It is a privilege to be the caretakers of the university’s oldest buildings, which imbue the campus with a historical gravitas and seriousness of purpose. But it is also a challenge to balance the preservation of nineteenth-century structures while providing an optimum learning environment for twenty-first century students.

Several years ago we laid out a program of renovation and construction to ensure that we can continue to serve our core mission of delivering a superior liberal arts education to our students. Several of those projects are coming to fruition this year. They will further enhance an already beautiful campus, deepen our sense of and appreciation for Oxford’s history, and provide the teaching and learning environments we need to provide the best possible education.

The support of our alumni has been crucial in moving these projects forward. The leadership of such alumni as Bob Chappell 56OX 58B 68MBA, Joe Edwards 54OX 56B 58MBA, Henry Mann 62OX 64C, and the Hughs Tarbutton (father 52OX 55B and son 84OX) not only tipped the balance on a specific project, but has also helped move Oxford into that group of colleges in which alumni provide critical support for capital projects.

Equally important is alumni support for scholarships. Our scholarship endowment has now reached a level of $15 million and provides approximately $900,000 to help students afford an Oxford education each year. Essentially all of this has been provided by Oxford’s loyal alumni.

Although these building improvements may last 100+ years and the scholarships will serve students in perpetuity, the development that will have served Oxford College and its students longest and with the greatest import is the substantially increased philanthropic role taken by Oxford’s alumni. With the continuing support of those who know and love Oxford College best, the college will continue to serve deserving students long into the future.

Sincerely,

Stephen V. Bowen

Construction and Renovation continued

address the Oxford green, and its design will be more in keeping with the historic buildings adjacent to it. Completion is scheduled for summer 2013.

Two projects are largely complete. Williams Gymnasium (Old Gym), built in 1907, underwent structural work during spring and summer. Upon routine inspection last fall, engineers found that the historic suspended wooden running track, one of only a few left in the US, had compromised the building’s original wooden trusses. The trusses have been reinforced and a new, more historically aesthetic roof is being installed and will be completed by year end. The Oxford green is now a pedestrians-only zone, with no vehicles (other than emergency vehicles) allowed beyond the Hamill Street gates. Brickling of the central footpaths, which was partially completed in 2008, was completed earlier this fall, further enhancing the restful and gracious atmosphere of Oxford’s green and historic landscape.

At top (from left to right), Stephen Bowen, dean of Oxford College; James Wagner, president of Emory University; Kitty McNeill 85G, Oxford College librarian; and Hugh M. Tarbutton Jr. 84OX, Oxford College Board of Counselors participate in the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Oxford Library and Academic Commons on May 12.

At center, trusses in Williams Hall (Old Gym) have been strengthened, and a new and more historically aesthetic roof is being installed. At bottom, work proceeds on the windows and new addition for Language Hall.

ONE SQUARE FOOT BROADENS SCIENCE SUPPORT

In the midst of current work on several construction and renovation projects, Oxford is already looking toward its top development priority, the completion of a new science facility. While fund-raising is focused on major gifts and the contributions for named spaces such as laboratories, a new effort provides an easy way to participate in the construction of the science building one square foot at a time. One Square Foot of Science challenges alumni and other friends of Oxford to pledge $45 per month for one year—the cost to build one of the forty-eight thousand gross square feet in the schematic design. For more information, visit oxford.kintera.org/onesquarefoot or call Allison Kaczenski at 770.784.8406.
Soul of a Teacher

THREE DECADES OF INFLUENCING OXFORD STUDENTS

Bill Shapiro, professor of political science, joined Oxford College in 1979. In the years since, he has had a profound influence on numerous Oxford students. Shapiro received an undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College and an MA and a PhD from Cornell University. At Oxford he has been recognized for his excellence in teaching with the Emory Williams Award, the Mizell Award, and the Fleming Award.

How did you get from Brooklyn to Oxford?
The journey didn’t really start in Brooklyn. It started in Toulouse, France, where I was born. My parents were from Vienna, but they were in France when World War II broke out. How they spent the war and the years immediately after is a story in itself, but they brought me to New York as an infant, and I grew up in the Rockaway Beach neighborhood.

I was working for the American Enterprise Institute in 1979 and was being considered for a job in the office of Senator Patrick Daniel Moynihan, but I saw the opening at Oxford and applied. Dean Moncrief brought me down for an interview, and I’ve been here ever since.

How did you choose political science as your field?
I grew up in volatile times—the antiwar movement and civil rights movement were at the center of American life—and it came home to me in a personal way. When I registered with the Selective Service, I could have been removed from draft consideration by invoking my French citizenship and giving up my US citizenship (I have dual citizenship). But I’m an American from the top of my head to the tips of my toes; I was not about to do that. I registered as a conscientious objector (CO) and fully expected to go to prison. I’m not a true pacifist, but I deeply opposed the Vietnam War. To my surprise I was granted CO status, and I immediately enrolled in alternative service.

What do you want from your students?
I want them to have self-awareness. I don’t care what they think, but I want them to know why they think it. I don’t care if they agree with me—in fact, I purposefully say things to keep them from pinpointing me. I want them to think for themselves beyond their own parochial backgrounds—and they all need that, no matter where they come from.

What are your scholarly interests?
As an undergraduate I studied theater and speech as well as political science, and Shakespeare is a continuing interest. I draw upon these in designing my courses, especially my course Women and Politics. We read the Taming of the Shrew, Medea, and Lysistrata in addition to readings from the Bible, Rousseau, Goethe, Simone de Beauvoir, etc. Nietzsche is an ongoing interest as well; I am working on a translation of Also Sprach Zarathustra.

What has kept you at Oxford so long?
In my soul I am a teacher. The support systems for teaching at Oxford and the great value that is placed upon it are extraordinary. I have never seen a better, more supportive institution.

First International Alternative Spring Break Makes Difference in Costa Rica

Alternative Spring Break (ASB) is an established tradition at Oxford College. Students opt out of traditional spring-break activities and opt in to volunteer work that benefits others. ASB is designed and offered by the Office of Student Development and supported by the Pierce Institute for Leadership and Community Engagement.

ASB 2012 marked the first time that Oxford students could choose an international location in addition to a stateside option (this year, in coastal South Carolina). Ten Oxford students, accompanied by Oxford Chaplain Lyn Pace 02T and Crystal McLaughlin, director of student development, traveled to La Carpio, Costa Rica, a poor neighborhood on the outskirts of capital city San Jose. They spent their week in several projects, including pouring a cement floor in a house that previously had only dirt floors, painting two outdoor murals, building bunk beds for a home, and starting construction on a pedestrian bridge.

ASB participant Mashall Momin 12OX 14C reflects, “This trip made it evident that the power of collaboration and a passion to serve can create a diverse global community.”
A Career without Borders

Every job has its challenges, but how many involve mediating a dispute between Venezuelans and Americans, fighting against human trafficking in Cyprus, or promoting America’s interests at the United Nations? As a foreign service officer working for the US Department of State, Jason Chue 96OX 98C must “analyze issues on the spot and think critically”—skills he honed at Oxford and Emory. “A liberal arts degree was perfect preparation for life as a diplomat. I regularly draw on my studies in psychology, linguistics, and theater,” he said.

Jason Chue 96OX 98C once considered a career in law but has found “a perfect fit” working as a foreign service officer with the US Department of State.

Foreign service officers represent the interests of the US and Americans abroad, whether that means processing visas, facilitating business operations, or helping a fellow American in a difficult situation. Chue has been assigned to Venezuela and Cyprus; his next assignment will be in Taiwan. While assigned to Venezuela, he made travel arrangements for an American after a yachting accident left the man comatose. The man’s Venezuelan friends, believing they were acting in his best interests, attempted to keep him in Venezuela, in defiance of his family’s wishes. Chue helped negotiate the situation, visited him in the hospital, and helped get him back to the US.

Growing up in New York City, Chue attended Stuyvesant High School in Manhattan with more than three thousand other students. How did a boy from the big city end up in Oxford, Georgia? “I’d applied almost exclusively to Northeast schools, but while visiting Oxford, I was offered a full Robert W. Woodruff scholarship. That tipped the scales. I very much appreciated that and never looked back.”

The transition to life in a small Southern town wasn’t easy, but Chue came to appreciate the “strong sense of community at Oxford” and the opportunities to interact with professors outside of class. Asked which professors inspired him, he replied, “Where do I start?” and followed with a gratitude list that could rival an Oscar acceptance speech. “I have so many positive memories of professors like Patti Owen-Smith, Clark Lemons, and Delia Nisbet, who provided mentorship and had real passion for their areas of study,” Chue said.

After graduating from Emory, Chue pursued a law degree at Columbia Law School. He received a JD and was working in the profession when 9/11 happened. Like many, the tragedy prompted Chue to reexamine his life. Realizing that he wasn’t passionate about commercial litigation and that “time is short,” he changed direction and found the “perfect fit” in the US Foreign Service.

Chue, who speaks more than five languages, says foreign language courses were his “most valuable and practical” classes and encourages students to study a language. “We’re competing against workers from all countries,” he said. He also urges students to look beyond a traditional career track. “Emory has great resources to help students pursue a nontraditional path.” As Chue knows, there are no limits to where you can go when you follow the path less taken.

ALUMNI CALENDAR

Emory Cares Alumni Service, November 10, 2012
Alumni, faculty students, parents, and friends gather in the name of community service. For more information please contact Amanda and Chris Arrendale 99OX 01C at 770.910.0179 or arrendale@bellsouth.net.

Alumni Reunion Weekend, April 26–27, 2013
Gatherings for classes with years ending in ’3 or ’8. Register by phone at 770.784.8414 or online in early 2013. The Class of 1963 will hold its 50th reunion and Golden Eagles (members of Oxford classes of 1962 or earlier) will also hold their reunion on Saturday, May 11, 2013.

Oxford College Commencement, May 11, 2013
Check often for updates: oxford.emory.edu/alumni_and_friends

ADAM MEYER LEADS OXFORD DEVELOPMENT

Adam Meyer has been named assistant dean for development and alumni relations at Oxford College. In this role, he oversees all efforts of Oxford’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations. In announcing the appointment, Dean Stephen Bowen noted that “Adam quickly understood what is exceptional about Oxford and why its alumni are so dedicated to their alma mater. I’m already hearing from friends of the college who say that Adam is an excellent fit.”

Meyer joined Oxford from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, where he was director of development for the College of Liberal Arts. Prior to that role he was director of development for the Honors College at the University of Alabama. He brings extensive experience to his Oxford role, including working closely with deans, key volunteers, and alumni and managing a development team. He also built a successful alumni board of advisers and cultivated a pool of high-capacity major gift prospects and donors. His career began in academics at Ball State University and Butler University, where he taught courses on African literature, Zimbabwe, and business writing.

A native of Minnesota, Meyer received a BA in African history from Georgetown University. He received both an MA in English with emphasis on English as a second language and a PhD in English from Michigan State University. His dissertation focused on language and literacy in Zimbabwe. He speaks English, French, and Shona, a major language of Zimbabwe.

Meyer’s son Gavin is a student at Ball State University. Meyer and his wife, Kim Gentry, director of development for the University of Georgia’s Office of the Vice President for Research, live in Covington.
GIFTS HONOR DEAN LAWLEY
Alumni and friends celebrate the career of Thomas Lawley, dean of Emory School of Medicine. (page 44)

INVESTING IN GLOBAL HEALTH
The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation continues to support Emory’s work around the world. (page 46)

PROGRESS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2012
$1.5 BILLION
TOTAL GOAL $1.6 BILLION

Emory’s new leadership annual giving society honors the thoughtful generosity of alumni and friends.

(page 45)
Generosity at Work

In recent weeks, Emory’s Development and Alumni Relations staff members have been writing about our personal gifts to Emory as part of an intranet feature called “Why I Give.” It’s a fun way to celebrate the spirit of generosity that fills every part of the Emory community.

One of our information technology specialists, for example—also an Emory alumna and parent—invests in music, film, the libraries, Emory Healthcare, and the Emory Hardship Fund for fellow employees who need assistance.

An attorney in our Office of Gift Planning supports the Department of Economics in Emory College of Arts and Sciences. Her gifts honor her husband, an alumnus of the economics department.

A fund-raiser who has worked at Oxford College for thirty-two years supports Oxford’s efforts to build a new science facility.

Emory employees in all areas have generated more than $98 million in gifts and pledges so far. With diverse inspirations and interests, 75 percent of us in Development and Alumni Relations have contributed.

I invite you to join us.

Susan Cruse
Senior Vice President
Development and Alumni Relations

New Endowments Honor Dean Lawley

A revered teacher, physician, and leader, Emory School of Medicine Dean Thomas Lawley stepped down in September after a sixteen-year term. To honor his service, alumni and friends are building endowments for two funds bearing his name: a scholarship for medical and allied health students and a professorship in the Department of Dermatology.

By early September, the scholarship fund had accumulated nearly $123,000 in gifts and pledges, surpassing the minimum endowment level of $100,000. Ongoing gifts will increase the scholarship’s reach, enabling the School of Medicine to award higher levels of support to more students. The professorship fund had garnered more than $660,000 in gifts and pledges. The minimum needed to endow a professorship is $1 million.

Lawley plans to return to Emory after a year’s sabbatical to teach, care for patients, and conduct research. His legacy as dean includes a fivefold rise in research funding; a new curriculum; a twofold increase in faculty; six new departments; and more than 1 million square feet of clinical, teaching, and research space including the James B. Williams Medical Education Building, a facility honoring the leadership of Trustee Emeritus Jimmy Williams ’55C.

To learn more about honoring Lawley with gifts to the scholarship and professorship, contact Kathryn Carrico, senior associate vice president for development, at the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center, kat.carrico@emory.edu or 404.727.2512.

Law Alumnus Creates New Scholarship Fund

Atlanta attorney John Latham ’79L has made a $300,000 gift to establish the Latham Law Scholarship Fund for students at Emory University School of Law. The new endowment will provide support to students with demonstrated financial need.

Latham, a partner in the law firm of Alston and Bird, was research editor of the Emory Law Journal and a recipient of the Giles S. Rich National Moot Court Award. His wife, Sheri, is an instructor in the Emory Dance Program. He decided to create the fund out of gratitude for the scholarship he received while at Emory.

“It’s important to me to ensure that future generations of Emory Law students have access to the same top-quality education that I did,” Latham says.

Scholarship support helps attract the best students from all backgrounds and enables new graduates to pursue their careers without struggling to overcome education debt. Scholarships help Emory Law recruit and reward students with exceptional scholastic abilities and leadership qualities.

For more Campaign news, visit www.campaign.emory.edu/news
In the Company of Leaders

Support from the Emory community helped Carolyn Miller 05T expand her place at Emory from staff member to student to proud alumna. Grateful for the scholarship support both she and her husband, Brad Miller 99T, received as students, the Millers are leadership-level annual donors supporting Candler School of Theology, Rollins School of Public Health, and the Emory staff hardship fund.

To recognize the influence of leadership-level annual donors—individual donors who contribute $1,000 or more per year—Emory has created the Wise Heart Society, a new leadership annual giving society.

“Our goal in forming Emory’s Wise Heart Society is to acknowledge the generosity of leadership-level annual donors university-wide and the tremendous things their gifts are making possible at Emory year after year,” says Kim Julian, executive director of Emory’s Office of Annual Giving.

Annual gifts help fund scholarships that enable talented and deserving students to attend Emory regardless of financial means. Support for service programs broadens Emory’s reach in the community and around the world. Gifts to patient care create groundbreaking partnerships that improve the health of the greater community. Research support allows scientists and scholars to pursue pioneering ideas that can lead to breakthroughs in addressing the most important issues facing humanity.

“The debt burden is high for students who want to attend a quality, world-class institution. We want to do whatever we can to relieve that so people don’t start out behind,” says Miller, a sixteen-year Emory staff member and national chair of Emory’s Annual Giving Board. “In all of my roles—as a student, as a staff member, and as a part of the Emory community—I have seen the significant power private gifts have to transform the university.”

Wise Heart Society member Robert Angstadt earned an MBA from Emory’s Goizueta Business School in 1989 and spent a dozen years in the banking and automotive industries before a head-on collision with a tractor-trailer truck led to an epiphany.

“I really wanted to do something that made a difference,” he says. He decided to pursue nursing.

Since graduating in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree from the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Angstadt has worked in the neonatal intensive care unit at Northside Hospital in Atlanta. He takes joy in caring for premature infants and seeing how his work brings comfort to families.

In his senior year at the School of Nursing, he served as treasurer for his class gift campaign, and he has given monthly gifts to support service learning ever since.

“I was lucky to be able to go to Jamaica on a service-learning trip, but I went to school with a lot of students who wanted to go but didn’t have the resources,” Angstadt explains. “I want to be able to share what I can with those who might not be able to have these experiences otherwise.”

For information on how you can join the Wise Heart Society by making a leadership gift to the school or program of your choice, visit annualgiving.emory.edu/wiseheart. To make a secure online gift, visit emory.edu/give.

“I have seen the significant power private gifts have to transform the university.”

CAROLYNN MILLER 05T

Cor prudentis possidebit scientiam. The wise heart seeks knowledge.
SCHOOLS AND UNITS DIGEST

CAMPUS LIFE
Charles M. Barron 45C 46D has made a gift to establish an endowment for the Emory Swimming and Diving Team.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
Joan and Steve Corrie have established a charitable gift annuity that will benefit Candler’s Youth Theological Initiative.

EMORY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
The Emory String Quartet in Residence is raising $1 million to qualify for a $1 million challenge grant from the Abraham J. and Phyllis Katz Foundation. The funds will endow the program.

EMORY HEALTHCARE
Haverty’s has given $10,000 to Saint Joseph’s Hospital for nurses’ continuing education. The gift is in memory of Clarence “Clancy” Haverty Ridley, a longtime hospital volunteer and board member.

EMORY LAW
Established with a generous endowment from Linda Kagan 89L, the Kagan-Horowitz Practice Society Première provides Emory Law students with an opportunity to learn from attorneys in more than 20 practice areas.

EMORY LIBRARIES
Samuel Beckett scholar Martha Fehsenfeld has donated a collection of the playwright’s letters to the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library. In 1995 Beckett authorized Fehsenfeld to edit his letters.

GOIZUETA BUSINESS SCHOOL
Executive Women of Goizueta raised half of a $100,000 commitment to support its newly created endowed scholarship for a female Executive MBA student.

JAMES T. LANEY SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
The Mellon Foundation has funded a new fellowship that will allow PhD students in art history to collaborate with Atlanta’s High Museum of Art on curatorial research.

Marcia and Bruce Capriotti have made a bequest to support the Emory Transplant Center.

Lifesaving Surgery Leads to Emory Gift

After decades of coping with the health effects of type 1 diabetes, Marcia Capriotti found herself at the Emory Transplant Center with her husband, Bruce, awaiting the kidney and pancreas transplant that would save her life.

“I was in shreds,” he says, recalling the overwhelming concern he felt for his wife. Shortly before the operation, renowned Emory transplant surgeon Christian Larsen came to speak with the couple. “He had such a presence about him. He made us feel so at ease,” she adds.

The experience inspired them to will a portion of their estate to the Emory Transplant Center. “It just seemed the right thing to do to honor Emory,” she says.

From bequests like the Capriottis’ to charitable trusts, retirement plan gifts, and gifts of real estate, there are many ways to make a planned gift to Emory. These strategies not only benefit Emory, they can enhance donors’ personal financial security as well. The staff of the Office of Gift Planning—experienced professionals versed in finance and tax law—can help donors find the best options.

For more information about gift planning strategies, call 404.727.8875, email giftplanning@emory.edu, or visit www.emory.edu/giftplanning.

Gates Foundation Grants Improve Global Health

The charitable foundations of Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates have been working to improve global health for nearly 20 years. Finding significant opportunities to accomplish this goal at Emory, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation continues to invest in the university’s people and programs.

The Rollins School of Public Health is expanding the William H. Foege Fellowships in Global Health with a $1.1 million Gates grant. Established in 2003 through a $5 million endowment from the Gates Foundation, the Foege fellowships are named to honor the career achievements of William Foege, Presidential Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Global Health at Rollins and senior medical adviser to the foundation’s Global Health Program.

Fellows in the Foege program come from developing countries to study at Rollins, where they partner with mentors at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Carter Center, the Task Force for Global Health, and Care USA.

The Gates Foundation recently awarded Emory a $6 million grant as part of the foundation’s worldwide network aimed at developing an effective HIV/AIDS vaccine. The Gates Foundation created the
network, known as the Collaboration for AIDS Vaccine Discovery, in 2006 and has funded 30 grants supporting investigators in 19 nations.

Bali Pulendran, principal investigator of the grant, will lead the Emory team, which comprises researchers from Yerkes National Primate Research Center and the Emory Vaccine Center. Rafi Ahmed, vaccine center director, is co-principal investigator.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation continues to invest in the university’s people and programs.

Emory’s Global Health Institute has received $26 million from the Gates Foundation to connect and strengthen the world’s national public health institutes and another $14 million to fight tobacco use in China. An $8.1 million Gates grant fuels the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing’s efforts to improve maternal and newborn survival in Ethiopia.

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**Studying at Emory thanks to the Gates Foundation are Foege Fellows Joseph Davies of Sierra Leone (left), Herty Herjati of Indonesia, Asrat Amnie of Ethiopia, and Andrina Mwansambo of Malawi.**

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**Beverly Allen 68C and J. David Allen 67C 70D 75DR have created a professorship in oral and maxillofacial surgery**

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**J. David and Beverly Allen Establish Professorship**

Sam E. Farish, associate professor and chief of oral and maxillofacial surgery at the Atlanta VA Medical Center, is the inaugural holder of the J. David and Beverly Allen Family Professorship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

J. David Allen 67C 70D 75DR serves on Emory’s Board of Trustees and has received the Emory Medal.

Allen opened his solo practice in 1975 and was the founder and managing partner of Oral Surgery Associates, from which he retired in 2006 to start his own health care consulting company. He served as president of the Georgia Dental Association, the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

In 2007, Allen chaired the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. He was named by *Georgia Trend* magazine as one the 100 Most Influential Georgians in 2008. Allen is a trustee of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center Board and recently became the first chair of the Georgia Natural Resources Foundation.

The gift to establish the professorship is the latest example of the Allens’ philanthropy. Together they founded the Ina T. Allen Geriatric Dental Center at Wesley Woods in 1989.
## Campaign Progress As of September 30, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus Life Goal: $5 million</th>
<th>$7.9 MILLION RAISED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Candler School of Theology Goal: $60 million</td>
<td>$62.8 MILLION RAISED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory College of Arts and Sciences Goal: $110 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory Healthcare Goal: $305 million</td>
<td>$253.5 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory Law Goal: $35 million</td>
<td>$26 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory Libraries Goal: $27 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory School of Medicine Goal: $500 million</td>
<td>$553.2 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goizueta Business School Goal: $75 million</td>
<td>$59.4 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies Goal: $10 million</td>
<td>$11.2 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael C. Carlos Museum Goal: $35 million</td>
<td>$31 MILLION RAISED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing Goal: $20 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oxford College of Emory University Goal: $40 million</td>
<td>$36 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rollins School of Public Health Goal: $150 million</td>
<td>$165.3 MILLION RAISED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yerkes National Primate Research Center Goal: $30 million</td>
<td>$24.3 MILLION RAISED</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Progress chart does not include goals for general University and Woodruff Health Sciences Center initiatives.

## Campaign Leadership

### 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

### School and Unit Chairs
J. David Allen 67C 70D 75DR, Beverly Allen 68C, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing
Courtlandt B. Ault, Michael C. Carlos Museum
Dirk L. Brown 90B, Isabel Garcia 99L, Emory Alumni Board
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
J. Joseph Edwards 54Ox 56B 58B, Henry Mann 62Ox 64C, Oxford College
James R. Gavin III 70PhD, James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies

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Photography: Kay Hinton, Ann Borden, Tom Brodnax 65Ox 68C, Jack Kearse, Bryan Meltz
Feels Like Home

Emory celebrated Homecoming 2012 in September with alumni class reunions, the beloved parade and tailgate party, sports events, a sustainable food fair, campus tours, and a free concert. Photo by Kay Hinton.

52 EAA Survey Says
53 Ten Years of Emory Cares
56 Profile: Terry Gordon 72C
Emory Everywhere

GREETINGS FRIENDS,

Every day as we move through our lives, we are surrounded by people who embrace the notion of giving. We see generosity of spirit in our homes, schools, community organizations, and places of worship. We see people sacrifice so others can live better.

For the past ten years, I am extremely proud that Emory alumni have given thousands of hours to worthy projects around the world through Emory Cares. This November 10, Emory Cares marks its tenth anniversary.

As the program’s founder and former Emory Alumni Board President Renelda Mack ’83C envisioned, the Emory Cares International Service Day invites the Emory community to identify needs, provide assistance and support, and make a difference to lives in diverse cultures and environments.

As part of the Emory Alumni Association (EAA), you are integral to our success. Our mission is to connect alumni to the university and to each other, build traditions, foster student and alumni leadership, serve the needs and interests of our community, and create opportunities for investment in Emory’s future.

Please join us as we give back on this tenth anniversary of Emory Cares on November 10. I challenge you to consider areas in which you, too, can invest and make an impact.

ALLISON DYKES
Vice President for Alumni Relations

Upcoming Alumni Events

**Everywhere, November 10:** Emory Cares International Service Day celebrates ten years of service through local projects.

**Houston, November 15:** Emory Inspirations: A Celebration of Art, Archives, and Poetry featuring Emory’s Curator of African American Collections Randall Burkett and Emory Professor of English and US Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey.

**Atlanta, February 22–24:** Dinner with 12 Strangers. Host registration open until January 25, 2013.

**Istanbul, April 28–May 6, 2013:** Come with the Emory Alumni Travel Program. Deadline to book is December 4.

For more, visit [www.alumni.emory.edu/calendar](http://www.alumni.emory.edu/calendar).

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**Oxford College Move-In:** It was a big day for the 462 new students, including Bailey Cage ’14OX (left), who arrived to make the Oxford campus their new home. On hand to help out was Jennifer Crabb Kyles ’98OX 00C (right), director of communications and technology for the EAA.

**Strangers No More:** Gauthami Penakala-pati ’13PH was one of approximately two hundred students who participated in the EAA’s signature Dinner with 12 Strangers, held twice annually. This season eighteen dinners were sponsored by alumni and staff hosts who invited students to join them for a casual meal and camaraderie.

**Sigma Chi Reunited:** These fraternity brothers gathered on campus to celebrate their frat days and honor those alumni receiving leadership awards from the Sigma Chi national organization. From left to right are Ronald Sims 63C, “Significant Sig” Homer E. Moyer 64C, O’Neill Williams 65C, and Ralph Lehri 65C 69D.

**The ‘In’ Crowd:** The EAA has rolled out new alumni T-shirts celebrating the Emory community spirit. EAA communications interns Shreyans Gandhi ’14B (left) and Nicholas Sommariva ’15C were happy to show them off.

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From the EAA
10 years.
118 organizations served.
9,000 Emory alumni, students, friends, and family have offered kindness and support to thousands of individuals in our communities around the world.

Emory Cares.

Please help us celebrate our 10th year of service by signing up for an Emory Cares or Emory Cares Everywhere project in your hometown.

For more information on an upcoming project near you, please visit www.alumni.emory.edu/emorycares
EAA: Survey Says

EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

Then: In 2010, nearly 70 percent of alumni selected educational enrichment as their top interest for expanded alumni benefits, and nearly 80 percent selected access to Emory libraries as a top interest.

Now: We have expanded library access, providing alumni editions of EBSCO’s Academic Search, Business Source, Greenfile, and LISTA free online, in addition to lifetime library privileges with an alumni account. We also enhanced our faculty and career coach chat lecture series, including webinars.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Faculty lectures
- Library access—EBSCO database
- Kaplan practice tests
- Transcripts
- Emory Continuing Education
- Knowledge@Emory
- EmoryWire
- Kaplan test prep $150 discount
- CDWG electronics discount

The Good News

Alumni continued to rate these benefits highly in terms of importance—and rated our delivery of them highly as well.

A New Challenge

Help us raise the bar!

Based on the 2012 survey, we have a huge opportunity to help alumni better understand what the EAA does and how to get involved. Here are three steps you can take right now:

1. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu to learn all about what we’re up to.
2. Consider nominating a fellow alumna or alumnus for an EAA award or an Emory Alumni Board position.
3. Get to know your Alumni Board by visiting www.alumni.emory.edu/EAB.

The 2012 survey revealed...
Ten Years, Thousands Served

FOR TEENAGERS IN THE EMORY area, Get Grounded Teen Studio has become a haven to study, socialize, play music and games, and enrich their spirits and minds with yoga classes and seminars. As one of this year’s Emory Cares projects on Emory Cares International Service Day November 10, Emory volunteers will work to gather books and improve the center’s facilities while mentoring the program’s teens who work alongside them.

Angie Waddell 90ox 92c founded Get Grounded in 2009. She looks forward to joining forces with Emory volunteers. A decade ago, then-Emory Alumni Board President Renelda Mack 83c envisioned just such an Emory community service effort.

“Emory Cares and Emory Cares Everywhere provide a wide variety of service projects,” she says. “Together, we help meet the needs of others, alleviate pain, improve the environment, and more importantly, spread hope.”

Thanks to a team effort, her initial vision has come to fruition. In 2011 alone, eighty-one official service projects took place in forty cities around the globe. To date, the total number of community organizations served stands at 118, while the total number of volunteer participants reaches nearly nine thousand.

“No matter how old you are, no matter where you live in the world, you, your loved ones, and colleagues may continue to participate in Emory Cares projects forever,” says Allison Dykes, vice president of alumni relations for the Emory Alumni Association (eaa).

“We could not be more proud to carry on the legacy begun by alumna Renelda Mack,” says program coordinator Venus Miller. “Every year, Emory Cares and Emory Cares Everywhere continue to grow, and the lives our efforts touch continue to multiply.”

Today, Emory Cares Day also identified to coordinate service projects in their cities with guidance and assistance from the eaa. “We invite all alumni, parents, and friends to register online for one of our Emory Cares projects,” Miller says. “For those cities in which a project isn’t organized, independent charitable efforts are recognized through Emory Cares Everywhere.”

Register today: www.emory.edu/issue/2012/04/011/145232.html
The New Black

In 2009, Margaret Waite Anderson 93C, of Oak Park, Illinois, decided to undertake an experiment: could her own African American family—husband, John, and their two children—patronize only black-owned businesses and exclusively support black professionals for a year?

“Two weeks before the launch, we researched business directories and collected phone numbers of organizations and individuals who could help us find black-owned businesses,” Anderson wrote.

But the “empowerment experiment,” as it came to be called, evolved into much more than simply buying from black businesses, as recounted in Anderson’s recently published book Our Black Year: One Family’s Quest to Buy Black in America’s Racially Divided Economy (cowritten with Pulitzer Prize–winning Chicago Tribune reporter Ted Gregory).

In an interview with fellow Emory alumnus Kai Ryssdal 85C on NPR’s “Marketplace,” Anderson said, “Of course you want everybody to support the mom-and-pops. You should try to go to black restaurants twice a week. But we need the corporations to do a lot better with doing business with our businesses. That’s the bigger part of the story. And think about the fact that in the top 500 privately held companies, none of those are black.”

Anderson, a consultant, and her husband, a financial planner, thought of the experiment as they paid for an expensive anniversary dinner in a Chicago restaurant, feeling guilty that they weren’t spending more of their dollars in their local community.

Even in Chicago, finding a black-owned, full-service grocery store was difficult: there was exactly one within driving distance. Disappointingly, the majority of the businesses they found in black neighborhoods with all-black customers were not black-owned or even locally owned.

“We were naïve,” says Anderson. “How were we supposed to shop at black-owned businesses when next to none exist?”

After the year of the experiment was over, Anderson, who majored in political science at Emory and went on to get a law degree, set off on a book tour to share the message.

“The civil rights movement is not dead,” she says, “because we realize that our liberty and political equality are moot if our economic power is disregarded and delegitimized.”

—M.J.L.

How To Reclaim Health: “The state of health in America is abysmal,” says Jonathan Fleece 90C, coauthor of the book The New Health Age: The Future of Health Care in America (Sourcebooks, 2011). “It will take a shock to the system to inspire and instigate change.” Fleece and coauthor David Houle encourage individuals to take action—any action—from yoga to cycling. “The New Health Age offers a succinct primer on how we got here and where we should be taking the health of our nation,” says Mehmet Oz, host of The Dr. Oz Show.

Swim at Own Risk: Birmingham attorney Barry Marks 74C reflects on life’s minor footnotes, such as returning to the dating scene after years of marriage, and major transitions, including the death of a loved one, in his collection of poetry, Possible Crocodiles (Brick Road Poetry Press, 2010). Named Alabama State Poetry Society’s 2010 Book of the Year, Crocodiles features observations by the former Alabama Poet of the Year, who unearths universal truths in simple daily routines and showcases a self-skewing sense of humor: I need to go on a diet/and lose twenty years.

What Jesus Wouldn’t Do: In The Jesus Book: Who He Really Was, What He Really Said (Renaissance Institute Press, 2012), theologian Britt Minshall 84T suggests the real Jesus would be mortified by what is done in his name today, from wars to looting to gluttony. “Jesus’s words, many of which were hidden for centuries, condemn pretend houses of worship that praise warrior empire-building gods and ignore the trashing of our beautiful planet for cheap goods and big profits,” Minshall says.

No Cinderella Story: Political economist Paul Meinhardt 58C advocates addressing the economic crisis from the family first in Cinderella’s Housework: Families in Crisis, Households at the Edge of Chaos. “We talk about the value of money, and family values, but real value begins in the family,” says Meinhardt. Cinderella represents the power of women, mothers, and households throughout the ages, he says, and by providing proper support to house workers and families as a society, we will be well paid in return.—Vikram Pursnani 14C
Dear Friends in the Atlanta Community,

Emory Healthcare is proud to care for the residents of Atlanta and Georgia, and we want to thank you for trusting in us to deliver quality patient care. You can take comfort and pride in knowing that Emory Healthcare is the only health care system in Georgia to have hospitals ranked among the top 10 academic health systems in America for quality and accountability by the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC). As the authority on quality for academic medical centers, UHC included not just one, but TWO of Emory Healthcare’s hospitals in its top 10 list. No other health care system has ever had TWO hospitals in the national top 10 UHC list simultaneously.

A top ranking by UHC means more than just great care. Since UHC ranks only academic medical centers that typically treat more complex patients than most hospitals, making their top ten list of the 101 participants reflects the ultimate assessment of organizational performance in setting the standard in quality and safety. In 2006, Emory Healthcare established a goal to achieve the UHC top 10 ranking and took on the challenge of meeting the rigorous standards UHC sets for measuring attributes of quality, safety and patient service. We are proud to have achieved this goal for our two largest teaching hospitals – Emory University Hospital (combined with Emory University Orthopaedics & Spine Hospital) ranked #2 and Emory University Hospital Midtown ranked #6.

What does that mean for you? It means that:

- Because of Emory’s patient- and family-centered care approach, when you walk into an Emory facility, you can count on receiving top quality patient care.
- Every single patient who enters our hospital and clinic doors is treated like a VIP.
- Success is measured in the number of lives we save.
- As a patient, you will have less time in a hospital bed and more time at home with your family.

At Emory Healthcare, we’re committed to continue restoring Atlantans back to health. I would like to personally thank our more than 16,000 dedicated professionals – physicians, nurses and staff who are obsessed with quality – working around the clock, always searching for better ways to save lives and help you get and stay well. What we do at Emory Healthcare helps create a healthier Atlanta and Georgia. We have more work to do on additional improvements, but want to share this key milestone with the communities we serve. Thank you.

Sincerely,
John Fox
President and CEO, Emory Healthcare
Choice, Not Chance

TERRY GORDON 72C LOOKS TO HEAL HEARTS

Cardiologist Terry Gordon 72C has come to the hard-won conclusion that adversity—even tragedy—can lead to personal strength. It’s a conviction he now tries to share with others through his blog, podcasts, and new book.

Gordon’s acquaintance with tragedy began with families other than his own. Twelve years ago, sophomore Josh Miller was playing in the final game of the 2000 football season for his high school in Barberton, Ohio, when he collapsed on the field in sudden cardiac arrest. A football player at a nearby Catholic school had collapsed from a similar cardiac crisis during a game just two weeks earlier. Both players died.

Their deaths started a movement, led by Gordon, then president of the Summit County American Heart Association, for automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to be placed in every junior and senior high school in the county and eventually in more than four thousand schools throughout Ohio.

At least fifteen lives have been saved by AEDs placed in Ohio schools since then, and he began a mission: to put AEDs in every school in the nation.

“This is not like we’re trying to find funding for a new gymnasium or a new gym floor,” says Gordon, who frequently speaks with elected officials and the media about his quest. “This is to protect the lives of our most precious resource—our children.”

Gordon’s pursuit led the American Heart Association to name him the 2002 National Physician of the Year.

Ten years later, Gordon, who practiced invasive cardiology at Akron General Medical Center for more than two decades before his retirement, published the book No Storm Lasts Forever, a personal work about finding positive transformation in chaos.

His own spiritual awakening began in 2000—the same year Josh Miller died—at his family’s vacation home at Lake Mohawk. The day after their arrival, Gordon was weeding in the garden when his daughter Laila ran from the house, screaming for him. A man on the road that led to their cabin had suffered cardiac arrest. Gordon tended to the stranger until an ambulance arrived and he was taken to a hospital, where he survived.

The incident was marked by a series of remarkable coincidences—including Gordon hearing his wife call to him when the man collapsed, even though she was much too far away. Gordon told the story as part of a TEDx lecture, an independent version of the TED lecture series.

Then, tragedy struck closer to home. On June 30, 2009, his college-age son was in a car accident in Colorado, shattering his neck.

“I heard the dreaded words, your son is a quadriplegic,” Gordon says. On the flight to Denver, he prayed for his son’s safety. “I can’t honestly tell you I heard the voice of God, but the message was clear: Everything is in perfect order, even this. Treat this as if it was something you had chosen,” he says.

Three years later, his publisher, Hay House, began planning the celebratory release day for his book. Out of 365 possibilities, “They chose July 17, my son’s birthday.”

Gordon, self-described “wounded healer,” has stopped believing that such things happen by chance and has started seeing positive, transformational opportunities in these coincidences—the central message of his book.

“The falls of your life,” Gordon says, quoting the Kabbalah, “provide you the energy to propel you on to a higher path.”—Paul Bryan Cronan 14C
Living for Laughs

If ever there were two things at opposite ends of the spectrum, they would have to be chemistry and comedy. In an almost alchemical fashion, Joel Godard 60C took a degree in chemistry from Emory and turned it into a golden career in the entertainment industry.

For an amazing sixteen-year run from 1993 to 2009, Godard (www.joelgodard.tv) was the announcer on Late Night with Conan O’Brien. In addition to being the voice of the show, he also appeared as himself in more than 330 comedy sketches on the program. And, as with a lot of comedy, his on-camera role on the show was the result of some great timing.

Soon after the show started, Conan O’Brien was watching television and happened to see the only film Godard ever acted in—a small role in 1980’s made-for-TV Guyana Tragedy: The Story of Jim Jones.

“Conan came in the next morning and was telling the guys in the writing room, ‘I heard this voice, and I knew it was Joel, but I didn’t know he could act,’” recalls Godard in his deep, mellow voice.

“And Conan said, ‘Write something for him.’ So they used me two or three times and got laughs, and then [one of the writers] wrote something called ‘Joel Is Sad.’ And the direction was to say all of these nihilistic things like, ‘Can’t wait for the cold embrace of the grave,’ and then give some stupid grin. And it got a hell of a laugh.”

Godard’s life could have been very different. When he graduated from Emory College, he was accepted into the Emory School of Medicine, but decided to pursue a much different field. Thankfully, his parents were supportive of his decision.

His stint on Late Night with Conan O’Brien is not the only iconic TV role on his resume. In addition to a successful run as a radio and TV broadcaster in Atlanta before being hired by NBC in the mid-1980s, Godard was also the announcer for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade from 1999 to 2010.

His advice to current Emory students with aspirations to entertain?

“Follow your heart and you’ll live longer, but it’s a rocky, rocky road,” he says. “It’s a really tough business. The only reason I married my wife is because I can’t live without her. And you better feel that way about this business if you get in it.” —John D. Thomas 86C 97G

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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 September 2012 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.
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Nursing Teacher, Advocate

As one of the first nursing faculty at Emory to hold a doctorate, Maggie Phoenix Gilead ’73MN ’81PhD passionately advocated taking a broad view of nursing, from improving mental health services at the state and local level to advancing the treatment of sickle cell anemia.

Gilead, who died July 16 at sixty-eight, had taught at the School of Nursing since 1974.

“People always think I’m the first African American faculty member in the school, but actually I’m just the one who stayed,” Gilead joked in a profile of her in Emory Nursing magazine.

Gilead earned a bachelor’s in nursing from Long Island University in 1968. She worked as an R.N. at hospitals in New York before becoming a clinical instructor for the Knud Hansen Memorial Hospital in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, where she met her husband, Jerome Keith Gilead.

She returned to Georgia in the early 1970s, working as a liaison nurse for Grady Memorial Hospital and earning a master’s degree in psychiatric community mental health and a post-master’s education and leadership training certificate degree from the School of Nursing in 1973.

Gilead took an educational leave to attend Emory’s Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts to study psychology and urban studies. She held a joint appointment as associate professor in the Department of Adult and Elder Health and in the Department of African American Studies.

She served on the governor’s Mental Health Planning Committee, which she chaired, and the governor’s Think Tank on Women’s Health.

“Over a long and productive career, my mother taught hundreds of nursing students, giving them the time and attention they needed. She also shared herself over meals with friends and colleagues,” says her daughter, Emily Gilead. “All who remain will cherish her memory and celebrate her life.” Gilead is survived by daughters Nancy, Abigail, and Emily; son, Kenneth; grandchildren Jasmine, Jada, Alexei, Ashton, Aden, Malcolm, Marcus, Malik, Melahn, and Miles; and great-grandson Leilan.

WORKING IT: NURSING

Anne J. Davis ’52N ’55MN was named a 2012 Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing (AAN). Davis, professor emerita at the University of California, San Francisco, and Nagano College of Nursing in Japan, was a pioneer in nursing ethics as she lectured on issues such as informed consent and terminating treatment. She is a member of the Hastings Center of Bioscience and Ethics and has served on the International Human Rights Committee in Geneva as Commissioner of Health Professionals for Health and Human Rights. In 2011, she received the Order of the Rising Sun for her contributions to nursing in Japan.

Share your career news and updates with E-Class Notes. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.

WORKING IT: PUBLIC HEALTH

Raghu Raju ’96MPH and his wife, Arathi, opened Mahamosa Tea Bar in Atlanta’s Perimeter Mall with a special business model: They are donating 50 percent of after-tax net profits to charity. Their charitable mission, called “Being in the World,” stresses interconnectedness and the importance of exploring and embracing international diversity and culture. “It’s time for businesses to set a higher standard for themselves,” Raju says, adding that his inspiration to contribute to humanitarian and environmental causes stems from his experiences at Rollins School of Public Health.

Share your career news and updates with E-Class Notes. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.

WORKING IT: THEOLOGY

Former chief of staff and chief financial officer of CARE USA Joe Iarocci ’07T has been selected as the next CEO of the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership. “I am fortunate because so many servant leaders have influenced my personal life and professional career,” said Iarocci. “I am honored and enthusiastic about serving the board, staff, donors, and colleagues of the Greenleaf Center as part of the servant leadership movement around the world.” Iarocci is an adjunct professor at Candler School of Theology and a board member of the Georgia Center for Nonprofits, Social Accountability International, and Citizen Effect.

Share your career news and updates with E-Class Notes. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.

EDITOR’S NOTE

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View from the 87th Floor

BY ADAM MAYBLUM 87B

Adam Mayblum 87B was on the eighty-seventh floor of the World Trade Center’s North Tower on 9/11 when the first plane hit. The next day, he wrote the following remembrance, which is widely circulated each year on September 11. This version has been edited for space; find the complete narrative at www.emory.edu/magazine.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2001: MY NAME IS ADAM Mayblum. I am alive today. I am committing this to paper so I never forget—so we never forget.

I arrived as usual a little before 8:00 a.m. My office was on the eighty-seventh floor of One World Trade Center, the North Tower. Most of my associates were in by 8:30 a.m. We were standing around, joking, eating breakfast, checking emails, getting set for the day when the first plane hit just a few stories above us.

We did not know that it was a plane. The building lurched violently and shook as if it were an earthquake. People screamed. I watched out my window as the building seemed to move ten to twenty feet in each direction. It rumbled and shook long enough for me to get my wits about me, grab a coworker, and seek shelter under a doorway. Light fixtures and parts of the ceiling collapsed. We were certain that it was a bomb. We looked out the windows. Reams of paper were flying everywhere, like a ticker-tape parade. Smoke started billowing in through the ceiling.

We did not panic. I can only assume we thought that the worst was over. The building was standing, and we were shaken, but alive. We checked the halls. The smoke was thick and white and did not smell like I imagined smoke should smell; not like your barbecue or your fireplace or even a bonfire. The phones were working. My wife had taken our nine-month-old for his checkup. I called our nanny at home and told her to page my wife, tell her that a bomb went off, and I was okay and on the way out. I grabbed my laptop, took off my T-shirt and ripped it into three pieces, soaked it in water, gave two pieces to my friends. Tied my piece around my face to act as an air filter. It in water, gave two pieces to my friends. Tied my T-shirt and ripped it into three pieces, soaked it in water, gave two pieces to my friends. Tied my piece around my face to act as an air filter. It was still smoky when I got out, and my heart was pounding. I made a crack about ruining a brand-new pair of Merrells, but my feet felt great. We all laughed. We checked our cell phones. I knew I could not reach my wife, so I called my parents, told them that we were okay and on the way down.

We were bored and nervous. I called my friend Angel in San Francisco. I knew he would be watching. He told me to get out, that there was another plane on its way. I did not know what he was talking about.

On the fifty-third floor, we came across a heavyset man sitting on the stairs. I asked if he needed help or was he just resting. He needed help. I knew I would have trouble carrying him because I have a bad back. But my friend and I offered anyway. He hesitated, I don’t know why. He said we should send help.

On the forty-fourth floor, my phone rang again. It was my parents. They were hysterical. I told them to relax, I’m fine. I still did not understand. I was kind of angry. What did my parents think, I needed some other reason to get going? I couldn’t move the thousand people in front of me any faster.

Around this floor the firemen, policemen, anyone with a badge started coming up as we were heading down. I stopped a lot of them and told them about the man on fifty-three and my friend on eighty-seven. I later felt terrible about this. They headed up to find those people and met death instead.

On the third floor, the lights went out and we heard and felt a rumbling coming towards us from above. I thought the staircase was collapsing. It was 10:00 a.m., and that was Tower Two collapsing next door.

We emerged into an enormous room—the second floor. It was light, but filled with smoke. We were ushered out into a courtyard. My first thought was of a TV movie I saw once about nuclear winter and fallout. I could not understand where all the debris came from. I heard there were bodies as well, but I did not look.

Several blocks away, a friend and I stopped and looked up. Our building was engulfed in flame and smoke. A postal worker said that Tower Two had fallen down. I looked again, and sure enough, it was gone. My heart was racing. We sat down and a girl on a bike offered us some water. Just as she took the cap off, we heard a rumble. We looked up and our building, Tower One, collapsed. We had been out less than fifteen minutes.

My phone rang. It was my wife. I think I fell to my knees, crying, when I heard her voice. Then she told me the most incredible thing. My partner, who had stayed behind, had called her. He was alive and well.

Those responsible should know that they failed to terrorize us. We were calm. Those men and women who went up into the buildings were heroes in the face of it all. Ordinary people were heroes, too.

Today the twin images that people equate with power and democracy are gone. But America is not an image, it is a concept—one that is only strengthened by our pulling together. The very moment the first plane was hijacked, democracy won.
IN 1957 CHARLES ACKERMAN set out across the country from San Francisco in search of the place that would feel like home. He found what he was looking for in Atlanta.

He earned a degree from Emory University School of Law in 1960 and went on to found a highly successful commercial real estate firm. An avid traveler, he has made a bequest to Emory’s Michael C. Carlos Museum to help the museum share the history and cultures of the world.

“Communication with people of other cultures will bring more peace to the world than any military intervention. It is part of the museum’s role to bring that understanding to people,” he says.

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Plan to enlighten.
Ojok Charles, a resident of a rural village in northern Uganda, lost his vision in 2010 due to river blindness disease, the second-leading cause of preventable blindness in the world. Emory partner The Carter Center is working with Ugandan health leaders to eliminate the disease by 2020—an ambitious goal that leaders hope will start a chain reaction in other countries. Photo by Kay Hinton.