OIL CHANGE
HOW TWO EMORY ALUMNI ARE WINNING THE RACE TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

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Cindy Hodges 73OX 76C, who tends bees to make urban honey and oversees a research colony on campus, is one of the many alumni featured in this issue who are making a conscious effort to live more harmoniously with the natural world. Photo by Kay Hinton.
Living in Color

We’re calling this “the green issue.”

It’s about Emory alumni and scholars who are turning algae into oil, vacant houses into homes, small loans into safe water, hobbies into lifestyle changes, and good intentions into conservation careers.

You’ve probably never heard of Solazyme, a renewable oil company started by two Emory classmates less than a decade ago, but the odds look good that you will encounter at least one of their algae-based products in the next few years. (Hint: it could be biofuel, or it could be ice cream. Maybe both.)

You may not be familiar with the notion of land banking, either, but you probably are all too aware of the national housing crisis and the attendant wave of foreclosures leaving abandoned and vacant properties strewn in its wake. One of the nation’s leading experts in land banking at Emory is helping alumni leaders in Georgia and officials in cities around the country put the practice to new and unexpected use, taking control of empty houses and land for future revitalization.

In many people’s imaginations, water is blue, not green—but in fact, for most of the world, it’s brown. That’s because it’s dirty, untreated, and often dangerous. An alumna working with the organization Water.org is helping women in developing countries create—and finance—their own solutions to the problems that affect them most, while Emory’s Center for Global Safe Water addresses the challenges that no one wants to talk about: not just the widespread lack of access to safe water, but what happens to human waste when it has no safe place to go.

And on a brighter note, we’d like to thank the many alumni readers who responded to our invitation to tell us about “living green.” We received an astonishing array of stories spanning both professional and pleasure pursuits, stitched together by a common thread of remarkable consciousness and commitment—a thread also woven through Emory’s ambitious Climate Action Plan, unveiled earlier this year.

I am personally impressed and inspired by the stories in our green issue, and I hope you are, too. But strangely, in the past few weeks as we’ve been editing and proofing and polishing, green has not been the color on my mind. Weighing much more heavily have been matters of black and white.

Today, Florida’s George Zimmerman made his first court appearance in Seminole County, where he is charged with shooting and killing seventeen-year-old Trayvon Martin on February 26. From a purely racial standpoint, this case is the reverse of the 1989 murder of Savannah police officer Mark MacPhail, for which Savannah native Troy Davis was executed last September. MacPhail was white, and Davis was black; in today’s biggest story, Martin, the victim, was black, while Zimmerman is white and Hispanic.

As the stories unfold, though, there are somber echoes of Davis’s—which was revisited in the last issue of Emory Magazine—in Martin’s; thousands of supporters have rallied in Florida and around the country calling for “justice for Trayvon” and high-profile figures have publicly pushed for more rigorous investigation. Like the crowds who protested Davis’s execution last fall, Martin’s defenders say he was targeted as a victim because he was black.

Earlier this week, closer to home, I sat in the penultimate meeting concluding the lengthy and contentious process of redistricting Atlanta Public Schools, the system in which my son is a ninth-grader. Residents from throughout the district—but particularly some of the poorer, and yes, largely African American, communities where schools were slated for closure—openly and angrily argued that race was a factor shaping leaders’ decisions and pushing poor students away from quality schools. (At the end of that meeting, three of the elementary schools in question were kept open.)

To me, the deep complexity of race relations in the South is simultaneously a vast, elusive, and evolving narrative I feel I’ll never really understand, and the same simple tale told over and over, with changing characters and details but recurring themes. Some of those themes surface on the opposite page in the letters to Emory Magazine (which continue on our website) about our most recent cover article, spotlighting attorney Jay Ewart and his role in the final years of the Davis case.

What race is not, it seems, is a problem that can be solved, like renovating an empty house or digging a well for a village that needs safe water. Rather, it’s a story to be shared—never completely or perfectly, as evidenced by our previous cover article—but again and again, in different voices and from varying viewpoints, each adding its small part to a greater understanding.

Here’s one: I grew up in an all-white community, and my son goes to a high school that is more than 50 percent non-white. For what it’s worth, I think that’s a very, very good thing. I look forward to his story.—P.P.P.
I was bewildered and offended by the recent cover article about Mr. Troy Davis’ case you authored. I was present for the Emory Alumni Association event with Mr. Ewart on January 18, and I can tell you that I was stunned by Mr. Ewart’s casual portrayal of the skills necessary to represent a person either facing a death penalty trial or post-conviction proceedings. That said, I get that one of Emory Magazine’s primary interests is in glorifying Emory alumni, so I am willing to tolerate, or, at least ignore, the bit about Mr. Ewart. What I am not willing to tolerate is the magazine’s use of an angle and not compelling evidence of Davis’s innocence, he should just go back to sleep.

Jack Wissner 69OX 71C
Atlanta

What is even more offensive about this piece is the inflammatory language to make this a case of race. Everyone in Atlanta needs to ask themselves why there were “thousands” protesting here, while few people demonstrated in Savannah. The answer is that the locals know the truth and are grateful that they were protected from the violence of “Rah” [short for nickname “Rough as Hell”] all these years. Feel free to continue fighting the death penalty, but please do more research, get your facts straight, and pick a more appropriate mascot.

Laura Wiley 95G
Atlanta

I was pleased to see the piece on the growing number of Emory alumni in the [journalism] field (“Big Wheel Keep on Turning,” web only, winter 2012). I was there in the early to mid-1990s, I actually had to get permission from the dean to transfer to UGA for a quarter to take journalism classes. (This was shortly before changes in the curriculum.) Nice, informative article.

Rebecca Adams 95C
Silver Spring, Maryland

Your “Altizer is not dead” (prelude, winter 2012) column brought back a flood of good memories. I was still at Miami High when I read the Time cover story on the controversial Emory theologian, and I know that the article played a major role in my applying and eventually coming to Emory—where I majored in philosophy and where indeed I found the best possible atmosphere for questioning, learning, and growing. I was and always will be so grateful to Emory for giving this Cuban refugee that chance. That Emory is still very much a home of intellectual conversation, of profound humanism, of the best in all of us, is a cause for joyous celebration.

Octavio Roca 71C
Miami

As the art of true reporting seems to be increasingly scarce in newspapers these days, it was nice to see the piece on Frank Main’s work (“Main Streets,” winter 2012). I was, however, perplexed by the tagline for its author, John D. Thomas 86C 97G, which stated that he is at work on a book about “the cultural history of saliva.” I am wondering if the note should have referenced saliva instead, as the context could be more readily envisioned. Was this a typo, or am I indeed all wet? And if the latter is the case, then I offer the following title—Spit Takes: A Brief Cultural History.

Sally Tyler 82OX 84C
Washington, D.C.

Your “Altizer is not dead” (prelude, winter 2012) column brought back a flood of good memories. I was still at Miami High when I read the Time cover story on the controversial Emory theologian, and I know that the article played a major role in my applying and eventually coming to Emory—where I majored in philosophy and where indeed I found the best possible atmosphere for questioning, learning, and growing. I was and always will be so grateful to Emory for giving this Cuban refugee that chance. That Emory is still very much a home of intellectual conversation, of profound humanism, of the best in all of us, is a cause for joyous celebration.

Octavio Roca 71C
Miami

Editor’s note: Additional letters appear at www.emory.edu/magazine. Correction: In the article “Main Streets,” winter 2012, on page 33, we reported that Emory’s journalism program was revitalized in 1996 by a $1.35 gift from Atlanta’s Cox Foundation. The actual amount was $1.35 million. Many thanks to those readers who brought this to our attention.

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 reflect the views of the editors or the administrators of the university.
By Chance, the Meeting of a Lost Relation

HIV/AIDS vaccine shows long-term protection in primates

Scientists at Emory and GeoVax Labs have developed a vaccine that has protected nonhuman primates against multiple exposures to simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) given in three clusters during more than three years, providing hope that the vaccine will prove effective against HIV/AIDS. The team was led by Harriet Robinson, chief scientific officer at GeoVax Labs, and Emory microbiologist Rama Rao Amara.

Mutations causing metabolic disorder decoded

Researchers at Emory’s School of Medicine and Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute used “whole-exome sequencing”—which targets selective regions of the genome—to find the mutations causing a metabolic disorder in a boy born in 2004. A team led by Madhuri Hegde, associate professor of human genetics and scientific director of the Emory Genetics Laboratory, identified the gene responsible.

Kim Norman, Emory Conservator: “The most personal and specific items in Turner’s scrapbook are his various certificates: birth, baptism, ordination, ministry, marriage, Masonic, social security, and death certificate. These items form a snapshot of his life, signifying what he valued.”

Family Heirloom: Senior Christy Turner 12C (left) studies her great-grandfather’s scrapbook with her aunt and cousin.

Of Note

A Historic Scrapbook Becomes a Treasure for Student’s Family

Maybe it was fate, or just coincidence, that led Christy Turner 12C to take a break from cramming for finals last semester and click on an Emory conservator’s blog about a special scrapbook preserved by the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL).

Honoring the late Reverend Ollie James Turner, an African American minister and active community leader in Mississippi, the scrapbook consisted of seventeen loose manila folders covered with black-and-
white family photographs, postcards from afar, church program brochures, and certificates chronicling Turner’s birth, marriage, and death. Taken together, these standard artifacts captured a moment in history, encapsulating a life.

As the younger Turner continued reading the library’s website, it became clear to her that this homespun memory book belonged to the great-grandfather she never knew. And, somehow, it had found its way to her Emory campus.

“It was very exciting to find out that there was a piece of my family’s history at my university,” she says. “There are so many stories of African American history that are empowering and uplifting, and they need to be told.”

News traveled fast among the Turner clan, many of whom were not even aware that a scrapbook existed. In January, twenty-four family members—representing four generations and nine states—gathered at MARBL to speak with library conservators, view the scrapbook, and celebrate a reunion in Atlanta, Martin Luther King Jr’s birthplace, on the eve of his birthday. Later that day in Woodruff Library, King Week kicked off with a MARBL-sponsored poetry reading.

It is unclear how or why the scrapbook left the family’s hands. Ollie Turner’s daughter, Mary, a blind artist and teacher, compiled the book after her father died of a cerebral hemorrhage in 1966, according to Turner’s son, Dwight, who attended the MARBL viewing. After Mary died, the book was likely part of her estate and squirreled away in storage.

A decade ago, David McCord, an Atlanta antiquarian book dealer, discovered the scrapbook while rifling through a booth of odds and ends at Scott Antique Market. The booth’s owners, two African American women, were unable to recall how they acquired the book, but it likely came from a storage unit, says McCord. A specialist in African American artifacts, McCord immediately appreciated the book’s significance. It is relatively rare to find primary source material from the African American community prior to 1960, he says.

McCord approached Randall Burkett, curator of MARBL’s African American Collections, about housing the piece at Emory. Eight years later, the Turner scrapbook is among the first to be restored under a $170,000 federal Save America’s Treasures grant. The three-year matching grant will enable MARBL, Emory Libraries’ Preservation Office, and the Digital Curation Center to conserve and digitize thirty-four rare African American scrapbooks from 1890 to 1975, including scrapbooks of author Alice Walker, vaudeville performers “Jolly” John Larkin and Johnny Hudgins, and W.S. Scarborough, former slave, author, and Wilberforce University president.

Calling scrapbooks the neglected orphans of the archive world, Burkett notes that they are often in fragile condition, and Turner’s scrapbook was especially delicate.

Born in Lowndes County, Mississippi, in 1894, Turner was ordained a Baptist minister at age sixteen and presided over four churches. He earned a theology degree at Mississippi Baptist Seminary; married his wife, Martha Gamble, in 1917; and had eleven children. An advocate for youth welfare, he traveled on mission trips to Egypt, Israel, and Switzerland. He died at seventy-two. — Margie Fishman

Luce Scholar to experience Asia
Dana Toy 12C was among 18 Americans selected to be Luce scholars for a year of hands-on experience and work in Asia. Toy, who is from Wichita, Kansas, and the son of Khmer refugees, is majoring in biology and sociology and aspires to become a physician and researcher. He is the fifth Emory student selected for this highly competitive scholarship since 2000.

Emory alumnus and faculty win top mathematics prize
The Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics has awarded S. C. Dobbs Professor of Mathematics Vojtech Rödl, of Emory, and Mathias Schacht 04PhD, of the University of Hamburg, the 2012 George Pólya Prize. The total award is $20,000.
Carter’s Candor

THE COURAGE BEHIND WHITE HOUSE DIARY

IT IS ONE OF THE FEW PIECES OF ADVICE Jimmy Carter took from Richard Nixon.
Nixon asked Mrs. Carter at their first meeting, “Do you keep a diary, young lady?” Mrs. Carter pursued an ambitious agenda, traveling on the president’s behalf to world trouble spots. To the delight of many, the Carters did not conform to gender roles; she never got around to that diary, but he did. He dictated seven or eight times a day and ultimately brought five thousand pages of notes home to Plains, Georgia, when his term ended.

Holding fast to his legendary honesty, the president has given us the entries largely as they were dictated. “Despite a temptation to conceal my errors, misjudgments of people, or lack of foresight,” he says, “I decided when preparing this book not to revise the original transcript, but just to use the unchanged excerpts from the diaries that I consider to be most revealing and interesting.”

The book is astonishing proof that, for a president, there is no normal day. Dive in at virtually any juncture and see this truth; for instance, when Carter talks about—in the same breath—the normalization of relations with China and swimming with his daughter Amy.

In a recent interview with Emory Magazine, Carter, a University Distinguished Professor since 1982, could not be tempted to grandiosity regarding the roller coaster of public life.

“I or President Obama or the head of Coca-Cola or anyone goes through periods of intense engagement, but you still get up in the morning, breathe, deal with your family, possibly pursue hobbies. The juxtaposition of the global issues and the mundane opportunities of life are present in the life of everyone. My life has always been diverse in its character.”

For many students of history, Carter’s Middle East success and his struggle with the Iranian hostage crisis are the book’s banner items. But there are other revelations, as well.

This, for example, jumps out from July 14, 1977: “Had a meeting with Hugh Carter and other members of the staff to discuss how we would react to an imminent nuclear attack. My intention is to stay here at the White House as long as I live to administer the affairs of government, and to get Fritz Mondale into a safe place, underground or in a command airplane.”

As if courage came easily to him—and reminded that George W. Bush had no such choice as 9/11 unfolded—Carter made no apology, saying, “That was a unilateral decision, not even one that I discussed with Rosalynn. Fritz Mondale was completely competent to administer the affairs of my office.”

In his 2002 Nobel Prize acceptance speech, Carter described himself as “a citizen of a troubled world,” but concluded on a hopeful note. Asked if that speech would end the same way now, he answered, “That is still my hope, but the expectation is much less.” He went on to list what haunts him, including the American inclination toward war, violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and our declining influence in the Middle East.

Indeed, at the beginning of White House Diary, guiding his successors seems to be part of his motivation: “I was surprised by the number of subjects that were of common interest to me and other presidents.”

The end, though, is more personal. “The words in these diary entries have almost seemed to come from an unrestrained and unbiased third party,” Carter writes, “and by rereading them I have gained a better understanding of myself and my administration.”—Susan Carini 04GB

US News ranks Emory’s graduate, professional schools among top
US News & World Report ranked the law school 24; Goizueta’s full-time MBA program 19 and its part-time MBA program 13; the School of Medicine 21 among research-oriented medical schools (the highest in Georgia); the Department of Biomedical Engineering program with Georgia Tech second; the clinical psychology PhD 18; and the physical therapy program seven.
How Salman Rushdie (Finally) Wrote a Memoir

When Salman Rushdie granted Emory his archive—records that capture four decades of his literary life—he wasn’t just opening the door to public examination of a writer and his creative process.

Organizing his life’s writings, which range from scribbled notes and faded faxes to computer files, also made it possible for the award-winning author to tackle in-depth research for a new book—an autobiographical memoir.

Emory’s archives “actually allowed me to write the memoir,” says Rushdie, speaking in March during discussion at Woodruff Library on how digital scholarship has shaped his craft. The event was one of a series of programs and appearances scheduled during his recent two-week visit as University Distinguished Professor.

“People had been asking me [to write it] for a very long time, but I just didn’t feel ready,” he says of the long-awaited book, Joseph Anton: A Memoir, scheduled for release by Random House in September. It is anticipated that Rushdie will reflect at length upon little-discussed years of seclusion (as Joseph Anton) after his novel The Satanic Verses earned him death threats from Islamist extremists in 1989—a cloud that wasn’t lifted until 1998.

When President James Wagner invited Rushdie to entrust his archive to Emory eight years ago, the author said that decades of writing had been hastily stuffed into cardboard boxes in the attic—“a complete mess,” Rushdie admits. “There was no organization—a hundred boxes of everything and I didn’t even know what was there.”

Working with Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (Marbl) to catalogue his writings yielded a valuable resource when Rushdie began work on his memoir, which is reportedly more than six hundred pages. Through the digital archive, he was able to consult a master index within a searchable database—“my life with barcodes,” he joked—to confirm details that might otherwise have been lost.

Human memory is fickle and unreliable, Rushdie acknowledged, and he could not have written a memoir without the aid of the archive. But he also said that he doesn’t plan to spend a great deal more time with it, as his “instinct is to not look backward.”

“Memory has a way of telling you what’s important,” he says. “Yes, this archive is nostalgic for me, and in the specific case of the memoir I was going back to try to create, it was essential.”

Fittingly, Rushdie’s public conversation with Erika Farr, coordinator of digital archives in Marbl, took place in the libraries’ new Digital Scholarship Commons (disc), designed to help faculty and graduate students harness digital tools and resources at Emory to create powerful and engaging scholarship. disc is the flagship tenant of the new 4,500-square-foot Research Commons on the third floor of Woodruff Library.

“Just as we see the university library as the intellectual commons of the university, we see our Research Commons becoming a transdisciplinary bridge between the humanities and social sciences, connecting faculty, students, the campus, and the community in new and different ways under this digital flag,” said Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Rick Luce at the grand opening of disc in February. —Kimber Williams
of Note

D.U.I. Fly

HOW FRUIT FLIES SELF-MEDICATE WITH ALCOHOL

Looks Like Humans Aren’t the only ones to discover the benefits of alcohol.

Fruit flies that consume alcohol when infected with a blood-borne parasite greatly increase their survival rate, Emory researchers found.

“We believe our results are the first to show that alcohol consumption can have a protective effect against infectious disease, and in particular against blood-borne parasites,” says Todd Schlenke, the evolutionary geneticist who led the research.

The study, coauthored by Emory graduate student Neil Milan and undergraduate Balint Kacsoh and published in Current Biology, adds to the growing body of evidence that some animals use toxic substances found in nature as medicine.

The Schlenke lab used Drosophila melanogaster, the common fruit fly, to study how immune systems adapt to pathogens. The fly larvae eat the fungi and bacteria that grow on overripe, fermenting fruit. “They’re essentially living in booze,” Schlenke says. “The amount of alcohol in their natural habitat can range from 5 to 15 percent. Imagine if everything you ate and drank all day was five percent alcohol. We wouldn’t be able to live like that, but fruit flies are really good at detoxifying alcohol.”

Tiny, endoparasitoid wasps are major killers of fruit flies. The wasps inject eggs inside the fruit fly larvae, along with venom that aims to suppress their hosts’ immune response. If the venom is effective, the wasp egg hatches and the wasp larva begins to eat the fruit fly larva from the inside out. Eventually, an adult wasp emerges.

Some fruit flies, however, can overcome the effects of wasp venom and kill the eggs, allowing the fly larvae to grow into adults. “A constant coevolutionary battle is going on between the immune systems of the flies and the venoms of the wasps,” Schlenke says. “Any new mechanism of defense that protects flies from wasps will tend to spread through fly populations by natural selection.”

Schlenke wondered if the fruit flies could be tapping the toxic effects of alcohol in their natural habitat to fight off wasps. To test the theory, the researchers used a bisected petri dish filled with yeast. One side was mixed with 6 percent alcohol, while the other remained alcohol-free. Most of the infected larvae ate from the alcohol side, and 60 percent were successful in killing the wasp eggs.

“The wasps aren’t as good as the flies at handling alcohol,” Schlenke says. “The wasps aren’t as good as the flies at handling alcohol,” Schlenke says. “[We] wanted students to work across disciplines on real-world, ongoing problems and to present results that could be applied on water projects around the world,” Eisen says.

quote to note: “Environment impact is embedded in social constructs,” Longhofer told the class. “You can’t disentangle the social from the natural.”

“They were a running tap. But when I said I was doing a study, they showed me the other four hundred taps with no running water.”

quote to note: “I’ve learned a lot about the importance of water as it affects all aspects of life—public health, international relations, the economy, energy, and pretty much any sector or industry imaginable,” says Simon Mettler 12C.—M.J.L.

Theology plans $15 million building expansion

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation has pledged $15 million to support an expansion of Emory’s Candler School of Theology, including a state-of-the-art library and teaching facilities. The existing theology school building will be named for Rita Anne Rollins, a grandchild of the foundation’s namesake.
Unfinished Revolutions

As demonstrations and uprisings spread across Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Bahrain, Syria, Algeria, Iraq, and other Arabian countries, many who joined the protests paid the ultimate cost. But are these countries, even the ones where regimes were ousted and rulers forced from power, any closer to stability and freedom?

That was the primary question posed at the fourth of the CNN Dialogues, "The 'Arab Spring': A Path to Democracy?" at Glenn Memorial auditorium in early February.

Hosted by Hala Gorani, a CNN anchor who has covered the protests in Syria, the panelists included Bahraini journalist Lamees Dhaif, Syrian dissident Ahed Al Hendi, CNN international correspondent Nic Robertson, Emory Associate Professor of Political Science Carrie Wickham, and Egyptian activist and blogger Dalia Ziada.

The program, a partnership between CNN, Emory’s James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study for Race and Difference, and the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, opened with FIERCE HOPE: Activists, bloggers, and ordinary citizens have risked their lives protesting oppressive regimes, says Bahraini journalist Lamees Dhaif, above.

"We know this is our right, and we have to work for it," agreed Dhaif, who believes that because the government of Bahrain is a United States ally, protesters are not getting the support from the US that they’ve received in other countries. “You have to bet on the people.”

Wickham said successful transitions in countries like Egypt will require public accountability and transparency.

“Corruption thrives in the shadows," she said, adding that it is “absolutely vital” to make the economy and jobs the top priority.

“Unemployment is at a ten-year high. So many Egyptians live on two dollars a day or less," she said. “These real-life, day-to-day hardships must be addressed, but no one group can address this alone.”

Al Hendi, who fled Syria four years ago after being arrested and tortured as a student there, now works for CyberDissidents.org in New York.

“Since Syrian protestors it just gets worse, the regime’s response is increasing day by day, they have rockets and tanks," he said. “The Russians are supporting the army, but the [protestors] are not getting any kind of weapons from anywhere.”

Despite this, Al Hendi said, “We have been able to push open the gates of oppression. Activists, not politicians.” —M.J.L.

A therapy for Ebola?


Ebola is one of the most feared epidemics in the world; if left untreated, the virus kills up to 2 to 4 people it infects. It is also classified as a potential biological weapon.

But a class of anticancer drugs may be effective against the deadly virus, Emory researchers have found. Nilotinib (sold commercially as Tasigna), a drug approved in the US and Europe for the treatment of leukemia, can inhibit the ability of the Ebola virus to replicate in the laboratory.

The results were published in the journal Science Translational Medicine. Associate Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Daniel Kalman and colleagues have shown that Nilotinib and related cancer drugs could be used to fight a surprising variety of diseases, including smallpox and TB.

Kalman worked with Gary Nabel, director of the Vaccine Research Center at the national Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and colleagues to discover that Nilotinib could reduce Ebola viral production in infected cells by up to ten thousand-fold. —M.J.L.

Lipstadt honored for contributions to genocide prevention

Dorot Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies Deborah Lipstadt has been awarded the Raphael Lemkin Prize from the Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation. Lipstadt, director of the Rabbi Donald A. Tam Institute for Jewish Studies, received the award for contributions to the cause of genocide prevention.

And the Campus MovieFest Best Picture award goes to . . .

Winning the Best Picture award at the 11th annual Campus MovieFest were Eric Seti ’12B and Matt Schwartz ’13C for their film Blackout, a comedy about a girl going home after a frat party who discovers that not everyone is who they appear to be. Seti and Schwartz also produced the popular “Emory Anthem,” an unofficial school theme song that went viral on YouTube.

SPRING 2012 EMORY magazine 11
Campus beat

Boot Camp for Bold Visions

‘LEADERSHAPE’ PROGRAM COMES TO EMMORY

Every elementary school playground at recess is a microcosmic study in how future leaders are made: there’s the bully, the persuader, the rebel, the teacher’s pet.

As we grow up, leadership styles become more varied and complex. But one thing is certain: qualities like integrity, respect, and personal values are not prerequisites for gaining leadership positions.

That’s one of the reasons the LeaderShape Institute exists—to help create leaders who can make change happen, not only effectively, but also ethically.

The intense, six-day national program was offered at Emory for the first time in January, attracting sixty-five student participants from both Oxford and the Atlanta campus. Hosted by the Office of Student Leadership and Service, the program was a goal realized for staff of the Division of Campus Life, some of whom have been connected with the LeaderShape Institute for years and have always wanted to bring the opportunity to Emory students.

“LeaderShape is known for producing exceptional leaders,” says Dean of Students Bridget Guernsey Riordan, a former LeaderShape facilitator. “One of the Google founders has been quoted about his participation in LeaderShape and his belief in the program. It is a boot camp for improving leadership skills.”

LeaderShape is open to freshmen, sophomores, and juniors at more than sixty campuses nationwide each year. “Typically we would send one or two students to a national LeaderShape session with other students from around the country,” says Jill Camper, assistant director of student programming and leadership and a previous LeaderShape facilitator. “Students always have a great experience, but then they return to Emory with little support from their peers because no one quite understands. Now that we have a campus-based session, we have sixty-five students back on campus wanting to make a difference, who are supporting each other in making their visions a reality.”

During the course of the six days, LeaderShape facilitators encourage a “healthy disregard for the impossible” as they ask students to envision positive change and develop a plan for making it happen. They emphasize ethics, teamwork, bold thinking, and action.

“I came into LeaderShape expecting to come out with a couple of ways in which I could better lead the community. I quickly realized that I would come out a different person,” says Austin Fuss ’15C, whose vision involves reducing cancer. “LeaderShape does so much more than provide individuals with leadership skills; they actually shape participants into developed leaders with visions of how they can make a difference in their local and global communities.”

One of the highlights of the institute is the Guest Leader Forum, a chance for students to interact directly with upper-level examples of leadership success from within and outside the university. Emory’s “guests” included President James Wagner, who joined others in mingling with the students and providing feedback on their dreams and visions, expressed on large posters.

“The thoughtfulness and intellect of our Emory students always impresses,” Wagner says. “It was wonderful to see them apply those same characteristics through the LeaderShape program. It is often said that leaders are born and not made. I’m not at all certain that is true, but even if it is, talent for leadership needs to be grown and exercised.”

Several alumni took part in the program as well, demonstrating volunteer as well as professional leadership. “I believe the students gained an understanding that leadership at Emory is important to both their education as well as to their connection to Emory beyond graduation,” says Allison Dykes, vice president for alumni relations, who also served as a guest leader. “The alumni were excellent examples of the value of staying connected and serving as leaders.”

The power of forging relationships was a theme that resonated throughout the week, with groups of about ten students working together in “family clusters” that are still active.

“I came into LeaderShape knowing two of the participants,” says Fuss, “and came out with sixty new friends.”—P.P.P.
SPRING 2012
of Note

THE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2005 (the baseline year) to 2012
- Office of Sustainability Initiatives founded; first director, Ciannat Howett 87C, appointed
- 20 percent energy use reduction per square foot
- 1,595 Emory community members have taken the Sustainability Pledge
- 18 LEED-certified buildings
- 19 percent of total Emory Dining food purchases during 2010 to 2011 were locally grown, significantly reducing transportation impact
- A weekly farmers’ market launched on campus, offering fresh, local items
- Nearly 300 academic courses include a sustainability focus
- Alternative transportation has increased, with the Cliff shuttle system carrying 240,000 passengers a month and reported bike riding increasing by 800 percent

By 2015
- Grow more trees; remove invasive species from all university forests and develop long-term restoration plan
- Reduce average campus energy use by 25 percent per square foot
- Reduce Emory’s total waste stream by 65 percent, including recycling 100 percent of electronics waste and road construction materials, and composting, recycling, or reusing at least 95 percent of food waste, animal bedding, and building construction materials
- Procure 75 percent of ingredients from local or sustainably grown sources

By 2020
- 20 percent reduction in total emissions; 35 percent per square foot
- Reduce petroleum consumption by 30 percent in vehicle fleet
- Study biodiesel in backup generators

By 2036
- 36 percent reduction in total emissions; 50 percent per square foot

By 2050
- 50 percent reduction in total emissions; 85 percent per square foot (Georgia Power has announced a goal of 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; Emory’s success is linked to this goal)
- All existing parking structures and flat roofs, when scheduled to be replaced, become green, cool, and/or solar roofs

SUSTAINABLE EFFORTS

BIG PLAN, SMALLER FOOTPRINT

EMORY’S SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS SEE THE future campus through green-tinted glasses.

In December, two committees appointed by President James Wagner unveiled a Climate Action Plan to reduce the university’s environmental footprint with specific steps and targets during the next three decades. More than a year in the making, the plan paints a dramatically different picture of Emory by 2050—and we bet you can guess what the dominant color is.

A Climate Action Plan (CAP) Committee, made up of faculty, staff, and students, and a Carbon Reduction Task Force from Campus Services spent much of last year studying the university’s current energy use, analyzing the plans and goals of other institutions, and hosting more than twenty public forums to educate and get feedback from the community. The CAP takes a comprehensive approach, recommending emission reduction strategies in a number of areas—including sustainable building and construction, energy, transportation, waste management, food, procurement, academic programs, and individual action.

“The Climate Action Plan builds on a strong base of institutional support and grassroots action,” says Ciannat Howett 87C, director of the Office of Sustainability Initiatives. “Increased awareness of the institutional and individual behavior changes that help to reduce atmospheric carbon and the connection to ethical living, ecological citizenship, and inter-generational equity are the most important contributions to the Climate Action Plan.”

To hit the targets, each academic and operational area of the university will appoint a leadership committee to develop and implement a strategy that makes sense for that unit. Suggestions from the CAP committee for area leaders range from relatively easy to dramatic: adopt building temperature turndows for evenings and weekends, develop sustainable purchasing policies, implement a “paperless office” protocol, offer incentives for flexible work arrangements to reduce commuting, develop incentives for reduced air and car travel through teleconferencing, follow sustainable catering and “green event” guidelines—or, if you’re more ambitious, construct a LEED Gold building or become a “zero-waste” unit with a comprehensive composting and recycling program.

More than half of Emory’s greenhouse gas emission—53 percent—is due to electricity use. The second-largest source is natural gas at 15 percent, with faculty and staff commuting a close third. In other words, buildings and vehicles will continue to receive the most targeted attention, and the CAP makes a number of specific recommendations related to construction practices, retrofitting existing structures, and reducing both the volume of travel and its impact.—P.P.P.
Some things just aren’t for sale, but then, others are.

A recent neuroimaging study shows that personal values that people refuse to disavow, even when offered cash to do so, are processed differently in the brain than those values that are willingly sold.

“Our experiment found that the realm of the sacred—whether it’s a strong religious belief, a national identity, or a code of ethics—is a distinct cognitive process,” says Gregory Berns, Distinguished Professor of Neuroeconomics, director of Emory’s Center for Neuropolicy, and lead author of the study. The results were published in *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*.

Sacred values prompt greater activation of an area of the brain associated with rules-based, right-or-wrong thought processes, the study showed, as opposed to the regions linked to processing of costs-versus-benefits.

Berns headed a team that included Emory economist Monica Capra; Michael Prietula, a professor of information systems and operations management at Emory’s Goizueta Business School; a psychologist from the New School for Social Research; and anthropologists from the Institute Jean Nicod in Paris. The research was funded by the US Office of Naval Research, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and the National Science Foundation.

“We’ve come up with a method to start answering scientific questions about how people make decisions involving sacred values, and that has major implications if you want to better understand what influences human behavior across countries and cultures,” Berns says. “We are seeing how fundamental cultural values are represented in the brain.”

The researchers used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to record the brain responses of thirty-two US adults during key phases of an experiment. In the first phase, participants were shown statements ranging from the mundane, such as “You support gay marriage” and “You are pro-life.” Each of the sixty-two statements had a contradictory pairing, such as “You are pro-choice,” and the participants had to choose one of each pair.

At the end of the experiment, participants were given the option of auctioning their personal statements: Disavowing their previous choices for actual money. The participants could earn as much as $100 per statement by simply agreeing to sign a document stating the opposite of what they believed. They could choose to opt out of the auction for statements they valued highly.

“We used the auction as a measure of integrity for specific statements,” Berns explains. “If a person refused to take money to change a statement, then we considered that value to be personally sacred to them. But if they took money, then we considered that they had low integrity for that statement and that it wasn’t sacred.”

The brain imaging data showed a strong correlation between sacred values and activation of the neural systems associated with evaluating rights and wrongs (the left temporoparietal junction) and semantic rule retrieval (the left ventrolateral prefrontal cortex), but not with systems associated with reward.

“Most public policy is based on offering people incentives and disincentives,” Berns says. “Our findings indicate that it’s unreasonable to think that a policy based on costs-and-benefits analysis will influence people’s behavior when it comes to their sacred personal values, because they are processed in an entirely different brain system than incentives.”

Research participants who reported more active affiliations with organizations, such as churches, sports teams, musical groups, and environmental clubs, had stronger brain activity in the same brain regions that correlated to sacred values. “Organized groups may instill values more strongly through the use of rules and social norms,” Berns says.

The experiment also found activation in the amygdala, a brain region associated with emotional reactions, but only in cases where participants refused to take cash to state the opposite of what they believe. “Those statements represent the most repugnant items to the individual,” Berns says, “and would be expected to provoke the most arousal, which is consistent with the idea that when sacred values are violated, that induces moral outrage.”

The study is part of a special issue of *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* on “The Biology of Cultural Conflict.” Berns edited the special issue, which brings together a dozen articles on the culture of neuroscience, including differences in the neural processing of people on the opposing sides of conflict, from US Democrats and Republicans to Arabs and Israelis.

“As culture changes, it affects our brains, and as our brains change, that affects our culture. You can’t separate the two,” Berns says. “We now have the means to start understanding this relationship, and that’s putting the relatively new field of cultural neuroscience onto the global stage.”—Carol Clark
‘I Needed to Do More’

EMORY NURSE DONATES KIDNEY TO PATIENT

EMORY TRANSPLANT NURSE ALLISON BATSON
Batson felt an outpouring of compassion for the young, critically ill patient on her floor.

Clay Taber, a native of Columbus and a recent graduate of Auburn University, was planning to propose to his college sweetheart and was excited about his future. But the twenty-two-year-old’s plans had been put on hold by a mysterious illness that caused complete kidney failure.

“My daughter had just gotten married that summer, so Clay and I kind of bonded over talking about proposal ideas,” Batson says.

In August 2010, just after his graduation, Taber had vacationed near Panama City, Florida, and swam in the ocean. It was during the months following the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. Feeling ill with night sweats, chills, and a cough upon his return, Taber went to his doctor and tested positive for mononucleosis. The symptoms continued, however, and it was discovered that his kidneys were failing. He was diagnosed with Goodpasture’s Syndrome, a rare, life-threatening autoimmune disorder that can result in kidney disease and lung hemorrhage. Experts believe the disorder can be triggered by a viral infection or by overexposure to crude oil products.

Taber was transferred to Emory University Hospital, where he spent weeks in the transplant unit, undergoing dialysis and plasmapheresis, a blood purification procedure.

“I needed to do more,” says Batson. “I approached her and said, ‘I pray that you will be able to donate to your son, but if you for some reason cannot and you don’t have another compatible donor in your circle, I would hope that you would consider me.’ I knew that my blood type was compatible.”

Soon after, Batson underwent the full testing process and was confirmed as a match.

“A living donor makes it less likely that his body would reject the kidney versus a deceased donor,” Batson says. “If Clay were placed on the deceased donor list, his wait would have been three to five years. I just felt like that was no way for a young man to start his married life.”

On January 10, 2012, the families of both Batson and Taber gathered in the early morning hours at Emory University Hospital. Batson was wheeled into an operating room while Taber was prepped for surgery thirty feet away in another room by a team led by transplant surgeon Christian Larsen, director of the Emory Transplant Center.

Hours later, both patients were resting comfortably on floor 7G, where they had met just months before. They walked laps together around the hall to recover.

“Both Clay and I have been very blessed by this experience,” says Batson, who returned to work in late February. “The attention has been both exciting and humbling. I have a new insight into taking care of my patients, especially my donors.” —M.J.L.
Welcome to the future.

It probably wouldn’t dawn on you to rub diesel fuel on your cheeks, eat your expensive facial moisturizer with a spoon, or pour olive oil into the gas tank of your car.

But one day very soon, you might wake up and take a shower using sweet-smelling soap and shampoo, apply lotion to your face, and drink some vanilla-flavored milk for breakfast.

Later, you could drive your diesel-powered car to the airport and board a plane running on biofuel, where you’ll be offered crackers with cheese or some ice cream as a snack.

And all of it will be made from algae.

Welcome to the future.
It’s the future envisioned
by Jonathan Wolfson 93C and Harrison Dillon 93C, founders of Solazyme, one of the most promising renewable oil companies in the market. Started in 2003, the San Francisco–based business has swiftly pulled ahead in the thunderous race toward more sustainable energy—attracting reams of positive press, millions in private investment and federal funding, and a landmark contract with the US Navy to test its biofuel in jets and ships.

Making oil from algae is not a new idea, but then if it were easy, giants like Chevron would have been doing it a long time before 9/11. One thing that sets Solazyme apart from other biotech hopefuls is its ability to customize—to produce oils suited for a range of different uses and products. And so far, these algal impersonators seem to be doing their jobs just as well as the original ingredients, if not better. Perfecting biofuel is the ultimate finish line, but creating a variety of revenue streams along the way is giving Solazyme an edge over companies that are laser-focused on fossil fuel alternatives.

Another point in their favor is the potential for scalability. A number of startups have produced viable renewable fuels, but many hit a wall when it comes to ramping up the volume necessary to balance the cost. Solazyme’s technology will theoretically allow them to partner with other companies and use old oil refineries to produce millions—maybe billions—of gallons of renewable oil a year.

But perhaps most compelling is that Solazyme is making what’s known in the fuel industry as a drop-in solution—oils that can be pumped straight into the tanks of existing planes, trains, and automobiles, without mixing or modification. That’s where another serious biofuel contender, ethanol, has failed, and it’s a big reason why Solazyme was named number one among the “50 Hottest Companies in Bioenergy” for 2011 to 2012 by Biofuels Digest.

“We’ve developed the ability to convert low-cost plant sugars into renewable oils,” said Dillon, speaking to a class at Emory’s Goizueta Business School last fall. “We design the oils, and we make them so that they plug into the 150-year-old existing infrastructure for processing oils.”

Dreaming Green
If all start-ups have a story, then Solazyme’s is a fairy tale.

Wolfson and Dillon met as Emory freshmen in McTyer Hall. Dillon grew up in Atlanta and both his parents went to Emory, so the university was a natural choice for him; his father is a commercial real estate lawyer, and his mother became a real estate agent. Dillon had developed a fascination with biology—specifically, genetics—in high school and knew Emory would give him the chance to explore it.

Like a lot of Emory students, Wolfson is from New York, the son of a neurologist and a psychologist. When he arrived at college, he already knew his way around the inside of a university research lab; his father has spent much of his career in science grant writing and research and still runs a large lab at the University of Connecticut. His parents’ social life revolved around that work, he says, which served as excellent training for the culture he and Dillon have created at Solazyme.

Both say their parents never pushed them toward a particular career, but let them find their own way. “I just remember my dad saying, whatever you do, make sure you love it,” Wolfson says. “Getting up every day is a hardship if you don’t love what you do.”
At Emory, the two hit it off right away, frequenting Jagger’s pub and Taco Mac in Emory Village (where they “didn’t really card”), and P.J.’s in Sage Hill (a “very active haunt at that time”). They joined different frats but took some of the same classes early on. Wolfson majored in political science; Dillon majored in biology and worked in a genetics lab.

“Harrison was clearly looking for something more than a standard lecture class at Emory,” says Barry Yedvobnick, a biology professor and Dillon’s adviser. “The Genetics Project Lab class that I taught him typically attracted a small group of students who were willing to put in long hours doing their own lab research. These students needed to have enthusiasm for doing science, or they quickly found themselves in the wrong class. For Harrison, this was exactly the right class.”

Dillon and Wolfson also started taking a camping trip out West together for a couple of weeks every August, a tradition that continued long after college. All that time as students—over books and beers and coffee, during parties and pre-exam all-nighters and cross-country road trips—they talked.

And one thing that they talked about a lot, even as freshmen, was starting a company together. A biotech company. One that would help solve the world’s energy problem.

“I don’t think we necessarily knew what we were talking about, in college or even after,” Dillon says. “Once we started to mature professionally, it became possible to begin to understand what it meant.”

But it would be a decade after their Emory graduation before the pair was ready to launch the company they’d been talking about since the year they met. Wolfson went on to earn a law degree and an MBA from New York University, and worked in corporate law and finance for several companies—including the financial services startup Investor-Tree, which he cofounded and served as COO. By 2002, he was vice president of finance and business development for the software company 7thOnline.

Dillon also got a law degree, from Duke, and a PhD in genetics at the University of Utah, where he went on to manage the biotechnology patent program of the Technology Transfer Office. He is licensed to practice before the US Patent and Trademark Office and worked on biotech patents for the San Francisco–based intellectual property firm Townsend, Townsend, and Crew, which merged with Atlanta’s Kilpatrick Stockton last year.

With every year, every advanced degree, every new position, every step and challenge and setback, the bright but hazy idea that originated at Emory took on clearer shape. Wolfson and Dillon kept in close touch, taking those annual camping trips and comparing notes on their evolving careers—as well as the emerging renewable energy market, which they started watching and discussing seriously around 1995.

By 2003, the pieces seemed to have fallen into place. Wolfson quit his job and moved out to California, and Dillon worked for another six months at a law firm before following suit.

They spent the next year living in a house in Palo Alto and growing algae in his garage. “It was us and several thousand strains of algae. It may sound romantic, but in reality it was extremely high stress,” Dillon says. “We were working on the business plan, and raised a little bit of money; not a lot. Once I quit my job, we figured we could eat Ramen for about nine months while we tried to raise funding.”

In general, Wolfson points out, startup companies need little more than office space and computers; a biotech venture requires lab equipment and technical expertise. “Most biotech companies are spun out of a university,” he says. “There are almost no examples of successful biotechs started from scratch because of the high barriers to entry.”

But Dillon and Wolfson’s work caught the attention of entrepreneur and investor Jerry Fiddler, the founder and former CEO of the software company Wind River Systems. Fiddler has a soft spot for startups like Solazyme. He started Wind River in his own garage in 1981 and during the next two decades led it to market prominence, with some $400 million in annual sales; it was acquired by Intel in 2009.

Fiddler now heads the angel investment firm Zygote Ventures and has served as Solazyme’s board chair since 2004, helping to finance their first labs and marshaling an elite group of advisers to propel the business forward. “It was critical to have that guidance,” Dillon says.

**Skip the Sun**

At the most basic level, making oil from algae is like collapsing time, reviving Mother Nature up to light speed. Algae are simple creatures composed mainly of sugar, protein, and oil molecules—some are as much as 50 percent oil. It’s thought that most of the petroleum currently being pumped up from deep in the ground is the remains of ancient, decomposed algae.

Some of the hundred-thousand-plus kinds of algae are better suited to making oil than others—namely single-celled microalgae, which, if given the perfect conditions, can double their volume in a matter of hours. Wolfson
and Dillon spent the better part of two years experimenting with different strains of algae in ponds. The organisms grew, and they produced oil, but the problem was scale and cost: it would take thousands of acres of water to produce the ocean of oil they envisioned, and the price tag was far too high.

“When you do something at a tiny lab scale and it’s basically successful, it’s easy to extrapolate and convince yourself that it will be scalable and cost effective,” Dillon says. “But then you do the math and you realize that you have to make a change. We finally looked at each other and said, we have to figure out something different.”

And that’s when they decided to skip the sun.

Some algae, they had found, can grow in the dark, if you feed them right. Most algal strains are autotrophic, meaning they use light to make their own food through photosynthesis. But other kinds are heterotrophic—they can bypass photosynthesis altogether by consuming plant sugars that have already converted sunlight into energy. Dillon and Wolfson shifted their focus to cultivating heterotrophic microalgae that could be fermented, using different sorts of sugars, in tanks. Big, dark tanks.

“We basically went back to our investors and said, what we were doing wasn’t working, but we’d like you to fund this,” Dillon says. “We were really nervous about them dropping us, but we’d like you to fund this, “ Dillon says. “We were really nervous about them dropping us, but they believed in us as entrepreneurs, not just in our original business plan.”

The investors also saw the light when it came to growing algae in the dark. “There was a lot of logic to it—the whole reason we started with algae is because of its capability to make oil, but it was doing two things, photosynthesis and then making oil,” Wolfson adds. “We said, those are two different processes, and we can create indirect photosynthesis by feeding sugars to algae in fermentation. By doing that we get to leverage an electrical transformer. They also discovered a whole food algae ingredient that’s causing a stir among food manufacturers. Made from algae that’s about 50 percent oil, Dillon says, algalin flour—which looks like coarse, yellow-gold powder—can be used as a healthier alternative to high-fat ingredients.

“Then you put it into processed foods as a replacement for saturated fats, like eggs and butter, it has a dramatic reduction in calories and fat and cholesterol,” Dillon says. “But your mouth still thinks it’s a high-fat food because of the texture. It could have a major impact on public health by making processed foods healthier.”

In the Solazyme conference room, there’s a shelf of about thirty commercial products and prototypes displayed for show-and-tell, from a jar of diesel fuel to a substance that’s identical to olive oil at the molecular level. Visitors also can take rides in a Jeep Cherokee that’s been running on house-made biofuel for more than two years. But the most popular stop on the tour is the ice cream taste test, when guests are invited to compare Haagen Dazs to ice cream made from algae—with a fraction of the fat. (If you don’t dwell on the algae part, it’s delicious.)

Unlike most of their biotech competitors, Wolfson and Dillon have struck up partnerships in some diverse markets. They have contracts with chemical companies Unilever and Dow, cosmetics chain Sephora, agri-giant Bunge, and food producer Roquette Freres to incorporate Solazyme oils into their products. The cosmetic products are already on retail shelves with the brand name Algenist, and some of the nutritional products are available as well.

“Expanding to other markets was a major shift in strategy that went against conventional wisdom. Fuel is a trillion-dollar market,” Dillon says. “But for us, diversification has been a good thing. We could build highly successful, profitable products a lot faster in these areas.”

Of course, there is still that trillion-dollar fuel market—the pearly gates of the biotech business, promising a heady combination of unimaginable wealth and the eternal satisfaction of saving the planet. Wolfson is quick to add that developing oil for fuel “is still an enormous focus, one that has a lot to do with our desire to do something meaningful. It has the highest impact potential from an environmental and sustainability standpoint.”

As pleased as they are to be making oils for moisturizer and ingredients for ice cream, Dillon and Wolfson have their eyes on a tougher customer: the US military. The Department of Defense has a keen interest in reducing its dependence on foreign oil, and the US Navy has set a goal to get half its fuel from renewable sources by 2020.

Solazyme emerged as one of the leading supply candidates when its fuel tested successfully in a series of trials—including, most recently, replacing diesel in a nine-hundred-foot Maersk container ship on a voyage from northern Europe to India, about 6,500 nautical miles. In late 2009, Solazyme received a $21.8 million federal grant from the Department of Energy to build a biorefinery. The navy contracted with the company for more than 150,000 gallons of its alternative fuel for testing during 2010 and 2011. And in December of last year, the navy announced the largest biofuel buy in history—$12 million for 450,000 gallons—to be supplied by Solazyme, in partnership with Dynamic Fuels, which will process the algal oil into fuel for jets and ships.

“We’ve been delivering fuel to the US Navy for a couple of years now, and we’re thrilled to see helicopters fly and destroyers run on our biofuel,” Wolfson says. “The military has led the development of a lot of new technologies that started out as prototypes and were eventually adopted across the spectrum. This is about energy security for them, and the navy has traditionally pioneered transitions in energy technology.”
companies to make their custom oils in facilities in France and Brazil. And they are raising money to build their own plants, which they think will ultimately be the most cost-effective way to achieve the large-scale oil production they are targeting.

“We believe we’ve set the stage for commercial expansion,” Wolfson says. They also believe they can continue to attract the necessary funding. The company was named the No. 1 bioenergy company in the world for 2010 by Biofuels Digest and one of twenty-five 2012 Technology Pioneers by the World Economic Forum.

More recently, Solazyme’s stock price enjoyed a boost when the company was featured on the CNBC show Mad Money with Jim Cramer as a how-to case study in stock market speculation. Although the company’s profitability is still largely unproven, Cramer did a step-by-step analysis to conclude that Solazyme is a risk, but a very, very good one—having a “competitive advantage with many layers of patents and trade secrets.”

“Theyir biological approach to energy production is ingenious, and could not be more timely,” says Emory’s Yedvobnick. “I am extremely impressed with what Harrison and his colleagues at Solazyme have accomplished, and I look forward to seeing their impact continue to grow.”

The demands of running a leading San Francisco biotech company are limitless, and Wolfson and Dillon are rarely in the same room these days. As CEO, Wolfson oversees the financial side and is a frequent public spokesman for the company; Dillon, president and chief technology officer, manages the science and intellectual property development. Both are on the road almost constantly, cultivating company relationships, and either can spin the Solazyme story at a second’s notice with stunning clarity and eloquence—whether in an elevator, a board room, or a media interview.

It’s a far cry from the Emory dorm rooms where they met as eighteen-year-olds, from the plastic pitchers of beer in Emory Village, from the summer camping trips that gave them stretches of empty time to plan and dream.

But that foundation of friendship is at the heart of Solazyme—and, in some ways, it might be their secret weapon.

Not that it’s such a secret. Biotech reporter Michael Kanellos noted that the founders’ longtime relationship “places Solazyme into a rarefied club that includes Microsoft, Hewlett-Packard, Intel, Yahoo, EnerNoc, Apple, and Google.”

“While conventional wisdom says that friendship gets in the way of running a business, in the right circumstances, it can create an enduring level of trust and stability that is otherwise difficult to replicate,” Kanellos writes.

Wolfson puts it this way: “Emory really is the origin of the company, the reason it exists. You get to know each other in a lot of different ways before starting a company together. We knew each other for fourteen years.”

But neither Wolfson nor Dillon pretends to be surprised at where they are today. They don’t shake their heads ruefully and begin sentences with, “We never dreamed . . . ”

Because they did. As college kids, they imagined building a company that would be a leader in the green energy revolution, one that could change how oil is made and used. How their story ends remains to be seen—but it could have the makings of a best seller.

“When you think about all the time we spent together, developing ideas and maturing professionally, people always ask, did you ever think you could get this big?” Dillon muses. “The answer is, yes, we totally expected this to be successful. Very early on, we envisioned that what we did would have a big impact. And that’s always been the motivating factor.”
In 2005, two years before America’s housing bubble burst, Frank Alexander, Sam Nunn Professor of Law and director of the Project on Affordable Housing and Community Development at Emory’s School of Law, was finishing up a book he’d begun at the urging of colleagues.

To the average reader, *Land Bank Authorities: A Guide for the Creation and Operation of Local Land Banks* would surely appear arcane. The seminal text on a little-known practice, it was designed to assist public officials in America’s older industrial cities in addressing the legal barriers—property-tax delinquencies, fractured titles to land, substandard housing, and building code violations—that had long prevented them from putting abandoned parcels into productive use.

Land banks, Alexander argued, offered these struggling cities a powerful tool for going forward—a program through which municipal authorities can acquire, hold, develop, and ultimately resell blighted buildings and dilapidated homes. The book, he believed, could serve as a road map for city leaders looking to rediscover the value of that urban land.

Yet no one, not even Alexander, could have predicted just how important that tool would be in years to come. In 2005, there were just a
handful of successful land banks—all of them concentrated in the declining inner cities of the Rust Belt. Today, mainly in response to the devastating effects of the economic and housing crises, there are more than eighty nationwide, with more and more states considering comprehensive land bank legislation every month.

And suddenly Alexander finds himself at the center of a national conversation that is anything but arcane.

Since the beginning of 2007, more than four million Americans have experienced foreclosure. Housing prices have plummeted by 40 percent from their 2006 highs, leaving some 14.6 million more homeowners “underwater”—with mortgage debt greater than what their houses are worth. And economists predict that as many five million of those will move into foreclosure before the crisis ends.

As a result, the mass vacancy and abandonment once unique to the Great Lakes factory towns is now epidemic, inflicting further pain on already hard-hit housing markets in cities across the country. America’s glut of vacant homes—approximately 1.2 million more than there would be in normal economic times—adds fuel to the fire of the economic crisis.

“Vacant and abandoned properties quickly become liabilities,” Alexander told a congressional subcommittee in May 2008, just as the Bush administration was taking its first timid steps to alleviate the crisis and the Dow Jones industrial average was beginning its long descent from 13,000 points.

Standing before a panel tasked with implementing the federal financial assistance promised by the pending Neighborhood Stabilization Act, Alexander described the trend’s attendant ills: declining property values and property tax revenues, increased costs of code enforcement activities, increased costs of police and public safety surveillance, increased incidence of arson, and fears of social engagement, to name a few.

Those can add up. Alexander said, to a significant sum. Writing in Land Banks and Land Banking—an updated and expanded version of the original 2005 text, published last year—Alexander cites several case studies as proof of the damage done. In Philadelphia, homeowners have seen the value of their homes drop by an average of $8,000 as a result of the increase in vacant and abandoned properties, while the city itself has been saddled with more than $20 million in annual maintenance costs.

In Ohio, some twenty-five thousand vacant and abandoned properties scattered across the state’s so-called Big Eight cities have imposed a staggering $64 million toll on local governments in the form of “city services” and lost tax revenues. And in Flint, Michigan, home to the state’s second-highest vacancy rates at 21 percent, it was found that property within five hundred feet of a vacant and abandoned structure lost an average of 2.26 percent of its value.

Sitting in his law school office, Alexander points to another, less publicized outcome of the crisis: the disruption of the school system. “No one saw that coming,” he says. “But in hindsight, we can see that every single tract of vacant and abandoned property imposes costs on the adjoining properties, on the fabric of the neighborhood, on the vitality of the community.”

And so the creation, in January 2010, of the Center for Community Progress. Founded by Alexander and former Genesee County Treasurer, now congressional candidate, Dan Kildee of Flint, Michigan, the nonprofit organization aims to meet the growing need for effective, sustainable solutions to America’s problem properties. With offices in Flint, New Orleans, and Washington, D.C., it’s poised to make an impact both on the ground and in legislative chambers around the country—to turn, as Alexander puts it, “vacant spaces into vibrant places.”
Forty-two years ago, Frank Alexander watched the moon landing from a smoky bar in the south of France. A high school student on a summer program in Paris, he’d joined a group of classmates for a trip to the coast. And incredibly, a quarter-million miles away and yet right there in black and white, Neil Armstrong was taking one small step, one giant leap, from the lunar lander to the future.

“It fundamentally changed my view of the world, of life, and of the possibilities for advancement of our societies,” he told an Emory audience in fall 2010.

The occasion was Alexander’s investiture as the Sam Nunn Chair in Ethics and Professionalism, and the lecture—to students, faculty, and alumni assembled in Miller-Ward Alumni House—was a kind of statement of principles. As dazzled as he had been by the sight of Apollo 11 on that summer night in 1969, he was equally in thrall, he confessed, to the live video of remote operating vehicles (ROVs) as they worked to stanch the river of crude spewing into the Gulf of Mexico from the sunken Deepwater Horizon rig.

And while he marveled at the precision of those ROVs on the ocean floor, he also lamented the hubris that had led them there. “The fact that our human ingenuity says we can do something doesn’t mean we should,” he said.

The same hard lesson can be applied to the current housing crisis and its insidious second wave of vacancy and abandonment: “Yes,” he said, “we can create an infinite variety of mortgage products, and if we package them in pools sufficiently complex, there are investors who will buy them.” But that doesn’t make it right.

In 1993 and spent the next sixteen years in finance. As a math major and Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar at Emory, Norman grew up in southwest Atlanta, not far from the Pittsburgh neighborhood that has borne the brunt of the city’s housing woes. At just under 50 percent, the neighborhood’s vacancy rate is among the highest in the nation.

For Alexander, his dual training was indispensable. “I decided in my first year of divinity school that I wasn’t called into the ordained ministry,” he says. “But for me it was really just a question of whether I wear a clerical collar or I come to understand my ministry as much more broadly defined.”

As an authority on the advantages and complexities of land banking, Alexander serves as a critical resource for Chris Norman 88C, executive director of the Atlanta Land Bank Authority (LBA) and president of the Georgia Association of Land Bank Authorities.

“Having an expert like Frank in your back yard has been a huge benefit to us,” Norman says. “We’re lucky to have him.”

A math major and Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar at Emory, Norman grew up in southwest Atlanta, not far from the Pittsburgh neighborhood that has borne the brunt of the city’s housing woes. At just under 50 percent, the neighborhood’s vacancy rate is among the highest in the nation.

Norman came to land banking from investment banking. He earned his MBA at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management in 1993 and spent the next sixteen years in finance. It wasn’t until Norman joined the LBAs board in 2004 that he really understood what banking land was all about.

“It was a real education at first,” he says. “Most people have never heard of this whole notion.”

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“It was a real education at first,” he says. “Most people have never heard of this whole notion.”
But that’s beginning to change. Last year, New York became the latest state to pass legislation allowing cities and counties to form land banks, and Pennsylvania is expected to follow suit. And as the number of land banks grows, so does their role in recovery efforts. Last fall, for example, Ohio’s Cuyahoga County Land Bank drew attention for overseeing the destruction of more than 645 homes in and around Cleveland, ground zero for the housing crisis.

That hasn’t happened in Atlanta, says Norman, because, unlike Cleveland and other Rust Belt cities, “we’re not losing population.” Rather than demolish vacant homes, he says, the Atlanta LBA facilitates rehab and restoration. By using an innovative “depository agreement program,” Norman and colleagues have managed to alleviate the effects of foreclosure on some of the city’s hardest-hit areas. Designed in 2007 by Alexander, the pioneering program allowed nonprofit community development organizations to deposit properties in the Atlanta Land Bank, where they could be maintained and held tax-free. That turned out to be a serendipitous development.

“The program was not designed with the foreclosure crisis in mind,” says Alexander. “It was designed to deal with the fact that our nonprofit housing entities had land, but weren’t ready to build because they didn’t anticipate buyers at the back end.” But when the crisis hit, he says, “Atlanta was well positioned to use the federal funding to bank vacant properties.”

Land banks across the country have since replicated the program, and Norman says the Atlanta LBA aims to scale up in the months ahead. In March, the Georgia legislature passed a revised Land Bank Act, a bill in which Alexander and Norman both played key roles. The latest legislation doesn’t significantly alter the program, but clarifies and streamlines some of the deep legal complexities.

“The passage represents a significant milestone in the evolution of land banks in the Georgia,” Norman says. “The new legislation will significantly improve the utility of land banks and allow for the creation of regional entities for increased efficiency. We are excited to do even more to assist with resolving the issues brought on by the foreclosure crisis. The guidance provided by Frank and the Center for Community Progress was invaluable.”

“I already knew I wanted to work on sustainability issues,” says Mandy Mahoney 99OX 01C 06L, vice president of the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance, a nonprofit based in Atlanta. “But Frank taught me how to connect concepts of sustainability to land-use planning. He added a layer of insight that I wouldn’t have gotten any other way.”

Alexander’s example inspired the Emory Student Bar Association and students like Mahoney to select him eight times as the Professor Who Best Exemplifies the Ideals of the Legal Profession, and earned him the 2006 Thomas Jefferson Award, Emory’s highest honor for service.

“As an advocate and as someone deeply involved in social issues, he brings a level of humanity to the law that you don’t normally see,” says Mahoney. “He lives it and speaks it to his students, and that’s really what gave me the courage to keep my convictions and go the nontraditional route.”

That route led her from Emory to the Atlanta mayor’s office, where Mahoney was part of the team that launched the city’s innovative BeltLine redevelopment and transportation project in 2006. After a stint as a consultant to then-Mayor Shirley Franklin, the Macon native became the first director of Atlanta’s new Division of Sustainability and drafted the city’s first official sustainability plan.

Published in October 2010, “Power to Change” outlines an ambitious effort to make Atlanta one of the nation’s top ten sustainable cities, with goals to reduce electricity consumption, improve water and air quality, and expand access to fresh foods.

“One thing we did was forge partnerships with other NGOs [nongovernmental organizations] like Georgia Organics, the Atlanta Local Food Initiative, and Emory to figure out how to change the laws to be more supportive of sustainable agriculture,” Mahoney says.

According to Mahoney, one of the obstacles to urban agriculture in Atlanta was an outdated zoning code. By amending it to allow for farmers’ markets to be legally distinct from other outdoor vendors, city officials opened the floodgates to a frenzy of green growth.

Now metro Atlanta is home to some two hundred urban farms of various types and sizes—everything from the educational Oakhurst Community Garden, with its classes on chicken-keeping and cheese-making, to the Our Community Farm Project in Decatur, where refugee women work the earth much as they did in their native Burundi.

Probably the most high-profile agricultural enterprise is Atlanta’s Trinity Avenue Urban Farm. Set to open this spring on a vacant one-acre plot across from City Hall, the farm is intended to showcase how fresh food can be grown locally and sustainably, eliminating the need for transport, which drives up prices and pollutes the air. Located on the site of the old Atlanta Traffic Court building, it’s also a prime example—like Norman’s work with land banking—of how vacant and abandoned property can be put to productive use.

In fact, Norman and Mahoney may find themselves working together in the future.

“That’s something we’re examining right now,” says Norman. “We’ve just engaged a group at the Urban Land Institute to look at how we can launch initiatives focused on urban agriculture, either with our current inventory or with soon-to-be acquired properties.”

Today’s land banks are feats of legal ingenuity that have helped foreclosure-ravaged communities stem the disaster and sow the seeds for future recovery. Once used only episodically and in the poorest pockets of the country, they’re now part of a federally recognized tool kit being used to combat the housing crisis.

Yet land banking, says Alexander, is only part of the solution to a problem that goes to the very heart of who we are.

“Our culture, unfortunately, has come to regard land, real estate, homes, and buildings simply as items for consumption,” he says. “We acquire it and we use it, and when it’s no longer useful to us, we throw it away.”

Public nuisance law has long prohibited using vacant land in a way that harms others, he adds. “But what we haven’t done enough of is say to owners, You’re harming us now. And if you’re not going to fix it up, or pay to clean it up, then we expect you to give it up.”
Women in the developing world carry the global water crisis on their shoulders. Two Emory experts—one in microfinance, the other in public health—are determined to lighten the load.

By Mary Loftus
Think about waking up tomorrow morning in a house with no running water. No hot shower for you to step into, no toilet to flush, no tap to fill the coffee pot, no sink to fill the dog’s water bowl. The only water you ever have is what you collect from a community spigot, which sometimes works and sometimes does not. Or from a water truck, which often runs out before you reach the front of the line with your jerrycan. Or from a small lake nine miles away that serves as both water source and sewage dump. Every drop you use, you carry.

You are well accustomed to the weight of water.

“‘There’s no shortage of water in the world, only safe water,” says April Rinne 96C of Water.org, who returned to her alma mater in early March to speak about women, water, and microfinance.

She flashes a photo on the wall from a recent trip to Cambodia. A young girl is kneeling on the porch of a ramshackle waterfront stilt house in Sihanoukville, a northern village. Two wooden rowboats moored with rope float beside her in a marshy, narrow river snaking by her home.

“Where do you think this girl and her family go to the bathroom?” Rinne asks, addressing a packed auditorium in White Hall. “I’m not sure, but I have a guess.”

An astounding one billion people lack access to safe drinking water, says Rinne.

In developing areas, it is routine for human or animal waste to contaminate an entire village’s water supply: One child with dysentery. One well that’s too shallow. One latrine that floods.

Women bear the brunt of the world’s safe water and sanitation crisis, but they also have the will and the social networks to create workable solutions, says Rinne, flashing to another photo of women in Bangladesh mapping out a water system for their village.

All they need is a little capital.

As global director of Water.org’s WaterCredit initiative, Rinne oversees programs with microfinance institutions in India, Bangladesh, Kenya, and Uganda, and is exploring water and sanitation needs in Cambodia, Indonesia, Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia to see where expansion could have the most impact.

“Microfinance is just one tool in the tool box, not a panacea or a silver bullet, but it absolutely works,” she says. “More than 85 percent of microfinance clients globally are women. Banks consider women better bets.”

WaterCredit loans (nearly fifty-two thousand, totalling $6.1 million) are currently offered for household water and sewerage connections, toilets, sinks, tube wells, and rainwater harvesting equipment. The average WaterCredit loan? $120. The global repayment rate is 97 percent.

Rinne, who lives in San Francisco, is a Fulbright Scholar with a degree in international studies and Italian studies from Emory, an MA from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, and a JD from Harvard Law School. She has been a director of venture development and an associate in a law firm, and guided hiking and bike tours all over the world. She likes to do handstands in exotic locales—on the top of mountains and beside temples. She also moves in some pretty heady circles: Matt Damon cofounded Water.org and is actively involved in publicizing the organization’s efforts; she was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (honorees this year include Salman Khan, the founder of Khan Academy, and Grammy-winning singer John Legend, founder of the Show Me campaign). And she’s a member of the board of directors of the World Wide Web Foundation, which is exactly as cool as it sounds—it’s mission is “to advance one Web that is free and open and to extend the Web’s benefit to all.”

Rinne considers herself a finance expert, not a water activist. But she has learned a good bit about water and sanitation—or “watsan,” as it’s known in the sector. And these things she knows: water’s a problem, it’s a problem that affects women and the poor disproportionately, and it’s going to get worse. Water stress or scarcity is predicted in forty-eight nations by 2025.

**Higher cost for the poor**

If you are collecting water for your family, Rinne says, you are, almost always, a woman. In most of the world, men do not concern themselves with collecting the family’s water; that is still women’s work: a wife’s duty, a mother’s responsibility, a girl’s chore. Men do other things, but women collect the water. The vessels they fill and transport provide cooking water, drinking water, washing water.

In many parts of the world, water is the most valuable commodity and costs accordingly, with the highest prices being reserved for vended water. “The world’s poor pay on average five to fifteen times more for water than their middle-class neighbors,” Rinne says.

Developed countries are not immune. Right now, most Americans pay less than $3.75 for every thousand gallons of water delivered to their taps. But the infrastructure of the US water supply is outdated and crumbling, and will cost approximately $1 trillion to replace or repair during the next twenty-five years. Water bills will triple in some areas. Regions will become possessive of their fresh water sources. Water will not be the sure commodity it once was for anyone.
In an op-ed piece Rinne wrote for the Washington Post that ran in February, titled “Women, Water, and the Ugly Global Crisis We’re Not Talking About,” she said, “Water wars, impending water conflicts, water stress (not enough water in many places, too much water in others) is daily news. . . . But women and girls bear the overwhelming majority of the global water and sanitation burden. They are the ones pulled and kept out of school, rendered unable to take on productive work, and trapped by the gender and financial dynamics of this crisis.”

Rinne is driven to help by a pressing feeling that life is fleeting. She learned the value of each day, and the immutable nature of time, in a brutal way: both her parents were killed in a car accident when she was an Emory student. She received the call while in England on an exchange program and flew home immediately. When she returned to Emory, her Italian professor, Judy Raggi Moore, informally adopted her and made her part of her family. They remain close, and Rinne stays with her during visits to Atlanta.

“Emory was so fundamentally important to my survival as a person,” she said, during a Skype interview from Phnom Penh. “At the age of twenty, I developed this whole sense of, if I died tomorrow, have I done the things I wanted to do?”

Her father, a cultural geographer, had raised her with “a map of the world in my back pocket,” so traveling became both his legacy and her continuing education plan: “To constantly go and explore and gain a deep appreciation of how other people live.”

Sometimes Rinne sees girls like the one in Siam Reap, about the age of her nieces, and she thinks how much better their lives could be with such small improvements: a faucet, a private latrine. “Water is so basic, it’s appalling that humanity as a whole hasn’t been able to see for what it is and allocate it in an equitable way,” she says. There are more cell phones in the world than toilets, a statistic Rinne finds both ironic and alarming. “Sanitation can be summed up in one word: dignity,” she says.

Fewer than one in three people around the world have a toilet, says Christine Moe, director of Emory’s Center for Global Safe Water and the Eugene J. Gangarosa Professor of Safe Water and Sanitation in the Rollins School of Public Health. Where public latrines are available, they are often dirty, germ-ridden places without hand-washing options. When Moe visited Accra, the rapidly growing capital of Ghana, she spoke with groups of women outside the city’s latrines.

“Some of the public toilets we visited were really awful, and we were agreeing that it’s not proper for women to have these kinds of conditions. Even though they are poor, they understand they deserve privacy and dignity,” Moe says. “Disgusting public latrines, what type of solution is that?”

Destined to become known as the “water woman,” Moe started her graduate training in environmental microbiology and later added a minor in infectious disease epidemiology.

After graduating from college, she spent time as a VISTA volunteer in an Appalachian
Global Safe Water. "Some students tell us that the reason they came to Rollins was because of the Center for Microbiology," she says. "It’s never as simple as “buying a toilet or digging a well,” says Rinne, since the community force of personality gets everyone in her community to use chlorine to treat their drinking water,” Moe says. “That’s the flip side of women being most affected—women also have the knowledge, influence, and motivation to be the movers and the shakers behind these solutions.”

Several new projects have been funded this past year. The largest, supported by a $2.5 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, studies ways in which individuals are exposed to human waste in cities of the developing world. In summer 2011, the Gates Foundation officially made sanitation its top priority, given that many groups already are working on water. Poor sanitation practices can expose large numbers of people to fecal contamination through the environment, drinking water, and food. In urban areas, small plots of land with crops are often irrigated with raw sewage water. Tanker trucks pump out septic tanks and public latrines and take the waste to the coast to dump. “They are discharging the excreta they suck up from public latrines directly into the ocean,” Moe says. “The beaches downstream have heavy contamination.”

In cities that are exploding with population growth, millions of residents might have no sewage system at all, just open drains, and a large proportion of the population uses dirty public latrines or “flying toilets” (plastic bags). In field visits to rural areas, Moe has discovered brand-new latrines being used to store grain and wastewater treatment plants left idle because of a broken pump.

Simple composting toilets could solve many of these sanitation issues, says Moe. She is particularly proud of a partnership with Georgia Tech students, who are helping to design new latrines with solar panels for improved composting.

Several prototypes were constructed and built to reach higher temperatures for complete pathogen inactivation, and the start-up company Sanivation was formed, based on research done at Emory and Georgia Tech. This year, Sanivation sold its services to the largest NGO in Chile, Un Techo Para Chile.

One common problem with latrines is what to do once they get full, but these solar latrines make the waste into harmless compost.

Social webs offer solutions

Whether in the city or the countryside, the most sustainable water and waste solutions tend to be homegrown, taking into consideration the culture and the specific needs of the population.

“One of our alumni in Haiti, who is now with Deep Springs International, told us about a local woman, Madame Evelyn, who through sheer force of personality gets everyone in her community to use chlorine to treat their drinking water,” Moe says. “That’s the flip side of women being most affected—women also have the knowledge, influence, and motivation to be the movers and the shakers behind these solutions.”

It’s never as simple as “buying a toilet or digging a well,” says Rinne, since the community needs to be vested in maintenance and upkeep. Microfinance can create sustainable systems that become self-perpetuating.

“Money you put into the hands of women tends to find its way to children, education, nutrition, and health,” Rinne says. “Women are embedded in the social web. They are the family managers and community mobilizers. Women are a good investment.”

Water is draining women’s ambitions.

If you feel this is overdramatization, try an experiment. Turn off your taps. Go collect water from the nearest natural source you know. Carry it home. Clean and cook and bathe with it. Figure out how to make it safe enough for your children to drink. Dispose of your family’s waste without contaminating any water supply.

Now do this every day.
Alabama ranks near the bottom of most lists of greenest states, despite its vast freshwater biodiversity. The Green Resource Center for Alabama, a nonprofit organization promoting sustainability, was founded by financial planner Scott Walton 89OX 91C to try to move his state up a couple of notches. The center is in a restored Homewood historical building, originally constructed in 1948, in suburban Birmingham. The building is now one of Alabama’s first LEED-certified buildings and features reclaimed wood.
Bees, termites, and ants are all social, group-mind insects or “superorganisms,” says Cindy Ransom Lewis Hodges ’73OX ’76C, but “honey bees are the only ones I love.” Hodges, the only Eastern Apicultural Society Master Beekeeper from Georgia, is also vice president of the Metro Atlanta Beekeepers Association. She has a small apiary in Decatur with about ten “baby nucs” (nucleus colonies) and hives, as well as bees in several locations and parks around Dunwoody and Dahlonega, for a total of twenty-seven colonies.

“Honeybees are vital to the sustainability of the food supply all the way down to the neighborhood garden,” Hodges says. “They are the only pollinator that ‘gives back’ with honey, wax, pollen, and propolis.” In fact, Hodges’s honey won best in show from the Georgia State Beekeepers Association last fall. “And that’s with urban honey!” she says.

Her hives include a research colony on a fifth-floor patio in Emory’s Math and Science Center that is used for foraging studies in the Department of Environmental Studies. “We took the bees up in the elevator,” she says, laughing. Her bees need regular tending: on a recent rainy spring day, she was planning to deliver a swarm hive (also known as a bait hive) to one of her existing hives. “In the spring, honeybees swarm, which is their form of colony reproduction and is actually a healthy sign, but as urban beekeepers we try to prevent it,” she says. Sometimes the bees will relocate to bait hives, which smell like old wax, when they are placed nearby. Hodges already has a taker for this bait hive if the bees do choose to form a new hive inside it.

Part beekeeper, part bee evangelist, Hodges and husband Mike Hodges ’72OX decided they needed an avocation once their children left the house (daughter Maggie will receive an MD/MPH from Emory in 2013). So Cindy tends her hives and Mike makes mead from the honey. “When we attend beekeeper conventions, I go for the bees and he goes for the microbreweries,” she jokes.

Honeybees in the US are in trouble, although not endangered, but the need for agricultural pollinators has increased exponentially. Although Hodges admits to being stung about once a week, she is constantly recruiting others into the fold. “I am proud to be taking an active part in the repopulation of Atlanta’s urban corridor,” she says. “Urban bees are helping to pollinate trees, shrubs, fruits, vegetables, and, of course, flowers in the oasis areas of the city between the concrete deserts.”
Monitoring a trading and offset emissions program for polluters—making sure they “pay to pollute”—is a typical day for Dana Greenlee 11C, who began working for the Environmental Protection Agency in New York City almost immediately after graduating with a degree in environmental studies. She works in watershed management, making sure that bodies of water in the region like the Chesapeake Bay or the Peconic Estuary meet quality standards and, if not, analyzing how they can be improved. Previously, Greenlee worked at the EPA’s Washington, D.C., office on the Toxic Substances Control Act.

“The chemicals that are in our cleaners, perfumes, and body products are very alarming,” she says. Greenlee also walks most places she goes, taking public transportation to and from work and shopping at a nearby farmer’s market for local, organic, and seasonal foods. And, she says, a tiny apartment equals a tiny carbon footprint: “Living in such a small space makes it easy to make sure all chargers are unplugged, the air conditioner or heat is off, and lights are off before I leave.”

Educator and nonprofit executive director Kevin Cloud 86C is rummaging around his Las Vegas office trying to locate a stainless steel water bottle. “Ah, here’s one now,” he says. “I have half a dozen of them, so that I can always find one.”

When Cloud was hired in 2008 by the Alexander Dawson Foundation to found a new program that supports public schools in Nevada and Colorado, he settled on a five-year sequence of sustainability themes—water, epidemics, energy, food, and money. Each summer about four hundred high-achieving middle school students from about seventy different schools in Las Vegas and Boulder are awarded full scholarships to attend the “radically collaborative” GB Henderson Education program.

“We recruit the best educators around the country and bring major authors, elected officials, CEOs, and university faculty in to speak,” says Cloud. “We’ve had the chair of the nuclear regulatory commission and the heads of wind, oil, and gas companies. These are people who aren’t used to standing in front of twelve-year-olds, and the more powerful they are, the more intimidated they often are. Our students are a very informed audience and are a bit angry that we adults have left them such a big mess to clean up.”

The program’s scholars are charged with creating real projects to bring back to their schools and communities. So far, they have tackled getting plastic water bottles out of schools and formed a partnership with the Southern Nevada Regional Transportation Commission.

Make ’em pay to pollute

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Drivers, Charge Your Engines

Electric vehicles (EVs) and charging stations are a classic chicken-egg conundrum, says Daniel Pizarro 08EMBA, a regional sales director of industrial products for SQM, a Chilean company that is the world’s leading producer of lithium. “People would buy more electric vehicles if there were more charging stations, and there would be more charging stations if more people drove electric vehicles,” says Pizarro, who himself drives a Chevy Volt company car to promote the idea of EVs (whose batteries run on lithium).

As a global marketing operations leader for GE Energy’s Industrial Solutions business, Scott Harrison 08EMBA is eager to see this leap occur. “GE makes charging stations for electric vehicles and recently held an EV experience tour to allow people to test-drive EVs and to learn more about the new technology,” says Harrison, who met Pizarro in Emory’s Evening MBA Program.

Pizarro says his Volt is a case in point: he has driven eight hundred miles in it since January on 2.7 gallons of gas (which kicks in to charge the battery if it gets low). He plugs the car in at his Vinings office, and can drive thirty-six miles on a single charge. “Electric vehicles mean less dependence on foreign oil,” Pizarro says. “From a strategic standpoint, that just makes sense.”

SQM is environmentally minded throughout the process of mining lithium, a chemical component used to produce batteries that power most devices like smartphones and iPods. “We concentrate lithium from the Atacama desert using solar energy,” he says.

Harrison, who works in GE Energy’s Marietta headquarters, says EVs are selling well on the West Coast, and GE customers around the country are demanding more environmentally sound products. Electric vehicle home chargers are now widely available, and it is expected that there will be six hundred thousand EVs on the road by 2015, Harrison says. Pizarro is glad to be driving one already: “My electric bill only went up by $15 a month, while I was spending about $90 to $100 in gas a month.”
Energy Consult

Walking through the Decatur offices of Energy Ace sustainability consulting firm with Asa Posner 06OX 08C is like taking a mini-workshop in green workspaces.

“These lights are controlled by an occupancy sensor, which turns them off when the room is empty,” he says. “All our appliances are Energy Star, and the countertops are recycled glass that look like granite. This flooring is actually recycled tires.”

Posner, who became an environmental studies major after taking a geology course from Professor Stephen Henderson at Oxford, accepted a position at Energy Ace just after graduation. He is a specialist in LEED consulting and energy efficiency and has worked on more than 120 LEED projects. “I had no background in construction, so it was a steep learning curve,” he says. “But now I can walk into meetings with architects and engineers and speak their language.” His latest project? LEED facilitator for Oxford College’s library and academic commons, a renovation and addition to the forty-year-old Hoke O’Kelley Library at his alma mater. “I was there as a student not so long ago, so it really helped out the project team that I already knew the space,” he says. “It’s kind of a unique way to give back as an alumnus.”

One Woman’s Trash, Another’s Treasure

Just after graduating from the Rollins School of Public Health, Corey McAuliffe 11MPH moved back to her hometown of Portland, Oregon, and began working with her friend Laura Kutner, who founded Trash for Peace (www.trashforpeace.org).

“Trash for Peace works with community groups, organizations, businesses, and schools to build recycle and trash bins out of plastic bottles and other reused materials,” McAuliffe says. “The purpose is to draw attention to the amount of trash we produce through functional art, which allows us to begin an open dialogue. We also work globally, with one of our main projects being a school made out of eight thousand old plastic bottles in Guatemala, which took form as Laura’s Peace Corps service project.” To learn more about sustainability, McAuliffe took a master recycler class. Her main area of interest, since studying nutrition through the global health department at Rollins, is connecting how “our diets affect green living.”
Preparing soil to plant seeds is nurturing on a lot of levels, says Chris Steinocher 86BBA, president and CEO of the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, who spent a recent Saturday clearing a community garden with his family and others at a local elementary school. “The gardens remind us all of the agrarian values that most of us grew up with—get up early, work hard, be patient, embrace the earth,” he says. The St. Pete chamber is supporting a burgeoning urban agriculture movement in the city, with the intent of growing a sustainable, organic produce supply that improves the diet and health of residents.

The Sustainable Urban Farming Working Group has grown to about fifty members, and has recently been awarded a grant to hire a part-time coordinator with an office at the chamber.

“It’s an economic development play, too,” Steinocher says. “ Creating jobs is all about attracting talent to your community.” Who wouldn’t want to move to a community bursting with collard greens and plum tomatoes?

Indoor-Outdoor Living

For her internship at TreeHouseHold magazine, Heather Buzzard 09OX 11C has written how-to pieces on making seed paper, cooking with acorns, and making moss spray paint—all of which might come in handy during her upcoming stint as artist in residence at Hostel in the Forest, a spiritual sustainability and environmental education retreat center in Brunswick, Georgia.

Buzzard studied sociology, creative writing, religion, and environmental science in college, and is a musician in two Atlanta bands. “My Emory experience, from CORE [Conserving Oxford’s Resources and Energy] to an amazing course on religion and ecology, made me conscious of global contingencies surrounding sustainable, thriving lives and shaping that lifestyle not only for myself but for our future,” she says. “I’ve always been drawn intimately to the natural world, but prior to the class, I hadn’t focused much on sharing that with others, being mindful of sacred space, and incorporating a sense of place and roots into how I live daily.”

At the Hostel in the Forest, she will be applying her understanding of sawdust composting toilets, solar panel water heaters, vegetable oil–powered lighting, organic gardening, and living off the grid.

“I like to take specific elements of the outdoors and integrate them into our everyday lives through sustainable art, design, and food, while focusing on the beauty and magic of the natural world,” she says.

And if you’re wondering if you really can cook with acorns, try her recipe.

Acorn Molasses Cakes

1/2 cup acorn flour
1/2 cup cashews, chopped
1/2 cup pecans or walnuts, chopped
1 cup cooked raisins or dates
1 cup cooked brown rice molasses (or honey) to taste agave to taste
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/4 tsp nutmeg
1/2 tsp ginger

a pinch brown sugar or sucanat

Mix all ingredients together in large mixing bowl. Add enough molasses/honey so that concoction clumps together nicely without falling apart. Prepare a cookie sheet with parchment paper or a thin spread of butter, and ball the mixture together into smallish round cakes. Sprinkle the tops with brown sugar or sucanat. Bake at 325 for 10–15 minutes.
Is Higher Education Sustainable?

As this issue of Emory Magazine makes wonderfully clear, Emory has made great strides toward meeting our shared goal of being the most efficiently “sustainable” campus we can be. A larger question lurks on the margins, however—while the campus may be sustainable, is its purpose? In other words, how sustainable is the model of higher education that Emory shares with a great many institutions in the United States?

No one can remain oblivious to the chorus of voices suggesting that American higher education is sailing in rough seas. Universities are widely acknowledged as our nation’s most attractive resource and the repository of much of our commonwealth’s trust. But they are facing a stiff headwind of resistance to increasing tuition, the economic downturn has depleted the ballast of many endowments, and the wild currents of changing technology have challenged our navigational systems. To add to the complexity, our passengers increasingly want us to get to the port called “a job” as soon as possible.

In assessing these challenges, my administrative colleagues and the trustees have come to share a particular point of view about the foreseeable future of higher education. Let me share with you four key conclusions.

First, generalizations belie the complexity of higher education. In other words, the diagnoses and prescriptions for the ailing patients in the higher education ward (to change the metaphor) will not fit everyone. The higher education “industry” is richly varied, ranging from research-intensive universities like Emory to two-year community colleges, and from for-profit institutions like the University of Phoenix to traditional not-for-profit places like us. Of some forty-six hundred institutions of higher education in the US, only 108 are research universities like Emory, and of those only sixty-two (including Emory) belong to the Association of American Universities, whose members produce the overwhelmingly largest share of discovery and new knowledge.

Although membership in our particular segment of higher education does not render us immune to the disruptions of our times, clearly, Emory and our peers must not act from sweeping generalizations about “higher education.” Instead, we must make decisions and take steps based on our place within that quite diverse array of institutions.

Second, research universities will become more, not less, important in the twenty-first century. Advances in information technology, drug discovery, health care, new energy, and other critical forms of knowledge will continue to depend on basic research and its translation into useful applications, and no one does this better than research universities. These institutions have long been, and will long be, crucibles for discovery and improvement of the human condition. For this reason alone, the kind of education provided by research universities will hold its value.

Research universities will become still more important for a second reason—their capacity for sorting valuable information from chaff. The information explosion will require reliable judgment about how to synthesize, validate, and disseminate trustworthy information, so that it can become useful knowledge on the basis of rational analysis. This is the work of universities, and it will remain indispensable.

Third, and unfortunately, our point of view acknowledges that research universities will face profound financial stress in the foreseeable future. Downward pressure on tuition, on research funding, and on reimbursements for the clinical services provided by the health care arm of our health sciences education—all of these indicate that we must control costs and reenvision our financial models. This is particularly true in Emory College of Arts and Sciences and in the School of Medicine, our largest and most complex schools, which also happen to be most vulnerable to the current financial stressors.

Fourth—and fortunately—the future offers great opportunities. For instance, we already have begun to identify new revenue-producing activities that Emory can undertake without in any way diminishing our important values and our long-established character. We also believe that global demand for American higher education will continue to increase—especially for the sort of liberal arts education in a research university that is one of the hallmarks of Emory.

Yet another opportunity is the prospect of developing a growing base of passionate lifetime supporters. Just as Emory has nurtured a strong and loyal family of alumni for decades, we see ways of reaching beyond that traditional base for a larger pool of advocates worldwide. We know from recent experience—our collaborations with Georgia Tech, our partnerships in India, our exploration of institutional ties in Asia and Africa—that great possibilities exist for strong domestic and international partnerships.

In short, this moment in higher education beckons us to build on Emory’s traditional strengths to meet the emerging challenges of our time. In my next column I will outline more specifically where I think this point of view might lead us as we continue to move Emory forward. Stay tuned, and come along.
Hands-on research is an educational experience not commonly available to US undergraduates until the third or fourth year of study. At Oxford, however, two programs give freshmen and sophomores an extraordinary opportunity to learn how to do scholarly and scientific research through the direct guidance of Oxford faculty.

SURE-Oxford is an extension of the Summer Undergraduate Research at Emory (SURE) program, an initiative of Emory’s Center for Science Education. Funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Oxford’s Pierce Institute for Leadership and Community Engagement, SURE-Oxford began in 2006 under the leadership of Nitya Jacob, associate professor of biology. Each summer, a select group of Oxford students performs individual research with members of the science faculty. Together, student and professor investigate questions with a biological or biomedical emphasis.

Says Jacob, “Through the SURE-Oxford program, students work in a true partnership of scientific discovery with Oxford faculty members and make significant contributions to faculty scholarship. This program keeps Pierce Hall vibrant with activity during the summer months, engaging students and faculty alike.”

Michael Spinner 07OX 09C, a third-year medical student at Vanderbilt University, participated in SURE-Oxford in 2007. Spinner says, “The SURE program gave me the opportunity to participate in the development of a research question, project execution, data analysis, and presentation of my results in a formal symposium. . . . The knowledge and skills that I gained have prepared me well as a medical student on the path to an academic career as a physician-scientist.”

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During the regular academic term, the Oxford Research Scholars Program, which is also funded by the Pierce Institute, offers the opportunity for students to pursue topics of their scholarly interest under faculty guidance. The program is overseen by associate professor of chemistry Reza Saadein. Topics are wide-ranging; a recent sampling includes Japanese internment camps during
DEAN’S MESSAGE

Dear Alumni and Friends of Oxford:

In a climate of economic uncertainty we at Oxford are occasionally called upon to explain the value of a liberal arts education. Prospective students and their families want to know that choosing Oxford, with its liberal-arts-intensive program, will help them succeed in the world of work and adulthood.

As educators, we know that those who are able to think critically, speak clearly, and write cogently are equipped with the most effective tools for professional and personal success. The Oxford faculty have concluded from decades of experience that a liberal arts education delivers these skills best. So it is gratifying when those who work outside higher education extol that same basic belief.

In a recent op-ed piece, A. G. Lafley, the former CEO of Procter and Gamble, argues that in uncertain economic times a liberal arts education is even more valuable. He cites not only the thinking and communication skills that a liberal arts education gives, but also the opportunities for leadership it invariably brings. In his final statement, he advises businesses that want employees who can navigate constant change to hire liberal arts graduates.

Lafley is just the latest among a large group of executives to testify to the value of liberal arts education. We heard similar comments from three of our young alumni who appear in a video produced by our Office of Enrollment Services. They have chosen different career paths—finance, law, and research biology—but all three speak of how the liberal arts education they began at Oxford has made them more effective in their professions.

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As president of East Tennessee State University, Paul Stanton Jr. 63OX 65C, who recently stepped down after fifteen years as president of East Tennessee State University (ETSU), something a high school friend in East Point, Georgia, said led him to a college decision. She told him she was going to go to Oxford College. “I didn’t know about Oxford before then,” says Stanton, “but when she said that, I looked into it, too.”

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Stanton says that it was gradual changes along the way that led him to higher education. At GBMC he oversaw its surgical residency education program and MCG-associated fellowship in vascular surgery. GBMC was also affiliated with the Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy, which he served as adjunct professor of pharmacy.

With this increasing involvement in education, Stanton realized how much he enjoyed teaching. He decided to turn his career toward medical education. In 1985 ETSU Quillen College of Medicine selected him as an associate professor of surgery, and once again he took on ever-increasing responsibilities. Only a few years later, Stanton was named dean of the college of medicine. In 1996 he was selected as ETSU’s eighth president.

In the years since then, he has overseen unprecedented growth for the university—enrollment has increased 25 percent in the past fifteen years to its current approximately fifteen thousand. ETSU added several doctoral programs during his tenure and set new highs in funding for research and sponsored programs. One of Stanton’s crowning achievements is the establishment of a College of Pharmacy, which produced its first graduates in 2010.

Even as he welcomed ETSU’s new president this past January, he was not retiring—he just assumed a new schedule. He now works one day per week with the new president and one teaching at the College of Medicine.

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Road to President’s Office Began at Oxford

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Kent Linville, professor of philosophy, dean of academic affairs, and chief academic officer, will retire in May 2012. Here he looks back on his academic life and forty years at Oxford.

Let’s start with the question most philosophers are asked. Why and how did you choose philosophy for your course of study and life’s work?

Well, it is an unusual route that starts with my being a high school dropout! Not knowing what I wanted to do, I quit high school and joined the army. I wound up with a tour of duty in Greenland, and because I could type, I was assigned to the headquarters company, where I was surrounded by officers and others with college degrees. It was my introduction to a broader world of ideas. When I finished my stint in the military, I enrolled in what is now California State University, Northridge with every intention of transferring to an engineering program at UCLA. I had taken a philosophy elective, and just before I was to go to UCLA, I visited a friend who was working on a PhD in philosophy at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). That visit influenced me so much, I changed my mind at the last moment and switched to a philosophy major.

What was your subject of concentration in philosophy?

I did my dissertation on Ludwig Wittgenstein, and his thought has remained a focus of my research.

You are a native Californian. How did you wind up at Oxford?

As I was finishing my PhD at UCSB in 1972, Emory College was looking for a one-year sabbatical replacement in philosophy. I got the position and moved with my young family to Atlanta. In the meantime, an opening became available at Oxford, and I was hired by Dean Bond Fleming, who had been the sole professor of philosophy here. Oxford College and the city of Oxford have been my home ever since.

You became Oxford’s first dean for academic affairs in 1991 and taught until 2001. How do you feel about your dual roles?

I had never aspired to be an administrator; this role was serendipitous. But it has been a privilege to lead the Oxford College faculty and to help make Oxford a better version of itself.

As for teaching, quite simply I love it. In some ways I am bashful, but I feel at home on the stage of the classroom. It is fun to teach philosophy to eighteen-year-olds. Philosophy helps them analytical skills. It demands clear communication. It confronts them with real questions that have no pat answers, and I believe it helps prepare them for adulthood.

How would you characterize Oxford then and now?

Compared to when I came in 1973, of course, Oxford is bigger and more diverse in every way. But students themselves have not changed all that much—the stage of life is the same—eighteen- and nineteen-year-olds. Still, I feel that Oxford now has a clarity and acceptance of its teaching mission as never before, and it rewards good teaching. Our physical plant is greatly improved, and we have strengthened our ties to the university yet kept our ethos as a liberal arts institution.

What are your plans for retirement?

I have not decided exactly what the next project will be. But my wife Mary Ann and I will remain in Oxford, our home now for nearly forty years. I will certainly continue to be interested in following and helping in any way possible the progress of Oxford College.
Student Researchers continued

World War II, interracial adoption as an anthropological phenomenon, and testing Einstein’s diffusion theory by tracking the motion of beads inside bacterial cultures.

In both programs, Oxford undergraduates learn valuable professional leadership skills. They take ownership of a research project, work independently on it, and learn to communicate to a larger scholarly community. These students go on to their junior and senior years on the Atlanta campus with important insight into their field of study. Many students have presented posters at national and regional meetings and have even published papers of their work. The SURE program provides exceptional preparation for these young students not only to broaden their knowledge, but also to make important contributions to scientific research and scholarship.

Allison Kaczenski Joins Oxford as New Director of Annual Giving

Allison Kaczenski has joined Oxford’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations as director of annual giving. Kaczenski, a native of Atlanta, is a graduate of the College of Charleston. Prior to coming to Oxford, she served as director of special events with Special Olympics Georgia. Kaczenski has also served in fund-raising roles at Zoo Atlanta and the Atlanta History Center. As director of annual giving, she will oversee Oxford’s annual giving campaigns, act as adviser to the Sophomore Class Gift Committee, and guide Oxford’s participation in MyEmory. Kaczenski can be reached by phone at 770.784.8406 and by email at akaczen@emory.edu.

CHOICE, FLEXIBILITY, VARIETY: PLAY OXFORD GIVES STUDENTS A NEW WAY TO EXERCISE

Play Oxford, a new physical education program at the college, gives students their P.E. credits and also a new habit—fitting a healthy amount of varied exercise into their week.

Play Oxford’s structure makes it easy for students to juggle a rigorous academic load and meet their required two credits of physical exercise. Participating students spend half the semester in an instructed skill or activity and the other half in a monitored, yet self-scheduled personal program of physical activity.

“It is up to the student when they would like to participate, based on simple guidelines,” says Assistant Athletic Director Pete Sherrard, who created and administers Play Oxford.

The program requires a student to complete thirty-six hours of physical activity in fourteen weeks (one semester)—staying within the healthy range of no more than two hours a day and no more than four hours a week—but on his or her own schedule.

How do students get credit for their self-scheduled sweat hours? Play Oxford is administered by physical education professors with the help of handpicked student supervisors. When a student exercises, he or she checks in with a Play Oxford supervisor, who logs the student’s activity in the Play Oxford system. When the student is finished, he or she checks out with the supervisor, recording the time.

The tracking system, which was created by Seth Tepfer, director of administrative technologies, offers students a long list of exercise choices, including forty-five-minute cardio slots, staff- and faculty-hosted activities, swim fitness slots, group fitness classes, intramural slots, and health and wellness seminars.

Janna Lowensohn 13OX participated last fall and appreciated the community of the program. “With all the Play Oxford opportunities and all the other students who needed to get their hours,” she says, “it was never hard to find a friend and go hit the weights, or go for a swim, take a nice jog, or meet up for some Zumba.”

Play Oxford’s variety, as well as the student’s own self-scheduling, helps instill a life habit of enjoying physical fitness.

“One of the goals for Play Oxford, as well as for the overall physical education program, is that students become aware of different modes of physical activity so they experience activities they otherwise might not have chosen,” says Penny England, professor of physical education and dance. “In effect, it is a kind of cross-training program that can prevent overuse injury and promote enjoyment through variety.”
DONORS DRIVE CAMPAIGN SUCCESS
Emory School of Medicine is among five schools and units to surpass their goals as of March 2012. (page 42)

ALUMNA SHARES LOVE OF TRAVEL
Emory’s Center for International Programs Abroad and the Emory College Fund for Excellence receive support from Wendy Lowenstein Sandler 82C. (page 44)

PROGRESS AS OF MARCH 31, 2012
$1.43 B I L L I O N
TOTAL GOAL $1.6 BILLION

Theology School Building Project
Rollins Foundation continues family tradition of philanthropy with $15 million gift (page 43)
SUCCESS IN MOTION

A culture that values philanthropy brings out the best in people. Emory is developing that kind of culture, and Campaign Emory is the catalyst. Through the campaign, we tell Emory’s most compelling stories, and record numbers of alumni and friends are moved to thoughtful generosity. Their gifts strengthen Emory’s best work, creating more stories that inspire generosity, and the cycle continues.

This powerful process enables Emory—whose mission is to create, preserve, teach, and apply knowledge in service of others—to bring even greater intellectual resources to bear on some of life’s biggest challenges. Emory donors fuel cancer research, for instance, and help Emory improve water quality worldwide. They open Emory’s doors to top students regardless of financial means, and they bring the university’s expertise to communities at home and abroad.

In physics, you can predict what an object will do by looking at what it’s already doing. If it’s moving, it’s likely to keep going. Emory is in motion, and our growing culture of philanthropy will keep us moving for generations to come.

Susan Cruse, Senior Vice President Development and Alumni Relations

Harnessing the Power of Gift Planning

At Emory’s Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Assistant Dean Susan Shapiro has made a bequest to support the school as well as nursing education within Emory Healthcare. In addition to her academic position, Shapiro is associate chief nursing officer for Emory Healthcare, where she works to link teaching and research with nursing practice.

She is among a growing number of friends and alumni naming Emory’s schools, units, and programs as estate beneficiaries, a giving strategy that can offer tax benefits while leaving a significant philanthropic legacy.

In Emory School of Medicine, an estate gift from the late Mary Jean Dover of Atlanta has created the Crohn’s Disease Research Fund in the Department of Digestive Diseases. Emory is among the nation’s leaders in studying Crohn’s, a type of chronic inflammatory bowel disease linked to problems in the body’s immune system.

A bequest from Sylvia Dodson of Lilburn, Georgia, will help fund Alzheimer’s disease research in the School of Medicine. After losing her husband, James, to the disease, she is acutely aware of the challenges patients and their families face and is determined to help Emory researchers. “I think my husband would be proud of what I am doing,” she says.

To learn more about bequests and other giving options, visit emory.edu/giftplanning, email giftplanning@emory.edu, or call 404.727.8875.

Donor Support Exceeds Goals

Enthusiasm continues to build around Campaign Emory as more alumni find ways to give that reflect their values and philanthropic interests. By March 31, 2012, donors had generated $1.43 billion toward the $1.6 billion campaign goal.

Several schools and units are exceeding the monetary goals they set for themselves when the campaign was announced in 2008: Campus Life, Candler School of Theology, Emory School of Medicine, the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, and the Rollins School of Public Health.

With just under a year left in Campaign Emory, the university’s leaders, fund-raisers, and volunteers have redoubled their efforts to galvanize support for many initiatives—including scholarships—that will extend well beyond the campaign.

FOR MORE CAMPAIGN NEWS, VISIT CAMPAIGN.EMORY.EDU/NEWS
Rollins Foundation Gift Continues Family Tradition

Emory’s Candler School of Theology has received a $15 million gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation of Atlanta that enables the construction of the second phase of the school’s new building program. In recognition of this gift, the first building (shown above)—a 65,000-square-foot facility completed in 2008—will be named in memory of the late Rita Anne Rollins, the first grandchild of the foundation’s namesake.

“This gift allows Candler to provide state-of-the-art library and teaching facilities that are critical to fulfilling our mission of preparing faithful and creative leaders for the church’s ministries in the world,” says Candler Dean Jan Love. “We are most grateful to the Rollins family for making it possible for us to continue enhancing theological education at Emory.”

“My grandparents, O. Wayne and Grace Rollins, believed in giving to living institutions that would affect people’s lives. Our family has strived to keep that vision alive by the foundation’s continued interest in many areas at Emory University,” said Amy Rollins Kreisler, director of the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation. “We are very pleased to be a part of the continued growth of Candler School of Theology.”

Opened in 2008, the Rita Anne Rollins Building houses School of Theology classrooms, administrative and faculty offices, community gathering spaces, and Emory’s Center for Ethics. The Rollins Foundation gift will make it possible for Candler to move forward with the second phase of its building project.

The second building will be located on the site currently occupied by Bishops Hall, which served as the theology school’s home from 1957 until 2008. It will provide space for the 650,000-volume collection of Pitts Theology Library—the nation’s third-largest theology library—and the new Wesley Teaching Chapel, which will enhance instruction of preaching, liturgy, and other aspects of worship.

The building also will feature group study areas, a lecture hall, and an exhibit hall. It will front an expanded courtyard adjacent to Cannon Chapel and will connect to the Rita Anne Rollins Building through an atrium.

Candler School of Theology is one of thirteen seminaries of the United Methodist Church, with nearly five hundred students from more than fifty denominations and more than seven thousand alumni worldwide. Since its founding in 1914, the school has been recognized as a premier institution for the preparation of leaders for Christian ministries. In any given year, 70 percent of Candler’s graduates go on to serve as pastors in local congregations, with the majority serving churches across Georgia and the Southeast.

O. Wayne Rollins, a native of north Georgia, was a self-made entrepreneur. He and his brother John invested in many successful business ventures, including radio and television stations, cable television, oil field services, truck leasing, boat manufacturing, real estate, and—most famously—the 1964 purchase of Orkin, Inc., the first documented leveraged buyout in US business history. Following his death in 1991, his sons, Randall and Gary Rollins, have continued to build the Rollins companies.

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation was created in 1967. Early major gifts to Emory’s Candler School of Theology, O. Wayne Rollins Research Building, and Rollins School of Public Health exemplify the family’s commitment to serving humanity.
SCHOOLS AND UNITS DIGEST

CAMPUS LIFE
To enhance the health education and services provided to students, donors made gifts to support the work of the Counseling Center and the Office of Health Promotion.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
In memory of his wife, Lee Herring and his sons Daniel and Todd established the Rebecca Redd Herring 95T Endowment for Women in Pastoral Ministry. The fund will support Candler Advantage stipends for students preparing for ordained, pastoral ministry.

EMORY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Ellington Beavers 38C 39G established an estate gift for the Emory College Fund for Excellence.

EMORY HEALTHCARE
Gay Construction was the presenting sponsor of the 2012 Second Century Awards honoring Atlanta civic and medical leaders.

EMORY LAW
Emory Law is working to reach its annual giving campaign goal of $850,000, with about $200,000 remaining. Faculty, fund-raisers, and Interim Dean Robert Schapiro are visiting alumni to promote the school’s programs and initiatives.

EMORY LIBRARIES
Bill Newton 75C 76G and Anne Newton 76G gave $20,000 to be matched by The Coca-Cola Foundation to fund a graduate fellowship in the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

GOIZUETA BUSINESS SCHOOL
Jason Potter 08MBA and his wife, Ann, committed to a planned gift that will support the Business Fund for Excellence.

JAMES T. LANEY SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Former faculty member Trudier Harris made a lead gift to launch the James William Richardson Jr. Dissertation Completion Award and is raising funds to build its endowment.

Students will benefit from support for Emory’s Center for International Programs Abroad and the Emory College Fund for Excellence.

Alumna’s Travels Inspire Study-Abroad Support

Growing up in the family travel business, Wendy Lowenstein Sandler 82C spent every vacation in a different country. While her friends visited their grandparents in Florida, the Lowensteins flew to the Dominican Republic, Israel, Spain, Haiti, Italy, and countless other destinations.

As a student in Emory College of Arts and Sciences, she studied for a year in France, an experience so formative that she has made a significant campaign gift to Emory’s Center for International Programs Abroad, as well as a major contribution to the Emory College Fund for Excellence.

“I would love to see every kid take advantage of the travel-abroad program,” Sandler says. “It opens doors and helps people see that we’re all connected.”

Sandler’s recent gifts are among a series of annual investments to strengthen Emory programs close to her heart. Her mother is a Holocaust survivor, so she has supported the work of Professor Deborah Lipstadt to combat Holocaust denial with research. A favorite professor was psychologist Stephen Norwicki, so she named a classroom in the new Psychology Building in his honor.

And she loves to travel. “The things I’ve learned through travel have shaped who I am today,” she says.

Kennedy Gift Supports Alzheimer’s Research

Atlantans Sarah and Jim Kennedy and their family foundations have given $5 million to Emory University for innovative research projects to address Alzheimer’s disease.

Allan Levey, who directs the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center and chairs Emory’s Department of Neurology, will spearhead the work, which he says will be “unlike any project to date. We look forward to moving this promising research to the next level.

“Philanthropy is crucial to get promising but unproven treatments into trials and to attract federal funding. We are grateful to the Kennedys for their foresight and generosity,” Levey says.

The over-accumulation in the brain of a protein called amyloid is a key signature of Alzheimer’s disease. Recent studies have shown that most amyloid buildup occurs before memory loss, other clinical symptoms, and irreversible neurodegeneration. About 30 percent of healthy elderly people have amyloid deposits in their brains and yet have no brain degeneration.

Emory scientists discovered that norepinephrine plays a crucial role in controlling the brain’s response to amyloid and other insults. “These studies will help us determine whether we can increase norepinephrine levels in patients with
Gifts Sustain Innovation in Radiology, Imaging

Syntermed, an Atlanta-based provider of nuclear imaging software, has made an unrestricted gift of $50,000 to the Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences in Emory School of Medicine. The gift will enable innovation that helps detect diseases in the earliest stages and will support preventive care.

“Emory produces the leading scientists and physicians who will generate game changers. This is why we continue to invest in the Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences,” says Michael Lee, CEO of Syntermed.

The gift is among a series of philanthropic investments in the department during the past year, including a gift from Professor of Radiology Emeritus Richard Colvin 55C 58M 65MR establishing the Radiology Residency Education Endowment Fund.

Private gifts also help fund the radiology Adopt-a-Resident program, innovative techniques, and state-of-the-art equipment for screening and diagnostic imaging that can detect diseases earlier.

“Philanthropy closes the gap between traditional funding and what is needed,” says Stacia Brown, director of development for clinical programs.

"Philanthropy is crucial to get promising but unproven treatments into trials."

“We are happy to support the important work of Dr. Levey and his Emory research team and to promote awareness of this devastating disease,” Sarah Kennedy says.

Amyloid accumulation and reduce brain inflammation,” says Levey. “We then can investigate whether drugs can achieve that goal and slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease. This research is headed towards prevention, as ultimately we aim to begin treatments and stop the disease before any symptoms begin.”

Many of the advances providing the foundation for the proposed research have occurred in animal models and other preclinical studies. As FDA-approved drugs that increase norepinephrine brain levels are already in use for other conditions, and millions of individuals now have conditions on the road to Alzheimer’s disease, there is great urgency to move these advances into human clinical research immediately.

"We are happy to support the important work of Dr. Levey and his Emory research team and to promote awareness of this devastating disease,” Sarah Kennedy says.

Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center Director Allan Levey with a patient.

Private gifts to the Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences support the work of internationally recognized scientists.
# Campaign Progress

**As of March 31, 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Raised</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campus Life Goal: $5 million</td>
<td>$7.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candler School of Theology Goal: $60 million</td>
<td>$61.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory College of Arts and Sciences Goal: $110 million</td>
<td>$102.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory Healthcare Goal: $305 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory Law Goal: $35 million</td>
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<td>Emory Libraries Goal: $27 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory School of Medicine Goal: $500 million</td>
<td>$509 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goizueta Business School Goal: $75 million</td>
<td>$48.8 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies Goal: $10 million</td>
<td>$9.9 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael C. Carlos Museum Goal: $35 million</td>
<td>$28.7 million</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>$35 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rollins School of Public Health Goal: $150 million</td>
<td>$162.6 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yerkes National Primate Research Center Goal: $30 million</td>
<td>$18.6 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Alumni and visitors including Suzanne Sen (above), a writer for the Indian American Khabar magazine, gathered for the January opening of Mandala: Sacred Circle in Tibetan Buddhism at the Carlos Museum. The exhibit featured various types of the art form, which is created as an aid to meditation. Photo by Bryan Meltz.
Emory Everywhere

We often hear the phrase “giving back,” but what do those words really mean to you? Do they mean participating in grassroots community efforts? Creating new programs and opportunities at work? Writing a check to support a favorite charity?

For Emory, the phrase can mean all of those things and more. Giving back to the university—financially and with time and leadership—fosters a relationship between what’s good for Emory and what nurtures your spirit.

Growing numbers of alumni are discovering strong connections between Emory’s work and their own charitable goals. A powerful source of support, alumni contributions have helped the university reach 89 percent of its $1.6 billion Campaign Emory goal.

Volunteering as mentors and career contacts, alumni often provide the inspiration a current student needs to reach for his or her dreams. Through our history project, 175 Connections, alumni exchange memories of the people who most influenced their days at Emory. Through Emory Cares, alumni join students to improve communities at home and around the world. And on campus, alumni help Volunteer Emory rejuvenate locales they favored as students and participate in discussion groups and student-led research projects.

As one of our 114,000 alumni, you are a valued member of the Emory community, and you have so much to offer. I invite you to give back to your university in the ways that are most meaningful to you. Inspire someone today.

Allison Dykes
Vice President for Alumni Relations

Upcoming Alumni Events


Atlanta, May 10–14: Welcome Emory’s newest graduates during Emory Commencement Weekend.

Tampa, May 19: Take me out to the ball game—the Rays vs. the Braves.

For more, visit www.alumni.emory.edu/calendar.
ACROSS
3. Emory’s football team record
5. Distinguished Writer in Residence who holds book signings for alumni groups
7. The spirit of Emory
8. Percentage of Emory alumni living near Emory activity
9. The Alumni house on campus

DOWN
1. Emory’s 19th and current president, who travels to several chapter cities each year
2. A “wonderful” day, still celebrated in local chapters and on campus
4. Green certification for Emory’s new freshman dorms
6. Emory’s International Day of Service

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Teaching Speech

COMER YATES 74C 84L HELPS STUDENTS SPEAK UP

The boss’s office is just steps from the main entrance. One floor-to-ceiling window faces the front parking lot; another looks out into the lobby, in full view of everyone coming and going. For Comer Yates 74C 84L, executive director of the Atlanta Speech School, the intent isn’t to spy on those who wander past.

“If I act like we run this tense, business-like operation, we mask what we try to be as a school,” says Yates, who recently began his fourteenth year at the school, one of the country’s oldest and most respected therapeutic and educational centers for children and adults with speech, language, and learning disabilities. “So I try to reflect the qualities that we have here in my relationships with people.”

That means literal transparency and a refreshing openness—with a dash of fun. As he walks the halls, Yates’s quick cadence matches the youthful energy bouncing off the walls of the school’s colorful corridors. “This is a safe, joyful place for children,” he says.

It can be noisy, too. Children are never asked to be quiet, which might seem to be a recipe for anarchy, but actually serves to convey the beauty—and importance—of language. For children who struggle with communication skills, what could be better than permission to speak freely?

For Yates, a practicing attorney when he accepted the position in 1998, the Speech School marked a return to his first love—teaching. Following his graduation from Emory in 1974, Yates spent several years as a high school teacher and, after earning his law degree, he taught at the School of Law as adjunct faculty and also led the mock trial team at southwest Atlanta’s Therrell High School for nearly two decades. Yates earned a prestigious 11Alive Community Service Award for that work. He recently was reappointed by Governor Nathan Deal to the Georgia Commission on Hearing Impaired and Deaf Persons.

Yates sees one of his major roles as connecting the school with like-minded partners who share the school’s mission of helping children achieve full potential through language and literacy—and “find their voice for a lifetime,” Yates says.

Founded in 1938 by Katherine Hamm as a facility primarily focused on educating children with hearing loss (her son was deaf), the Speech School now includes three programs. One, named for Hamm, is for children who are deaf or hard of hearing; another is for children with dyslexia; and the third is a preschool for children with speech and language delays.

The Speech School also houses five clinical programs, diagnostic facilities, and a mainstream preschool where youngsters from the Hamm Center blend with kids without hearing loss in order to ensure that they are ready to move on to their neighborhood schools.

Some 1,800 children and adults are served annually, and Yates is proud that no student has ever been turned away for financial reasons.

Recently, the school’s reach has expanded to include teacher training through its Rollins Center for Language and Learning. The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation–funded center focuses on providing professional development to teachers of children from low-income families who are caught in an intergenerational cycle of illiteracy and poverty.

Yates says when he started at the school, he lacked a background in special education, but, “What I could provide was the accountability and accessibility.”

If there is any doubt about that, just press your nose against the glass and take a look.—Eric Rangus
From the start of her legal career, Lynne Borsuk ’81OX ’83C has been defending others. A newly minted attorney, she helped the poor for several years as a public defender in Atlanta. She now focuses on criminal defense and the defense of criminal white-collar matters. A fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, Borsuk has led various legal and community organizations, was a cofounder of 1000 Lawyers for Justice, and is a former adjunct professor at the Emory School of Law. Among numerous awards, Georgia Trend and Atlanta magazines have named her a “Super Lawyer” multiple times. She also is a member of the Oxford College Board of Counselors.

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

Kelley Friedgen ’99C ’03L ’03PH of Philadelphia is a senior attorney in the office of general counsel at Merck, where she advises internal clients on commercial and regulatory matters. Previously, Friedgen was at the law firm Arnold and Porter in Washington, D.C., where she advised clients in regulatory and policy matters concerning federal and state agencies, including the FDA and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Friedgen received dual degrees in biology and philosophy from Emory College, a JD from the School of Law, and an MPH from the Rollins School of Public Health. In May, Kelley will move to San Francisco to become senior corporate counsel in the health care law department at Genentech.

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Leading daily operations for more than 1,500 fast food franchises in the US, Ralph Bower 10MEMBA was recently promoted to president of Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen, where he had been chief operating officer since 2008. In this newly created position, Bower will lead the US management team in delivering strategic initiatives, ramping up quality unit growth, nurturing franchise relationships, and mining strategic insights to drive decision making. Prior to working at Popeyes, Bower served as director of franchise operations for the restaurant’s main competitor, KFC. Before earning his Goizueta degree, Bower graduated from the US Naval Academy and served as a naval officer.

Share your career news and updates with E-Class Notes. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.
When Virginia Bales Harris 71C 77PH sets her mind to a task, life changes for many people.

A leader in the field of public health awareness, the 2012 J. Pollard Turman Award winner has championed national programs dedicated to chronic illness education and prevention, including those for breast cancer, cervical cancer, stroke, heart disease, diabetes, tuberculosis control, and smoking cessation for teenagers.

Named one of 175 Emory Makers of History, Harris also has chaired the Emory Leadership Giving Committee, the Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) Annual Fund, and the RSPH alumni portion of Campaign Emory.

Sponsored by the Emory Alumni Association (EAA), the Turman Alumni Service Award honors Harris’s leadership in the Emory community.

“It feels really special to be recognized by people you honor and respect,” says Harris, who has had experience in public service since childhood.

PUBLIC HEALTH PASSION: Virginia Bales Harris 71C 77PH received the EAA’s Turman Award for alumni service in March.

After graduating from Emory College and the inaugural class of RSPH, she built a thirty-five-year career with Emory’s neighbor, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

“It was serendipity for me that I ended up in a place where my Emory education and my passion for science, public health, public policy, and service all came together in the same institution,” she says. “CDC was good to me, and I continued my relationship with Emory through all those decades.

“Working with Emory has been in some ways a release valve for me, a way of continuing to meet new and different kinds of people who are involved in my field but in much broader areas.”

As an alumna, Harris says she is energized by remaining active. “I come back, I touch that stone if you will. I get reinvigorated.” Staying involved as a volunteer leader, Harris says, “reminds you about the values and priorities that are so important.”

Established in 1998, the Turman Award is one of the highest honors given by the EAA. J. Pollard Turman 34C 36L was a humanitarian whose support of higher education and cultural organizations benefited institutions throughout Georgia. Emory created the award with support from the Tull Charitable Foundation, which Turman helped form.

In 2005, the Tull Charitable Foundation pledged to donate $25,000 annually in honor of the Turman Award recipient. Harris has personally committed a matching gift of $25,000, and has said she will direct the funds to support endowments for scholarships for students attending RSPH.

Reflecting on the positive change she has seen in Emory through the years, Harris says, “Emory now has people from all cultures and from all around the world. That feels really good to me. I’m immensely proud of what Emory has become.”—Michelle Valigursky
A Dramatic Debut

In her first novel, Accidents of Providence, Stacia Brown 98T 07PhD relates the harrowing story of glovemaker Rachel Lockyer, who is condemned to death in 1600s England for secretly burying her illegitimate newborn. Brown, a former Woodruff Fellow at Candler School of Theology, began the historical novel in 2006 after finishing her dissertation. She says she wanted to delve into what life was like for women during the English civil war. “I wanted to explore the moral consequences of inaction as well as action,” says Brown, now Emory’s director of development for clinical programs. “The consequences of waiting too long—to do something, to become something, to say something—can be disastrous.

But we all have been in such situations.” According to a review in O, The Oprah Magazine, “For all its period detail, this debut seems remarkably modern in its depiction of love and politics—proof that a historical novel can be educational and entertaining, and nothing like homework.” Brown is finishing her second novel, The Year of Ought, about an evangelical missionary in San Francisco in the year 1900 who accidentally marries the wrong sister; it is set to be published next year.

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*Discounts are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. Savings figure based on a February 2011 sample of auto policyholder savings when comparing their former premium with those of Liberty Mutual’s group auto and home program. Individual premiums and savings will vary. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. ©2011 Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved.

In her first novel, Not the Bible Belt: Part memoir and part irreverent coming-of-age tale, K. Dawn Goodwin 97C’s Until He Comes: A Good Girl’s Quest to Get Some Heaven on Earth describes her childhood attending a Christian academy and continues through her experiences as an undergraduate, where she majored in English and creative writing—and, if the book is any indication, sex.” With a unique combination of biting, sardonic wit and touching vulnerability, Until He Comes takes you on her journey from ostensibly innocent schoolgirl with a desire to please God and her parents to self-aware young woman,” reads the Amazon.com review.

Melody Moezzi 06L has been published in the anthology Love, InshAllah: The Secret Love Lives of American Muslim Women, in which “American Muslim women writers sweep aside stereotypes to share their real-life tales of flirting, dating, and sex.” Their stories show just how varied the search for love can be—from singles’ events and college flirtations to arranged marriages, all with a singularly Muslim twist.—M.J.L.
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Ariel Sanchez (center) has always had a passion for international sports. As a Goizueta Evening MBA student, he is leveraging the school’s worldwide reputation and resources to develop a project for the International Olympic Committee and its many sports federations. He’s gotten guidance from an interdisciplinary group of Goizueta faculty, staff support from the school’s Program Office, and project partners in classmates Ryan McCaffrey and Jase Morris. As they succeed in this endeavor, this trio knows Goizueta gave them a big boost in pursuing their Olympic-sized dream.

“...I felt I could do something valuable that my MBA experience, classmates, and school—and all the resources of Emory—could uniquely deliver.”

—Ariel Sanchez 12 EvMBA (center), pictured with project teammates Ryan McCaffrey 12EvMBA and Jase Morris 12EvMBA
Giles Shih 99G, a microbiologist and molecular geneticist, is chair and CEO of BioResource International (BRI), a global biotechnology company offering cost-effective solutions to promote animal nutrition and environmental responsibility. He has been recognized for his achievements as a recipient of the Triangle Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 Leadership Award and Business Leader Top 50 Catalyst Entrepreneur Award. Shih remains involved with Emory and graduate education, headlining a Pathways Beyond the Professoriate event in January, and serving as mentor to doctoral student Ablimit Aji 10G 16G, who is pursuing a PhD in computer science and informatics, through the Alumni Mentor Program.

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

Atlanta attorney Edward Buckley 83L recently hosted a wine tasting at the Art House Gallery Atlanta to raise money for a water system and community center to be built in Haiti. “In our view, the right to clean drinking water is the most fundamental human right we have,” says Buckley, who for eight years has partnered with the nonprofit Food for the Poor to install lifesaving water wells throughout Jamaica and Haiti. Buckley, a founding partner of the firm Buckley and Klein, focuses his practice on civil rights and employment discrimination cases. He has been ranked as one of America’s leading business lawyers by Chambers and Partners, a Superlawyer by Atlanta Magazine and a member of Georgia’s Legal Elite by Georgia Trend Magazine.

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

Tommy Flynn 10N is a certified pediatric nurse in the Comprehensive Rehabilitation Unit at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, helping families cope with the stressors of rehabilitation. Flynn was recently honored for his commitment to pediatric nursing at the 2012 March of Dimes Nurse of the Year Awards, where he received the Rising Star Award. Flynn was one of 16 award winners who emerged out of nearly 500 nominations. Flynn is an active member of the Nurses’ Alumni Association and has come back to Emory numerous times to share his experience of transitioning from a student to the workplace, as a class speaker and mentor in the school’s speed mentoring program.

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

Assistant Professor Matthew Freeman 05MPH is the first Rose Salamone Gangarosa Scholar in Sanitation and Safe Water at Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health. Freeman completed a PhD in infectious and tropical disease at the London School of Hygiene Management last year. His work at Emory’s Center for Global Safe Water involves ongoing projects in India, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Mali. “I’m specifically interested in the complementary health effects of deworming and sanitation and hygiene improvements,” he says. Freeman also runs an internship program that places recent RSPH graduates in UNICEF field offices globally, and coordinates a web-based training class for UNICEF field officers.

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

Jeff Johnson 94T has been appointed Florida’s top-ranking AARP leader. As state director, Johnson is responsible for advocacy on behalf of the state’s 2.7 million AARP members, education of all Floridians on issues important to older Americans, and helping Florida communities successfully prepare to serve an aging population. Johnson joined AARP Florida in 2000 and has served in several roles, including the coordination of community engagement efforts across the state. He led the association’s “Divided We Fail” initiative in Florida, which called on presidential candidates to work across party lines to take action on retirement and health security. Johnson lives in St. Petersburg with his wife, April Schwarzmuller Johnson 93G 97G.

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

Village Life in Dordogne
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River Life along the Elbe
October 5–13, 2012
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Egypt & the Eternal Nile
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Odysseys Unlimited

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

Ulric Neisser, a former Woodruff Professor of Psychology and author of the groundbreaking 1967 book *Cognitive Psychology*, died on February 17 in Ithaca, New York, due to complications from Parkinson’s disease. He was eighty-three.

Known as the father of cognitive psychology, Neisser revolutionized the discipline by challenging behaviorist theory and endeavoring to discover how the mind thinks and works. He was particularly interested in memory and perception.

In 1986, while teaching at Emory, Neisser conducted a famous experiment that centered on the space shuttle Challenger explosion. The results supported Neisser’s theory that the mind distorts and reshapes the past, drawing on layered memories rather than actual events.

Neisser came to Emory in 1983 and founded the Emory Cognition Project, which became an international center for the emerging field during his thirteen years here, producing dozens of influential reports and a series of books stemming from the Emory Symposia in Cognition and Development. Now directed by Robyn Fivush, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Psychology and chair of the Department of Psychology, the Emory Cognition Project remains a vibrant force in the study of cognition.

“Dick [Neisser] was a terrific department, college, and university citizen,” said Robert McCauley, William Rand Kenan Jr. University Professor and director of the Center for Mind, Brain, and Culture. “He was a delightful presence among the faculty and continued to do major work—for example, on flashbulb memory—while at Emory.”

Neisser is survived by four children from his first marriage to Anna Gabrielle Pierce, and a son from his second marriage to Arden Seidler, who died before him. Other survivors include a stepdaughter, a sister, and a grandson.

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dear emory friends,

life is super, and my work as president of the Funn Foundation continues to excite. I stay very busy. Last week, I nearly won the Empire State Building Run-Up after racing its 86 flights to the top — my dream! And let’s not forget the ribbon-cutting I hosted for the solar-powered greenhouse I designed to house my collection of endangered African orchids. But the blessings keep enriching my life. This past summer I visited the Valley of Kathmandu to experience spiritual enlightenment with the Nepalis at the crossroads of Asian culture — sheer nirvana. But I’ll share one last tidbit before I close. Don’t be surprised if you catch me on Foodie TV devouring the world’s biggest bowl of cheese grits! I may be full until our next class reunion!

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Recalculating the Cost of Living

BY ALLISON ADAMS 00G

ONE OF THE SATISFACIONS OF MY relatively green lifestyle is that it enables me to live more frugally than I once did. Or perhaps frugal is not exactly the right word. More accurately, it gives me greater control and choice over where my dollars go. It shifts some of the variables in the cost-of-living equation.

For example, instead of spending lots on utility bills and things like laundry detergent and household cleaners, I now use a clothesline and make my own laundry soap and other cleaners (the recipes are surprisingly simple). My boyfriend complains that my house is cold because I keep my thermostat so low in the winter, but I am a knitter, so I was delighted to make him a handsome wool sweater. The wild swings in gas prices haven’t affected me much, because I fuel up my car usually twice a month. Instead, I routinely walk and take public transportation, including my work commute.

There is some meat in my diet, but not daily. I get a lot of protein from other sources—eggs, pairing beans and grains, nuts, and my dearly beloved cheese—that are much less expensive. So when I do buy meat, I can splurge on something locally farmed, grass-fed, and fabulous. I cram food gardens into every sunny corner of my yard, a long, narrow lot in a Decatur neighborhood. I can and preserve much of the food I grow and gather. I keep a few chickens for eggs and buy dairy and additional produce from local farmers. That way, I’m putting my money into a local organic chicken feed co-op and my neighborhood farmers’ market instead of a food system dominated by fossil fuels.

I’m always on the prowl for a good barter and the alt-economy it helps create. I have traded apples for sweet potatoes and eggs for wild venison, local honey, and homemade tempeh. Last year I helped my neighbor, a gifted fabric crafter, build her website. She paid me in a custom order of her exquisite handmade crepe. Last year I helped my neighbor, a gifted fabric crafter, build her website. She paid me in a custom order of her exquisite handmade crepe.

Yet my intention is not to live “impact free.” I am not interested in extremes or gimmicks that don’t reflect the reality of most folks’ everyday lives. I still own a car and a dryer. Rather, I yearn to live more lightly, with a sense of balance and bounty, joining the growing ranks of city dwellers around the nation who are becoming more thoughtful and creative about their own environmental impact as it relates to quality of life.

This quest is not without its contradictions. One of the conundrums, for example, of the “locavore” movement is that it has upscaled quality basic ingredients. Restaurants that feature locally and sustainably grown foods tend to be very pricey. I love that my local Saturday morning farmers’ market accepts Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT—Georgia’s electronic version of food stamps) cards, and that it is located within easy walking distance of the city’s public housing development. But then again, if you’re stretching your EBT allocation as far as it can go, and you can get a much bigger bunch of carrots at Kroger, where common sense take you?

These are complicated questions about food, sustainability, class, culture, accessibility, and economics: What kind of upside-down system renders the most basic, simple, easily produced food the least accessible? For me, it goes back to that choice of thinking about my lifestyle in simple economic terms.

If I make some kind of major purchase for my garden, I think of it as a long-term investment for greater future food production. Two years ago I hired someone to help me improve my rainwater catchment system. It was a significant up-front expense, but I didn’t water my garden from the public works at all last year.

Maybe frugal is the right word, after all. I want my cost of living to be low, and I want my environmental impact to be low. So I consider the flow of goods and funds in a different way. If I sell a few dozen eggs to my neighbors, my organic chicken feed is paid for; I enjoy eating at restaurants that serve local food, but I also love preparing great meals at home.

It’s easy to feel powerless and inconsequential, a tiny David banging my fists on the toe of an inevitable Goliath. What could I possibly do to slow impending environmental doom—the global consumption of fossil fuels, the rapid construction of coal burning power plants, the overpopulation of the planet, the destruction wrought by factory farming?

Ultimately, not much, until I realize that I am actually Goliath: my addictions, my habits, my enslavements of mind. Those seemingly inconsequential steps—getting out of the car and onto a bicycle or into walking shoes, shopping for “real” food at a local farmer’s market, turning the thermostat down and putting on a sweater, hanging clothes on a line in the spring sunshine—those steps are the seeds of monumental transformation.
DAN DUNAWAY was one of 62 applicants admitted to the Emory School of Medicine class of 1961. Nearly 1,200 others were not. “It’s a sobering thought that you were selected to be of service to the community when so many others weren’t,” says Dunaway 61M 62MR, a successful Memphis dermatologist who still practices at age 81.

Determined to assist future generations of medical students, he has funded charitable gift annuities and made a bequest to support the Class of 1961 Medical Scholarship Fund he helped establish. “What are we going to do? Say thank you and move on, or watch out for the next generation of students coming along?” he says.

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Plan to be of service.
THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM: The Eagles women's swimming and diving team captured its third straight NCAA Division III Championship, and fifth overall, during the 2011–2012 season. For updates on all Emory sports, visit www.emoryathletics.com.

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