We Stand Together

EMORY WORKS TO UNITE AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The Rainbow Chronicles | Poetic Professor | White House Briefing
Developing valuable connections is just one of the many soft skills you’ll gain from Emory University’s Goizueta Business School Executive MBA (EMBA) program. Just ask alumnae Betty Lo. She stands at the helm of one of the world’s leading global measurement companies. Lo credits her Executive MBA network with helping her see the value in leveraging her talents, “My extensive Goizueta network of alumni, classmates, and faculty helped me learn to merge both hard and soft skills to become an empowered business leader.”

The top ranked program features flexible format options and countless opportunities to grow business connections within the classroom, throughout the city, and around the globe.
features

20 Voices Rising
As the problem of sexual violence on college campuses draws national attention, Emory is actively building on a strong foundation of prevention strategies—with students at the center of increasing awareness, support, and response.

By Kimber Williams

28 The Rainbow Chronicles
With a new focus on outreach to the LGBT community, Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library is expanding its efforts to capture the history and the humanity of transformative social movements in the South.

By Maria M. Lameiras

35 White House Briefing
Monique Dorsainvil 09C has become a familiar figure in the White House, where she builds engagement between the public and the president on key administration issues.

By Paige Parvin 96G

38 Poetic Memory
As an endowed professor and working poet, Kevin Young uses his experiences and the university’s literary resources to inspire a new generation of writers.

By Darren Miller

oxford outlook

45 Future of Oxford Science Rises on the Quad

46 Ken Landers 870X 89C Finds a Place to Thrive

47 Portrait of a Scholar: Robert Hight 140X

online at www.emory.edu/magazine

video: Shark Attack
Kaeya Majmundar 15C jumped into the Shark Tank and came out a winner after fending off tough questions from potential business investors.

Story page 9.

video: Be Courageous
See the Commencement address to the Class of 2014 by civil rights icon Congressman John Lewis.

Story page 18.

video: Hearts of Gold
Joe Edwards 540X 568 588 and Pat Carter Edwards 61C have loved and served Emory and their community together for more than fifty years.

Story page 54.
8 Tracks of Time

In his latest book, *Dinosaurs without Bones*, Emory paleoichnologist Anthony Martin (above) will lead you on a surprising search—not for prehistoric creatures themselves, but what they left behind.

6 DISCOVER THE BATTLE OF ATLANTA, MOBILE PHONE IN HAND

10 STUDENTS AWARD WINNERS MEGAN LIGHT 14C AND MATTHEW PESCE 14C

12 NEW AT-HOME TEST FOR JEWISH GENETIC DISEASES

13 IN CLASS THE PSYCHOLOGY OF EVIL

14 SECRET LIVES KAREN NEWELL 89AH 06AH, ACADEMIC COORDINATOR FOR EMORY PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

15 OFFICE HOURS NICHOLE PHILLIPS ON DAILY RITUAL

16 RESEARCH HIGH RISK OF DIGESTIVE ISSUES IN AUTISTIC CHILDREN

17 DOOLEY NOTED SECRET SENIOR SOCIETY MAINTAINS MYSTIQUE
Thousands gathered on Emory’s Quadrangle May 12 to celebrate the accomplishments of a sea of graduates and to listen as the 2014 keynote speaker, congressman and civil rights hero John Lewis, urged them to “Be bold. Be courageous. Stand up. Speak up. Speak out. Create . . . a world of peace, a world that recognizes the dignity of all humanity.” Photo by Ann Borden.
Connections and Reflections

JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO, ATLANTA’S MUCH-ANTICIPATED Center for Civil and Human Rights opened its doors.

A dream more than a decade in the making, the project was first envisioned by civil rights icons including Andrew Young, former mayor and United Nations ambassador, and Evelyn Lowery, activist and wife of leader Joseph Lowery.

The center has had strong Emory ties from the beginning—perhaps most notably in Doug Shipman 95C (see page 50), who got involved as a consultant in 2005 and became the center’s first and only CEO.

“The center will be a living place that will hold national and global exhibitions, conferences, performances, and events, while also serving as a catalyst for Atlanta organizations and individuals to discuss civil and human rights issues,” Shipman told Emory Magazine in 2009, when we first took the opportunity to feature the development of the center. “It will be a focal point for the most important legacy Atlanta maintains—ongoing leadership on issues of civil and human rights.”

Our 2009 story also spotlighted the major contributions of then–Provost Earl Lewis, who spearheaded the committee that gave concrete shape to the center’s mission; A. J. Robinson 77B, president of Central Atlanta Progress (CAP); and Ellen Mendelsohn 01C, who was a senior project manager for CAP at the time.

“The content committee affirmed the importance of linking human and civil rights as a part of a connected narrative about the development of social movements to ensure humanity, justice, and dignity in the United States and elsewhere,” Lewis said recently (visit www.emory.edu/magazine to find an Emory Report story on the center’s opening).

It’s fitting that in this issue of Emory Magazine, we are able to revisit the Center for Civil and Human Rights (cchr) and to celebrate its opening along with the Emory community, Atlanta, and the region. It is also fitting to return to the theme of, in Lewis’s words, “a connected narrative about the development of social movements.”

We begin with an examination of sexual violence on college campuses—a subject currently claiming national attention—and how Emory is increasing efforts to address a problem that Ajay Nair, senior vice president and dean of campus life, calls “one of the greatest social justice and public health issues of our time.” Emory students are at the center of a remarkable range of prevention, education, and support programs.

We also explore a recent initiative in Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) to reach out to the gay community at Emory and beyond, gathering pieces of the history of the LGBT movement’s struggle and progress in the South. These materials will build on Emory’s well-established collections in African American and civil rights history, offering new resources and creating new connections for scholars of social movements—an idea that in many ways mirrors the mission of the CCHR.

“Civil rights, the struggle for social justice, and human rights are common throughout these areas,” says Randy Gue 94G 97G, MARBL’s new curator of Modern Political and Historical Collections.

And we pay a visit to the White House, where Monique Dorsainvil 09C has worked to advance women’s and LGBT rights—a path she says Emory helped her along. As a student leader, Dorsainvil championed efforts to address sexual violence and increase campus safety. A women’s studies major with a minor in global health, Dorsainvil explored the intersections of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation, and their relationship to legal and political decisions. “That sparked my interest in government and lawmaking,” she told Emory Magazine in 2010. “I was eager to learn about the way in which the law can work to protect vulnerable groups, as opposed to contributing to their vulnerability.”

In planning this issue, we honestly didn’t set out to weave such a “connected narrative,” and I would already have been a little awed by it even if my seventeen-year-old son hadn’t surprised me by adding his own thread.

He was participating in a summer journalism program for teens, and a few days into it, he announced—with no encouragement from me—that for their major news project, his student team would be creating a website on the opening of the CCHR. The three young people got advance access to the center and its exhibits, captured video of visitors, and just days before the grand opening, they were given an in-person interview with CEO Doug Shipman.

Wow. Those kids were excited, moved, and inspired—and so was I. We hope you are, too.—P.P.P.
I was Emory’s University Chaplain from 1979 to 1990. One of the best things to happen during my tenure came early: Bill Fox was appointed dean of campus life a short time after I arrived. He not only welcomed my involvement in the staff related to campus life, but he and Carol also participated in the Sunday worship program I led in Cannon Chapel. My wife, Mary Jim, and I were the parents of three Emory students during my chaplaincy, all of whom enjoyed Bill’s interest and encouragement. We will always be grateful for the friendship and support we received from Bill and Carol Fox.

—Don Shockley 62T
Brentwood, Tennessee

Arriving at Emory in 1949 for graduate studies on the GI Bill, I found an extra room to rent very near campus, which turned out to be a home-away-from-home with [then-Emory Magazine editor] Randy and Sherry Fort. Great guy, great family, lucky me! Now having myself been a sometime editor of various stuff, over the years, I have no hesitation in declaring that Randy would have been pleased, proud, delighted, and more with the blockbuster “animal issue” just at hand. Appearance, content, everything is superb! Congratulations!

—John Porter Bloom 56PhD
Las Cruces, New Mexico

I am deeply saddened at learning of Emory’s loss. Bill Fox is Emory to me. I am forever indebted to him for that very special treat. Being on the Board of Visitors not only gave me added insight into Emory’s glorious educational opportunities and spirit, but also enveloped me in it as a rest-of-life adventure.

—Dorothy Toth Beasley
Former Chief Judge, Court of Appeals of Georgia
Atlanta

Arriving at Emory in 1977 to interview for admission into the Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA) for my doctorate, I’d never visited the deep South before and had a handful of preconceptions lingering from life in New York and several years in Alaska. Bill Fox welcomed and interviewed me, and I was won right away by his genuinely engaging blend of administrator-in-the-making and good-heartedly unpretentious colleague and comrade. It was a delight to work with him those years and later to see him become as fine a representative of Emory as could be deserved. I treasure the memory of the man and the school; it was a delicious graduate experience, largely because of the spirit that encouraged Bill’s kinds of gifts. Even as I type this, I see by the light of a desk lamp I liberated from his office when Bill first went from the ILA to become a dean. Last month was the first time I had to replace one of its fluorescent tubes.

—Guy Burneko 81PhD
Langley, Washington

Bill Fox kept the Institute of Liberal Arts on an even keel and made it a very welcoming place. It was a great department. Bill knew a student without being pushy. He had a twinkle in his eye about the foibles of professors, and he had what Richard Wilbur termed “cunning: to wink at evil.” Bill was a complete delight and will be missed in the world. What more can anyone ask?

—Terri Langston 87PhD
Washington, D.C.

Bill was in charge of Emory’s Board of Visitors when I was nominated to serve on it. I was thrilled to be part of that august, vibrant, and royally treated body, but during my first year, I took a short-term job in Washington and had to leave the board. Bill graciously said, “When you come back to Atlanta, let me know and you can serve for the remainder of your term.” I was thrilled, because one of the things I least wanted to leave was my membership on the board. When I did return, I let him know I was “home,” and he let me start my term all over again! So I was privileged to serve another three years. It was heavenly, and I am forever indebted to him for that very special treat. Being on the Board of Visitors not only gave me added insight into Emory’s glorious educational opportunities and spirit, but also enveloped me in it as a rest-of-life adventure.

—Henry Kalter 74C
New York, NY

Is dr. [Brian] Hare aware that dogs have a sense of time? (“And the Dog Has His Day,” spring 2014). I travel frequently for my work, sometimes three or more weeks at a time. Sheeri often greets me when I arrive home even after being gone just for a few hours. But when I return after a lengthy trip, she is insatiable, jumping up on me, begging for belly rubs, licking, nosing; it could go on and on. Her varied reactions depending on how long I’ve been away make sense only in the context of Sheeri’s ability to tell time, or at least to differentiate between a short time and a long time. I assume that dogs’ perception of time could be determined through appropriate experimentation.

—Henry Kalter 74C
New York, NY

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

Emory's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) will undergo a major transformation over the coming year, creating a dynamic, technology-enhanced space in its tenth-floor home atop the Robert W. Woodruff Library. The redesign, which will offer scholars, students, and visitors improved and expanded access to MARBL’s rich resources, is scheduled for completion in late 2015.

New center for congenital heart defects

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory Healthcare announced this spring that they are partnering to launch the Congenital Heart Center of Georgia (CHCG). One of the largest programs in the US and the first in Georgia, the CHCG is a comprehensive program for children and adults with congenital heart defects, providing a continuum of lifesaving care from before birth through adulthood.

Battle Plan

WANT TO LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF ATLANTA?
LET YOUR MOBILE DEVICE BE YOUR GUIDE

ON A WARM JUNE EVENING, JUST WEEKS BEFORE the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Atlanta, guests gathered at the Atlanta Cyclorama and Civil War Museum are experiencing that historic battle in stereo: while surrounded by a sweeping circular painting of the event—the museum’s main attraction—they also are being introduced to an innovative, self-guided digital tour of battle-related sites throughout the city.

The Atlanta Cyclorama is the last of twelve stops on the mobile tour, a project created by an eight-
member team in the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship (ECDS). Designed to enrich people’s understanding of Atlanta and its history, the smartphone-friendly tour provides GPS directions and mapping, historical information about each of its stops, and multimedia content including video and historical images. It requires no download and is accessible via a web link, BattleAtl.org, which went live the day of the June launch celebration and demonstration.

Many sites of the Civil War battle, which took place in July 1864 largely in the southeastern quadrant of the city, are now occupied by service stations, highways and streets, traffic islands, flattened hills, and unmarked spots of significance.

“People can’t easily retrace the Battle of Atlanta because it doesn’t exist as a battlefield park or monument. But it was significant for greatly improving the odds for Abraham Lincoln’s reelection,” says Allen Tullos, professor of history and codirector of the ECDS. “Most people pass these sites every day or they drive within a hundred yards of where there is a site and they don’t realize it. So we’re trying to put you in a location so you can park your car and learn about what took place.”

The text describing points of interest along the tour and information for each one, as well as some of the images, are provided courtesy of Daniel Pollock, a Battle of Atlanta scholar and physician at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Pollock had been studying the battle for more than twenty years and giving periodic tours when his friend, Tullos, suggested that his tour could be turned into a self-guided, GPS-driven mobile app with help from ECDS. Work on the project began in August 2012.

“Atlanta played a significant role in the Civil War,” Pollock says. “The Battle of Atlanta was a turning point in a very important campaign. It was the biggest battle in that campaign and the most consequential, and it took place in our midst.”

The tour, which is arranged chronologically, takes about four hours, but you can start, stop, or restart at any point. Guided by an interactive map, users can look at photographs, watch a short video, and read a description of what happened at each site.

“This application is the twenty-first-century version of a historical marker,” says Brian Croxall, project coordinator and ECDS digital humanities strategist. “Markers only fit so much text, and you don’t know they’re there until you come across them.”

The mobile tour is a companion piece to an article published in Southern Spaces, an Emory-based digital, peer-reviewed journal now in its tenth year. The article, written by Pollock, provides expanded information about the Battle of Atlanta and the twelve tour stops.

“It’s been exciting to work on,” says Tullos, who also is senior editor of Southern Spaces, “and it’s been a very collaborative project.”

LEADERSHIP

New Deans for Goizueta, Chapel

Emory welcomed two new deans in July. Erika Hayes James was appointed dean of Goizueta Business School, coming to Emory from the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration, University of Virginia, where she served most recently as senior associate dean for executive education.

“Erika James has all of the qualities that we want for a leader at Goizueta,” says Provost Claire Sterk, who led the international search. “She brings a background of impressive scholarship and strong skills in academic administration, and she will work collaboratively with faculty, students, staff, alumni, and supporters to take the school to the next level—all the while honoring the principled leadership of Mr. Goizueta’s legacy.”

Emory also announced the selection of the Reverend Bridgette Young Ross to be its next dean of the chapel and spiritual life.

“Bridgette Young Ross brings great gifts of faith, intellect, bridge-building, and mentorship to the work of the Office of Spiritual Life,” says President James Wagner. “She will continue to strengthen the vibrant and formative interfaith dynamics that are a hallmark of Emory as a research university.”

For the past five years, Young Ross has served as assistant general secretary of the UMC General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, in Nashville, Tennessee. Young Ross previously served at Emory from 2000 to 2009 as associate dean of the chapel.

First chief budget officer appointed

As part of a multiyear management succession plan of outstanding long-term financial leaders at Emory, Michael John Andrechak has joined Emory as the university’s first chief university budget officer (CUBO) and vice provost. Andrechak brings more than 30 years of experience from the University of Illinois, where he served most recently as associate chancellor and vice provost for budgets and resource planning.

Funding for influenza study

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, part of the National Institutes of Health, has awarded Emory a contract to fund the Emory-UGA Center of Excellence for Influenza Research and Surveillance. The first-year award is approximately $3.6 million, with potential funding up to $26.7 million over seven years. The award includes a subcontract to the University of Georgia.
No Bones About It
HOE EVEN LITTLE DINOSAURS MADE A BIG IMPRESSION

An iridescent beetle, bright as a bead, has caught a whiff of paradise. She makes a beeline for a pile of fresh manure, high as a hill to her, recently left behind by a Maiasaurus striding through the rookery on some motherly errand.

It’s a noisy place, this. The herd is a big one, and there are hundreds of nests here. Adult animals rumble, or possibly honk or hiss as they jostle each other. Some of the nests are already full of broken eggshells and little Maiasauras bawling to be fed.

The beetle takes no more notice of the clamoring dinosaurs than they do of her. She has family matters of her own to attend to. She’s a dung beetle, and, the risk of getting stepped on notwithstanding, hanging around a bunch of nine-meter-long herbivores the size of SUV’s means living very large. She burrows eagerly into the heap.

Later, burrows and their chiropteran hardihood will help her million-times-great-grandchildren survive the asteroid impact that will doom Maiasaura and most of her kind to extinction.

Later, her descendants will be digging into the dung of proto-elephants on the savannahs where an ape will stand, starting no end of trouble.

Later, pyramids will rise, and the civilization that erects them will fall, having ironically put the humble dung beetle, the scarab, at the very center of their cosmology.

And later still, uncountable insect generations later, in the later we live in, this nesting ground will be Montana, Maiasaurus will be the stuff of museum exhibits and documentaries on the Discovery Channel, and dung beetles will be busy among the bowel movements of animals on every continent but Antarctica.

For now, a “now” seventy-five million years ago, this beetle will lay her eggs inside the tunnel she’s made, and seal it snugly behind her when she leaves, ensuring that the larva will be secure in a chamber literally made of food. “It’s dinner and a nursery,” notes Anthony Martin, professor of practice in the Department of Environmental Studies in Emory College of Arts and Sciences and the author of a new book, Dinosaurs without Bones.

Trained as a paleontologist at the University of Georgia, Martin specializes in paleoichnology, the study of traces left on ancient environments by living things, from footprints to, well, feces. It is coprolites, or fossilized dinosaur dung, such as the beetle-bored specimens found around the Maiasaurus nests of Montana’s famed “egg mountain,” that allow us to reconstruct the heartwarming domestic scene described above. Martin’s book collects and describes these and scores of other fascinating finds that he and his fellow trackers are using to glean surprisingly intimate insights into how dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures moved, healed, hunted, ate, and excreted.

Trace fossils are substantially more rare, and frequently more hotly contested, than are so-called body fossils, the mineralized mortal remains of animals, generally the hard stuff like bones, teeth, and shells. This should come as no surprise, really; the preservation of such osteological prodigies is much easier to get

School of Law faculty member named to governor’s council
Melissa Carter, director of the Barton Child Law and Policy Center, has been named to Georgia Governor Nathan Deal’s Child Welfare Reform Council. The council will complete a comprehensive review of the Division of Family and Children Services and advise the governor on possible executive agency reforms and legislative fixes if necessary.

Goizueta students make best case
Rae Oglesby 14MBA, Joe Faxio 14MBA, Iesha Scott 14MBA, and Onix Ramirez 06C 14MBA won the Executive Leadership Foundation’s 2014 Business Case Competition. The team from Goizueta Business School delivered the best case for promoting the implementation of Common Core State Standards, a set of academic standards in math and English language/literacy proposed to be adopted nationwide.
your head around than that of something as ephemeral as a footprint on a shoreline, the impression of scaly skin or downy feathers left in soft mud, or even the semidigested last meal of a carnivore swept away by some catastrophe.

As mind-boggling as it is that natural processes can turn such fleeting phenomena into part of the Earth’s permanent record in the first place, the feats of the small, dedicated, and occasionally eccentric fraternity that scours the globe and Wracks their brains to find and interpret trace fossils are equally astounding. Paleoichnologists (with paleobotanists, Martin quips, the Rodney Dangerfields of the discipline—no respect) go to extraordinary and occasionally comical lengths to make sense of the trace fossil record, which is often written in the most inaccessibly ambiguous of terms. Sure, some of it is straightforward enough, such as the beautifully preserved dinosaur tracks at Lark Quarry in Australia or near the Purgatory River in the US, but what do we make of the stones apparently deliberately swallowed by carnivorous dinosaurs, the staccato spoor of a dinosaur who seems to be either swimming or hopping like a Mesozoic kangaroo, or the trench in an ancient sand dune that might be the record of a prehistoric giant taking a monster leap?

Like many of the best works of natural history, Dinosaurs without Bones is part science book and part travelogue. Martin has followed the trail of the dinosaurs across twenty-nine states and fifteen countries, including Korea, Turkey, New Zealand, Mexico, and Peru, and across hundreds of millions of years, from the remote past to the present. Some of the delights, in fact, of Martin’s book are the accounts of his adventures in neoichnology—particularly his work with the traces left by the direct-line descendants of dinosaurs we see every day, the birds.

Putting the trace fossil record in dialogue with research on tracks and traces in extant environments allows ichnologists, working even from very scanty clues, to see the ancient world in far richer hues, as a burrowing, breathing, living world, rather than a valley of dry bones. Okay, so a few of his forays into the inner life of dinosaurs are more “ewww”-inspiring than awe inspiring, but Martin’s is an invaluable addition to our understanding of dinosaurs, and more generally of the natural world, past and present.

“All these items in our modern lives exist because of developments in the geologic past,” he says. “The lights are on right now because of a Pennsylvanian coalfield in what is now Alabama.”

Despite the relative marginalization of tracking in the contemporary life and earth sciences, Martin reminds us that it is a centrally important skill set. “Ichnology is the oldest science,” he claims. Without the impressive olfactory equipment that evolution gave our canine and feline predators and competitors, humanity had to use its eyes and its brains to read their environment, to know whether they were about to get lunch or be lunch. For much of our history, it was a high-stakes field of endeavor. “It’s not like if you’re wrong you don’t get tenure,” he notes. “If you’re wrong all the time, you die.”

Today, in the comfortable, high-tech twenty-first century, Martin and his fellow dinosaur trackers are rediscovering the ancient science of tracking and using it to shed a brand-new light on the dinosaur era—and also perhaps on our own. Ichnology also can illuminate the complexity and hidden wonders of the contemporary environment. Ichnology, in fact, may be the apotheosis of the liberal arts.

“I’d like every Emory student to be able to track a raccoon,” Martin says. “The observational skills, the analytical skills, the imagination to put it into a narrative—it combines social science, the natural sciences, the humanities.”

Dinosaurs without Bones offers a steady diet of puns, irreverent cultural references, and toothsome vignettes of life in the field. There is much in Martin’s book for specialists, science fans, and nature lovers—and a few surprises for even the most hard-core paleo-nerds.—Eddy Von Mueller 97G 06PhD

---

**NSF grant to help reduce waterborne disease risk**

Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health has received a five-year, $2.5 million research grant from the National Science Foundation to develop new computational approaches for better understanding and responding to infectious disease risks that result from a changing and variable climate. Justin Remais, associate professor of environmental health, is principal investigator of the new project.

**Nursing center director recognized**

Kate Moore is leaning on her experience in the military to help build what she calls “a team of champions” at the Evans Center and Simulation Lab at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. Moore, the winner of Atlanta Business Chronicle’s 2014 Health-Care Heroes Award for Military Service, took over the Evans Center last year after retiring from the army reserves as a colonel.

---

**‘Shark Tank’ Survivor**

This spring, Emory College student entrepreneur Kaeya Majmundar 15C survived a swim in the Shark Tank, emerging with funding to help take the next steps with her BZbox invention.

ABC’s Shark Tank gives real entrepreneurs the opportunity to pitch their products to a team of all-star—and often highly critical—investors. After intense questioning, some walk away with funding for their efforts, while others just get shredded by the “sharks.”

Majmundar appeared on the May 16 season finale, seeking funding for BZbox, a sturdy yet easily collapsible packing box she designed. The invention was sparked by her struggle with poorly assembled boxes while moving out of her freshman dorm and takes its design inspiration from origami.

During her turn in the tank, Majmundar faced pointed questions—but came away with an investment of $50,000 from investor and QVC celebrity host Lori Greiner, contingent upon BZbox getting into retail outlets and Greiner receiving a 40 percent share of the company.

Now, as Majmundar works to grow BZbox into retail outlets while continuing her Emory studies as a double major in economics and sociology, she says she’s grateful for the experience.

“I walked into the tank and literally could not believe it was happening, and even to this day, I cannot believe it,” she says.—Laura Douglas-Brown 95C 95G

FIN-TASTIC: Majmundar says her swim in the Shark Tank still feels “incredibly surreal.”
As an athlete and a student, Megan Light ’14C found what she was looking for at Emory, but her coaches and professors say she has brought as much to the university as it has given to her.

Light, a senior anthropology and human biology major, is the 2014 recipient of the university’s highest student honor, the Marion Luther Brittain Award. The award is presented each year to a graduate who has demonstrated exemplary service to both the university and the greater community without expectation of recognition.

Candidates are required to demonstrate a strong character, meritorious service, and sense of integrity. Light received the award, which also comes with $5,000, during the central Commencement ceremony May 12.

“I knew I wanted to play softball in college,” says Light. Emory’s women’s softball team has won the University Athletic Association (UAA) Championship each of the four years Light has played. Among many other honors, she earned 2013 UAA Most Valuable Player, 2011 and 2013 All-America honors, and 2013 Academic All-America honors.

In addition to athletics, Light embraced Emory’s culture of service, working with Volunteer Emory since her freshman year, volunteering at a homeless shelter, coaching softball for younger students in local leagues, and serving on Emory’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to coordinate educational, community-service, and leadership-development opportunities for all student-athletes.

“My father has been a volunteer at a homeless shelter for more than twenty-five years, and I started going with him when I was eleven,” Light says.

Emory head softball coach Penny Siqueiros wrote in her Brittain award nomination letter that she and others learned much from Light’s example as a player and a person. “A clear example that stands out in my mind is, after grueling practices over a number of weekends, Megan would change out of her practice attire and head to a homeless shelter in Atlanta to serve food to the needy,” Siqueiros wrote. “She is an educator in the gift of giving, whether she knows it or not.”

Academically, Light discovered a passion for public health at Emory, and traveled to Ghana to do volunteer work at a hospital through the Cross-Cultural Solutions program. “This was my first exposure to anything besides American medicine. Seeing how people are cared for firsthand in the hospital in Ghana and realizing how much they needed and how much needed to be done in public health there was one of the most important experiences I have had,” says Light, who will enroll in Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH) in the fall to pursue a master of public health degree in global health.

Light has worked in the Department of Global Health at RSPH with assistant research professor Jorge Vidal doing quantitative DNA analysis for a study on pneumonia in South Africa and at the Global Center for Safe Water, where she worked on a rapid assessment tool to examine fecal contamination for rural or urban low-income areas with director Christine Moe, the Eugene J. Gangarosa Professor of Safe Water and Sanitation.

“I began as a premed major, but my introduction to public health through work at the Rollins School of Public Health and at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention helped me realize that public health was what I wanted to pursue,” she says.

HHMI grant will transform chemistry curriculum
The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) has awarded Emory University a $1.2 million grant to reenvision the chemistry curriculum at Emory College and Oxford College. The award marks the seventh HHMI grant for Emory, says Pat Marsteller, director of the Emory College Center for Science Education.

Athletic director of the year
The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics has announced Emory’s Tim Downes as one of 28 winners of the 2013–2014 Under Armour Athletic Director of the Year Award. Downes is one of four representatives from the Division III ranks to be recognized.
Gifts Shared
2014 McMULLAN AWARD WINNER MATTHEW PESCE

Debate has been the central, unifying theme for much of Matthew Pesce’s life. The Atlanta native came to Emory ranked third in the nation as a high school debater, and that success continued with regular college tournament wins and top-ten national rankings during his four years here.

Pesce also sought out ways to use debate to serve others, applying the skills and experience of debate—keen analysis of complex issues, critical thinking, and persuasive, civil argument—to help transform the Emory community. He’s worked to bring the benefits of debate training to Atlanta Public School students as a coach and mentor through the Emory-founded Urban Debate League (UDL).

“Matthew uses his fame in debate to be a role model for students who have not had the resources he has had to advance his education,” says Melissa Maxcy-Wade 73C 76G 96T 00T, executive director of forensics at Emory and founder of the UDL. His service helped make Pesce the 2014 recipient of the Lucius Lamar McMullan Award. The award, made possible by a generous gift from Emory alumnus William Matheson 47G, recognizes Emory College graduates who show extraordinary promise of becoming our future leaders and rare potential for service to their community, the nation, and the world. The McMullan Award carries with it $25,000—no strings attached.

Described by other nominators as “a Renaissance student, a scholar, leader, and friend,” Pesce has taken on difficult leadership roles as chair of the Honor Council and the Emory Elections Board. He served as president of Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society and as a representative on the Committee on Class and Labor, the Committee on Campus Life, and the College Curriculum Committee.

“He has demonstrated great skill at navigating the difficult waters of university bureaucracy in order to effect lasting, positive change,” says Jason Ciejka, associate director in the Office of Undergraduate Education.

Pesce graduated with highest honors in political science with a minor in development studies. He remained an active college debater, rising to seventh place nationally as a junior and serving as vice president of the Barkley Forum, Emory’s award-winning debate program.

Pesce says the most challenging and rewarding activity has been serving as a mentor and instructor in Atlanta UDL. “It’s been an amazing process to see struggling students gain confidence in themselves, learn to solve problems in constructive ways, engage with advanced material, and display tolerance for opposing viewpoints,” Pesce says. “I came to understand the trials my students faced on a daily basis and the incredible opportunities education can provide.”

Pesce says he will work as a business analyst for Deloitte before attending graduate school.

Renaissance Guy: After graduation, Pesce will work as a business analyst for Deloitte before attending graduate school.

Skydiving, Anyone?

Whether you’re a total thrill seeker or someone who’d rather be safe than sorry, clinical psychologist Ken Carter is looking for you.

Carter, professor of psychology at Oxford College, is casting a wide net as he gathers research for an upcoming book project on “high-sensation-seeking” people. He’s looking for people to visit his website and complete a brief survey showing how much of a “sensation seeker” they are. The survey is a modified version of a sensation-seeking scale personality test developed in the 1960s by Marvin Zuckerman of the University of Delaware.

While there are people who get their thrills from really high-sensation-seeking activities, “it doesn’t have to be jumping off a building or skydiving,” says Carter. The sensation-seeking test shows an overall score as well as sub-scores in four areas: thrill and adventure seeking, experience seeking, disinhibition, and boredom susceptibility.

“Different people can be high or low on different parts of the overall concept,” says Carter, “and the high-sensation-seeking person can look very different in different situations.”

To learn more and take Carter’s survey, visit www.drkencarter.com/buzz.

Alzheimer’s research attracts federal funding
Emory’s Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center has been awarded a five-year, $7.2 million grant from the National Institute on Aging, part of the National Institutes of Health, to discover proteins altered by Alzheimer’s. The project is part of research driven by the National Alzheimer’s Project Act, which calls for accelerating research efforts.

Global health case competition marks fifth year
In March, the Emory Global Health Institute (EGHI) hosted 24 student teams from universities around the world to explore World Health Organization reform in its 2014 International Emory Global Health Case Competition. EGHI has been hosting global health case competitions since 2009, and the event was its third international competition.
At-Home Testing Can Help Prevent Jewish Genetic Diseases

Advances in technology are making genetic testing more readily available to the public—and some tests can even be done in the privacy of home.

People of Jewish lineage are at increased risk for passing on certain genetic diseases to their children, but a new public health initiative can help them understand their odds. The nonprofit JScreen program, managed by the Emory School of Medicine’s Department of Human Genetics, provides at-home genetic screening and private counseling for Jewish people to determine their risk.

Geneticists have identified markers for nineteen genetic diseases that are more common in the Jewish-Ashkenazi community, including Tay-Sachs and Canavan disease. The carriers are healthy, but they can pass the diseases along to their children. JScreen also offers an expanded panel, useful for couples of mixed descent and interfaith couples, which screens for a total of eighty diseases.

“By leveraging advances in genetic testing and online education that allow people to be screened in the comfort of their homes, we are removing barriers to allow more people to be screened,” says Patricia Zartman Page, JScreen senior director.

Genetic counseling professionals can help couples plan, prepare, and minimize risk of inherited diseases for their families.

“Most of the time, we are able to reassure couples that their future children are not at increased risk for these devastating diseases,” says Karen Arnovitz Grinzaid, JScreen senior director. “When we do find a carrier couple, we offer a variety of options to help them have healthy children. Without screening, the couples would not have known they were at risk.” —Holly Korschun

How It Works

Visit www.jscreen.org to register to receive a JScreen genetic testing kit. Most people pay no more than $99 with health insurance; the cost is $599 without insurance. Financial assistance is available.

Use the “DNA spit kit” to provide a saliva sample for testing. The process takes about two to five minutes.

Follow the simple instructions to place the saliva tube in the packaging provided; the mailer is prepaid. It’s off to the lab for analysis.

The Art of Teaching Science

A partnership between the Michael C. Carlos Museum and Emory’s Center for Science Education (CSE) is turning STEM into STEAM—by injecting the arts into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Carlos conservators, an Emory student, and a high school science teacher teamed up to provide Atlanta area teachers with creative science education resources, including hands-on activities based on art conservation projects for high school science labs. The activities are designed for teachers of biology, chemistry, and environmental science.

The collaboration has been unfolding since a CSE teacher workshop funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) brought a group of secondary school teachers to various research labs on Emory’s campus—including that of Carlos conservator Renée Stein.

“There was clearly interest and enthusiasm in using art conservation as a context for teaching science,” says Stein.

The CSE awarded DeKalb County science teacher Tiffany Smith an HHMI fellowship to spend six weeks in the Carlos lab with Julia Commander ’13C, the Carlos’s Andrew W. Mellon intern. Smith and Commander worked with Stein and assistant conservator Katie Etre to write teacher and student guides for eight different topics, using photographs of objects from the museum to illustrate them: adhesives, corrosion, fibers, insects, paper, pigments, salts, and wood.

“As a classroom teacher, it is often difficult to get students to understand the correlation between science and the real world,” Smith says. “Collaborating with the conservator team at the museum allowed me to bring the very real world of art conservation into my classroom.”

GET CREATIVE: Atlanta-area teachers explore connections between science and art conservation.

The learning units the team created are now offered in workshops and on the Carlos website under “Science & Art Conservation: Resources for Teachers.”
PSYCH 341: The Psychology of Evil

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This Maymeister course offered an in-depth exploration of the psychological research relevant to the study of “evil” behavior. On the first day of class, students discussed evil and came up with a group definition that they referred to throughout the course. Specific topics covered included psychopathological conditions and diagnoses relevant to evil behavior; epidemiological and etiological evidence concerning psychopathy; and a critical analysis of the distinctions between normal human behavior, moral depravity, and psychopathy. In addition to individual acts of evil, the class studied incidents of genocide, terrorism, and torture. At the end of each class, to balance the heavy topic, students shared “antidotes to evil,” including uplifting stories, anecdotes, and videos, and offered ways individuals can combat evil. Students also were asked to perform a personal antidote to evil during the term—a good deed completed without expectation of recognition or reward—to share with classmates at the end of the term.

FACULTY CV: Patricia Brennan, professor of psychology in Emory College, received a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in 1986, and a PhD in psychology from the University of Southern California in 1992. She has been a member of Emory’s Department of Psychology since 1996.

TODAY’S LECTURE: One week into the class, students made presentations on notorious evildoers including serial killers Peter Kurten and Ted Bundy; mass murderer Charles Manson; cult leader David Koresh; and Columbine High School shooters Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. In addition to examining their crimes, students presented likely psychological disorder diagnoses for each subject. On the final day of class, groups of students debated two topics: “Are the primary causes of evil internal or external?” and “Can evil be prevented in our society?”

QUOTES TO NOTE: “Evil is defined as a selfish human act that defies situational expectations, is intended to harm, and is accompanied by a lack of remorse for actions.” —DEFINITION OF EVIL AS DEVISED BY THE 2014 MAYMESTER CLASS

“I was on the receiving end of an evil act; the person who committed it had no concern for my feelings. This was not something I had experienced before, and it made me want to do research to get to the root of evil behavior. That was my inspiration for this course.” —PATRICIA BRENNAN, PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

“There are plenty of successful psychopaths, but having that tendency makes them capable of doing terrible things.” —JACOB GOWLER

STUDENTS SAY:

“‘This class was a life-changer. I want to base my career on criminal behavior and what precedes it, so I was completely and utterly immersed in the material. This has helped me take a deeper look at how we classify people and a deeper understanding of how people work.’” —ADAM KASSEM ’15C, PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

“This is a totally unique class that isn’t offered anywhere else. It is very relevant in the world because there is evil all around us, whether we choose to observe it or not. How we defined evil, and how we can prevent it, molded my perception of evil and how we can take it on as a societal issue.” —AMRITA CHATTERJEE ’15C, BUSINESS MAJOR

—M.M.L.
KAREN NEWELL
89AH 06AH

**DAY JOB:** Academic coordinator for the Emory School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program

**SECRET LIFE:** Drummer and drum/percussion teacher

Growing up in Golden, Colorado, Karen Newell started drumming with Magic Markers on the seat of a vinyl chair in her family’s playroom around age five—her favorite song was the theme from *Hawaii Five-O*. When she was a little older, she traded a huge hunk of clay with a neighbor for a pair of his older brother’s drumsticks, which she still owns. In fourth grade, Newell’s parents, thinking her interest was a passing fancy, allowed her to try out to play drums for the school band. She made it, ending up getting a snare drum and private lessons. By age thirteen, she had a drum set and was playing regularly in country-western nightclubs in and around Denver. Active in the school band throughout junior high and high school, she also played school dances with her garage band. On a music scholarship at Colorado State University, Newell earned her degree with a double major in biology and zoology and a double minor in anatomy and music, while playing in every band in the university’s music program. During physician assistant (PA) school at Emory, she joined the “Band of Braves” and played for all of the home games for the Atlanta Braves. She went to Yale for a postgraduate PA surgical residency program, playing in both the Yale Marching Band and the Norwalk Symphony. Since returning to Emory in 1995 as a faculty member in the PA program, she has given private drum and percussion lessons, taught high school drum lines, played all over Atlanta, and organized annual recitals for her music students. In May, Newell held the twentieth annual recital for her music students at Emory, with proceeds benefitting the PA program’s South Georgia Migrant Farm Worker Health Project.

**HER WORDS:** “I find it fascinating that throughout history, in every country around the world, the drum can be found in some form, kind of like a heartbeat. For me, drumming is in my soul. It is a very personal and spiritual thing. Music has always been a way for me to let my spirit speak and to release and share my creative energies. I am especially known for creating my own unique instruments from items found at Home Depot. You can often find me there late at night, gathering inspiration.”—Kimber Williams
Ritual Speaks Volumes. When we meet someone and automatically extend a hand, we are engaging in a fundamental form of human communication. “Everyday habits that we take for granted are ritualistic behaviors,” Phillips says. “They are expressions of our need to communicate with one another. Even simple expressions like hello and goodbye, please and thank you—these convey something about our culture and values.”

Ritual—Where Nature and Nurture Meet Up. Humans have hardly cornered the market when it comes to ritual behavior; animals demonstrate it regularly and instinctively. Papa birds build nests, while mama birds snap up bugs for cheeping babies. Human families exhibit not-so-wildly similar behaviors, like when they rouse sleepy kids and ready them for school (“rise and shine!”), wave as the yellow bus departs, and ask about homework each evening. “Parents will do things in a particular order every day,” Phillips says. “That is the influence of genetics as well as ritualistic group processes that are borne of our environment.”

Ritual Creates Connection. We all know we’ve “gotta eat.” But we also know the difference between grabbing a solitary lunch at a drive-through and sitting down around a table with others. Phillips refers to ritualistic, communal dining as “breaking bread, rather than just eating.” That can include business lunches and book club grazing in addition to family dinners—any time a meal revolves around shared values or a common interest. “Human beings don’t thrive if not in relationship to one another,” she says. “Food is one of the primary ways the notion of hospitality, the need for connection, gets expressed.”

Ritual Is Divine. It’s likely that ritual originated from a human need to create order in a world of uncertainty—in other words, to nurture faith in forces unknown. From Sunday morning worship, to Wednesday night yoga, to Friday evening Sabbath, to the daily call to prayer, ritual can put us in touch with the spiritual realm, whether through devout religious faith or a secular, conscious practice meant to transcend worldly cares for a time. Churches in particular, says Phillips, can bridge the boundaries among people by serving as “unique institutions of general understanding, built on social cohesion that reflects the insights of a certain group.”

Ritual Marks Milestones. How many times have you blown out the candles on a birthday cake? Or—less happily—mourned a friend or family member at a funeral? Some rites of passage, such as your college commencement, happen only once; others come around every year—faster and faster, it might seem. But rites of passage are key to our understanding of the march of time. And there are many such “commemorative” rituals that unite us with others across cultural divides, such as Memorial Day observance, Phillips points out. “Commemorative rites are opportunities to be relational, to reaffirm how we see and interpret the world.”

Ritual Is Healthy. A morning workout routine is a ritualistic behavior that can both keep us fit and give us the time and space to set goals for the upcoming day. “Exercise is a patterned, repetitive behavior that can relieve stress,” Phillips says. “There is a concentrated focus on self and the body, beyond the mind.” Of course, less healthy behaviors can become rituals as well. But that’s the beauty of ritual—we have the power to make it our own.

NICHOLE PHILLIPS on The Rite Stuff

FROM ACTS AS SEEMINGLY HUMDRUM AS SHAKING HANDS IN GREETING TO ELABORATE RITES SUCH AS FUNERALS, WE ENGAGE IN RITUAL DAILY—OFTEN WITHOUT RECOGNIZING IT. NICHOLE PHILLIPS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF RELIGION AND HUMAN DIFFERENCE IN EMMY’S CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, WOULD LIKE US TO PAY A BIT MORE ATTENTION TO THE ROLE THAT RITUAL PLAYS IN OUR LIVES. SHE TEACHES HER COURSE IN RITUAL THEORIES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A SOCIAL SCIENTIST, EXPLORING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF RITUALISTIC BEHAVIORS. AS A HUMANISTIC INQUIRY PROGRAM (HIP) FELLOW, A POSITION SUPPORTED THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION TO STRENGTHEN THE HUMANITIES AND EXPAND INTERDISCIPLINARY INQUIRY, PHILLIPS SAYS, “I’M BOTH A SOCIAL SCIENTIST OF RELIGION AND A PRACTICAL THEOLOGIAN.”—P.P.P.
FIVE-YEAR-OLD VEER PATEL WAS DIAGNOSED with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in October 2010. Typical of children “on the spectrum,” he manages best with a rigid, unchanging daily routine. Unfortunately, his bowel functions are unpredictable, and he is frequently constipated—conditions that arose some time after his ASD diagnosis.

He is not alone. Historically, the medical research community has paid scant attention to the issue, but many parents have long noted chronic gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms in their ASD children. This lack of priority may change in the wake of a new study by researchers at the Marcus Autism Center, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and Emory University School of Medicine. They conducted the first meta-analysis of all published, peer-reviewed research related to autistic children and GI problems. What they found was that children with ASD, when compared to non-ASD children, were four times more likely to experience general GI complaints and three times more likely to experience constipation and diarrhea. These children complained about abdominal pain twice as often as their non-ASD peers.

The purpose of the analysis was twofold, according to coauthor William Sharp, director of the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program at Marcus Autism Center and assistant professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine.

“One was to survey what we know about these issues—and we don’t know much,” he says. “There have been only fifteen studies published in the past thirty-two years that have really good experimental controls.

“We also hope this study prompts the medical community to increase its focus on the prevalence, cause, and remediation of these issues.”

The onset of GI problems can be tricky to pin down because ASD children typically have difficulty communicating. Oftentimes the only indication of a problem is behavior such as constipation and diarrhea.

“Making contact: Like many children with ASD, Veer is nonverbal, but communicates clearly in other ways.”

According to study coauthor Barbara McElhanon, pediatric gastroenterologist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and assistant professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, an important question is whether the food preference of ASD children is responsible for those with GI problems, or an underlying GI problem that guides their food preferences.

“We simply do not know at this point,” she says.

While the study confirms the anecdotal experiences of pediatricians and parents, it scru-pulously avoids claiming a causal relationship.

“While we detected greater GI symptoms in ASD, our results also highlight a clear need for more research focusing on GI system in this population,” Sharp says. “This includes what may be contributing to greater GI prevalence in ASD. Clearly, consideration should be given to the high rate of feeding problems and related behavioral issues such as toileting concerns documented in this population. At this time, we do not have evidence suggesting a unique GI pathology in ASD.”

Food selectivity is a common characteristic of children with ASD, who can be exceptionally stubborn about what they will and will not eat. They tend to prefer a narrow range of highly processed, calorie-dense foods—particularly cheese, chicken nuggets, and French fries—and reject fruits, vegetables, and proteins.

When Veer’s GI problems first surfaced, says his mother, Minal Patel, she thought they were probably just typical childhood bowel problems—but they weren’t going away.

“We started to look at his diet,” she explains. “He has a hard time dealing with certain food textures, so he was on a puree diet. We thought that might be why his stool was not solid and his bowel movements were random.”

Veer was placed on a special diet to help regulate his GI system. “His stool was more solid than before, but he was still very irregular,” Patel says.

According to study coauthor Barbara McElhanon, pediatric gastroenterologist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and assistant professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, an important question is whether the food preference of ASD children is responsible for those with GI problems, or an underlying GI problem that guides their food preferences.

“We simply do not know at this point,” she says.

The onset of GI problems can be tricky to pin down because ASD children typically have difficulty communicating. Oftentimes the only indication of a problem is behavior such as constipation and diarrhea.

“Making contact: Like many children with ASD, Veer is nonverbal, but communicates clearly in other ways.”

When Veer’s GI problems first surfaced, says his mother, Minal Patel, she thought they were probably just typical childhood bowel problems—but they weren’t going away.

“We started to look at his diet,” she explains. “He has a hard time dealing with certain food textures, so he was on a puree diet. We thought that might be why his stool was not solid and his bowel movements were random.”

Veer was placed on a special diet to help regulate his GI system. “His stool was more solid than before, but he was still very irregular,” Patel says.

According to study coauthor Barbara McElhanon, pediatric gastroenterologist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and assistant professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, an important question is whether the food preference of ASD children is responsible for those with GI problems, or an underlying GI problem that guides their food preferences.

“We simply do not know at this point,” she says.

The onset of GI problems can be tricky to pin down because ASD children typically have difficulty communicating. Oftentimes the only indication of a problem is behavior such as constipation and diarrhea.

“Making contact: Like many children with ASD, Veer is nonverbal, but communicates clearly in other ways.”

When Veer’s GI problems first surfaced, says his mother, Minal Patel, she thought they were probably just typical childhood bowel problems—but they weren’t going away.

“We started to look at his diet,” she explains. “He has a hard time dealing with certain food textures, so he was on a puree diet. We thought that might be why his stool was not solid and his bowel movements were random.”

Veer was placed on a special diet to help regulate his GI system. “His stool was more solid than before, but he was still very irregular,” Patel says.

According to study coauthor Barbara McElhanon, pediatric gastroenterologist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and assistant professor of pediatrics at the School of Medicine, an important question is whether the food preference of ASD children is responsible for those with GI problems, or an underlying GI problem that guides their food preferences.

“We simply do not know at this point,” she says.

The onset of GI problems can be tricky to pin down because ASD children typically have difficulty communicating. Oftentimes the only indication of a problem is behavior such as constipation and diarrhea.

“Making contact: Like many children with ASD, Veer is nonverbal, but communicates clearly in other ways.”
as self-injury, aggression, or irritability that can't be explained by other factors, McElhanon says.

Because he is nonverbal, Veer signals his need to use the toilet by hiding in a corner or making faces, Minal says, but that happens only about 20 percent of the time. “Usually we just have to guess.”

Medication, delivered on a prescribed schedule, has been marginally effective. “We had to go through a lengthy process where we had to watch him the whole time every day.”

The weekend is the most difficult time for Veer’s GI system because he is “off schedule,” his mother adds. “There’s no school or therapy sessions, so they’re ‘free’ days. He tends to have three or four bowel movements on a Saturday or Sunday versus one or two on a week day.”

One factor that for years hindered research into the GI needs of children with ASD was the unfounded, and now thoroughly debunked, assertion that vaccinations caused an inflammatory GI disease, which then caused autism.

“Many studies have now shown no evidence of an association between autism and vaccines, and vaccines are important for a child’s health,” Sharp notes. “We hope that our work leads to better awareness of the GI health needs of children with ASD and to more studies of GI functioning in this population.”

On the research side, McElhanon would like to see a standardized measure of GI symptoms and their relationship to diet.

“We should also look at the microbiome to learn what kinds of bacteria are in the bowel in these cases, what’s in their blood work, what are some of the metabolites in their urine,” she says.

“Physicians need to be aware that children with ASD have more GI complaints, and screen them at appointments,” McElhanon continues. “They should be asking the families for information about the nature of the stool as well as behaviors such as increased irritability that occur before the child uses the toilet. Open-ended questions such as, ‘Do you have concerns that your child’s stomach hurts?’ are also helpful.”

By documenting their child’s complaints, diet, bowel movements, and behaviors on an ongoing basis, parents may uncover a pattern that can help the pediatrician, gastroenterologist, or nutritionist pinpoint a potential problem.

McElhanon also urges caregivers to visit www.healthychildren.org to learn more about constipation, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and any pediatric concern they have for their children both with and without ASD.


**The Secret Seven**

At some point during their junior year at Emory, each of these seven students felt a mysterious, thrilling tap on the shoulder: an intriguing invitation to become part of a secret society more than a century old.

The D.V.S. Senior Honor Society is the oldest of Emory’s five such enigmatic groups, and its members select seven new recruits each year based on qualities such as leadership, academic excellence, and dedication to Emory. Since its founding in 1902, the society has inducted nearly eight hundred members, according to one of those, **John Stephenson 70C**. They include university presidents, trustees, and Rhodes Scholars.

“The stated purpose of the organization was to recognize accomplishments already made,” Stephenson says, “but more importantly, to encourage those who were tapped to continue their loyalty to Emory, to encourage their leadership skills for the betterment of society, and therefore to reflect positively on Emory.”

In the 1960s, new D.V.S. members were revealed before Commencement, says **Tom Brodnax 65OX 68C**. “On the steps of Candler, the new members were formally announced as part of the D.V.S. They stood in an inverted V stance, D.V.S. painted on their faces, hands in the same way, upside down pipes in their mouths.”

Emory’s other secret societies include Ducemus, the Paladin Society, Speculum, and the Order of Ammon. They each have their special set of criteria, rules, rituals, and quirks, but at least one thing they share: the powerful allure of secrecy.

Inspired by Emory D.V.S. traditions from classes past, the 2014 graduates strike a historic pose: Josh Bergeleen (from left), Adam Braun, Chelsea Cariker-Prince, Blake Mayes, Kerry-Ann Pinard, Jason Stern, and Natalia Via.
'It Is Your Time'

Oxford College graduates (top) process onto the Oxford Quad for Commencement ceremonies on May 10. Oxford Commencement class marshals (above from left) Michael Donald Chambers 14OX, Jeffrey Khoa Trong Than 14OX, and Katharine Grey Roland 14OX pause for a pic. Eady Sophomore Award recipient Chloe DiGiulio Donogan 14OX (right) shares a smile with Dean Joseph Moon.

ONWARD AND UPWARD: University Chief Marshal Bobbi Patterson (above) leads the procession at Emory’s 169th Commencement on May 12. Nearly 4,400 graduates, about half earning degrees from Emory College and half from Emory’s graduate and professional schools, participated in the day’s ceremonies. A geographically diverse group representing nearly all fifty states and many nations around the world—about 16 percent were international students—the Class of 2014 included decorated service veterans, award-winning student athletes, transfer students, and graduates over the age of fifty.

LET THE FESTIVITIES BEGIN: University Chief Marshal Bobbi Patterson (above) leads the procession at Emory’s 169th Commencement on May 12. Nearly 4,400 graduates, about half earning degrees from Emory College and half from Emory’s graduate and professional schools, participated in the day’s ceremonies. A geographically diverse group representing nearly all fifty states and many nations around the world—about 16 percent were international students—the Class of 2014 included decorated service veterans, award-winning student athletes, transfer students, and graduates over the age of fifty.
**Making ‘Good’ Trouble:** Civil rights leader and US Representative John Lewis delivered the keynote address at Emory’s Commencement during a year that marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. “You must find a way to get in the way. You must find a way to get in trouble—good trouble, necessary trouble,” Lewis urged graduates. “Use your learning, use your tools to help make our country and make our world a better place where no one will be left out or left behind. You can do it and you must do it. It is your time.”

**Parent Pride:** Graham Pansing Brooks 14C gets a congratulatory kiss from his mother, Patty Pansing Brooks, at the 2014 Baccalaureate service as dad Loel Brooks looks on.

**Honored:** Charles Howard Candler Professor of Law Abdullahi An-Na’im (above) receives the 2014 Scholar/Teacher Award from President James Wagner.

**Banner Day:** President Wagner (below) addresses graduates and more than fifteen thousand visitors against a colorful backdrop of gonfalons representing Emory’s schools.

**Pitch Perfect:** David Shortell 14C (above from left), Benito Thompson 14C, Yedoye Opigo Travis 12OX 14C, Collin Shepard 14C, and Fei Gao 15B sing the alma mater; a graduate (left) adjusts her bowed and bejeweled mortarboard.

**Boundless Joy:** Graduate Lamon Quincy Cherry 14C (left) beams during the opening procession.
As the nation’s colleges struggle to confront sexual violence, Emory students have taken the lead in standing up to "one of the greatest social justice and public health issues of our time"

Story by Kimber Williams
Portraits by Kay Hinton
When Simone Wilson 14C arrived at Emory four years ago, she remembers the topic of sexual assault prevention coming up somewhere amid the tsunami of information that washed over her during new student orientation.

It was an issue that caught her attention. Growing up in Detroit, Michigan, Wilson (pictured at left, glasses and denim jacket) and her mother had both been targets.

"Studies show that if you walk into a college classroom, chances are someone in there is a survivor," says Wilson, now an assistant teacher at the Emory Autism Center.

So in her sophomore year, when she heard about a new program that involved students teaching students how to support sexual assault survivors, Wilson signed up.

At the time, Sexual Assault Peer Advocates (SAPA) was just finding its footing at Emory, a still-new program created by two students not unlike Wilson—women determined to turn their personal experiences and convictions into a campaign for social change.

“When I first arrived at Emory, sexual assault was something my friends didn't even talk about," says Wilson. "By the time I graduated, freshmen would just come up and ask how they could sign up for SAPA training—as if it was the thing to do, an accepted part of Emory culture."

To Wilson, the definitive evidence that SAPA was making a difference came unexpectedly: “We were talking about sexual violence in class one day, and I realized we weren’t using the most current statistics,” Wilson recalls.

Before she could say anything, voices from throughout the classroom were blurting out corrections straight from the SAPA training manual—the very information they’d hoped to weave into campus dialogue.

“I remember thinking, ‘This is what happens when you start a conversation, when people begin to listen and understand,’ ” she says.

That shift was no accident. As the response to sexual violence on US college campuses began to expand beyond survivor support over the past five years, Emory has pursued a deliberate strategy that promotes student-centered, campus-based advocacy, prevention, and outreach.

Today, Emory students who experience sexual violence not only find support and resources on campus (see sidebar, page 23), they also are finding opportunities to engage with the issue as activists and advocates.

From organizing “Take Back the Night” rallies,
Before they ever met, Ceci Gilmore 12C (pictured above) and Anushka Kapoor 13C 13B shared an ambition.

Their backgrounds couldn’t have been more different: Kapoor was raised in India, arriving at Emory to study finance at Goizueta Business School. Gilmore was a Georgia native, drawn to campus with plans to major in international and women’s studies.

But a shared desire to stop sexual violence would create common ground, driving them to become activists and advocates.

For Kapoor, the motivation rose from her work around the issue at Emory. For Gilmore, the drive was rooted in personal experience: she was assaulted during her freshman year while visiting at an area university.

“I used to think that it would never happen to me,” says Gilmore. “Being assaulted changed my view.”

Both were aware of existing campus resources, but saw potential for something more. Kapoor volunteered with Emory’s Alliance for Sexual Assault Prevention and was inspired by her training on how to talk to survivors.

“We knew that students who are assaulted are primarily in contact with other students,” says Kapoor. “I realized the importance of that.”

Together, they created Sexual Assault Peer Advocates (SAPA) to train Emory students how to talk with and assist sexual assault survivors. At the first training, twenty-three students showed up. “It was so powerful to see all these people gather to talk about what they could do to help—among the most amazing hours of my life,” recalls Kapoor.

Challenging peers to consider “How do you give consent?” at a Wonderful Wednesday table, and helping to organize RespectCon, a national conference on sexual violence prevention and social justice on college campuses, now hosted annually at Emory, students are stepping up to take a pivotal role in prevention efforts.

They’re also making the issue okay to talk about, spotlighting it through theatrical performances, YouTube videos, Greek initiatives, and new student orientation—all intended to help peers not only think about the problem of sexual violence, but own the need to help solve it.

It’s part of a growing—and experts say necessary—trend, as strategies for stemming sexual violence on campuses are increasingly harnessing the power of college students as change agents.

This spring, a report from the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault, coupled with widespread media coverage of reports of sexual assault on US college campuses, pushed the issue of sexual violence into a national spotlight as never before.

In June, a National Center for Education Statistics study reported a 51 percent increase in forcible sex offenses on American college and university campuses during the past
THE POWER OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Emory has long provided advocacy for students and sexual violence survivors through the Center for Women at Emory. But as the response to sexual violence on US college campuses began to expand beyond survivor support in the past five years, the university has offered a growing array of resources dedicated to sexual assault prevention, education, and response.

- **The Respect Program**: A student-centered program in the Office of Health Promotion that engages the Emory community to prevent and respond to sexual violence; also hosts RespectCon, a national conference on social justice and the prevention of sexual violence in school settings, which this year drew more than one hundred attendees from twenty-nine US institutions.

- **Alliance for Sexual Assault Prevention (ASAP)**: A student-led organization that raises awareness about sexual violence through rallies, speak-outs, and other events.

- **Issues Troupe**: A student-centered program based in the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services that employs theater to explore issues that affect college students.

- **Creating Emory**: Enlists first-year students to have a voice in shaping the norms and values of their campus community.

- **Grads Against Violence (GAV)**: Student-led coalition engaging graduate and professional students with prevention and support programs.

- **Haven**: A sexual violence awareness online training module required for every incoming undergraduate, graduate, and professional student beginning this fall.

- **Staff support**: Drew Rizzo, a health promotion specialist for the Respect Program, was hired to increase prevention efforts, particularly social norm campaigns, collaborations with fraternities and sororities, and expansion of graduate student involvement.

- **Centralized sexual misconduct adjudication**: Allows allegations to go before one hearing board with trained faculty, staff, and student adjudicators.

- **Eagles Speak**: A student organization that encourages civil dialogue around controversial issues through campus debate.

- **Oxford College**: Support for sexual assault survivors is available through Counseling and Career Services and Student Health Services.

- **Center for Women at Emory**: Offers a course based on the Men Stopping Violence community-accountability model; coordinates the Intimate Partner Violence Working Group.

- **Title IX deputy coordinators and investigators**: Members of the Emory community trained to coordinate compliance efforts and investigate complaints of sexual misconduct, creating expanded channels for reporting. Title IX is the federal law requiring universities to address sexual misconduct.

CALEB PENG CREATOR OF PROJECT UNSPOKEN

“What do you do on a daily basis to avoid rape, sexual assault, or harassment?”

As Caleb Peng '13C asks the question, his camera lens fixes upon a series of male faces—students, staff, and even University President James Wagner. One answers with a confused half grin: “Well . . . travel in groups?” he begins. “No, not really. I’m not really worried about it personally.”

Others are more direct: “Nothing in particular . . . Don’t think that’s something that ever really crosses my mind . . . I can’t say that I have personally felt at risk of that.”

But when the lens turns to women, strategies pour forth: “Be aware of my surroundings . . . Walk where it’s well lit . . . Travel with large groups . . . Don’t take drinks from strangers at a party . . . Don’t make eye contact with those I don’t know . . .”

Peng created the video Project Unspoken: I Am Tired of the Silence during a 2012 summer internship with Emory’s Respect Program to raise awareness around sexual violence.

Since then, the project—now a series of five videos—has drawn more than forty thousand YouTube views and has been used by more than one hundred schools in more than twenty-five countries, as well as earning attention from the White House.

Now a residence hall director fellow in Campus Life’s Office of Health Promotion preparing to begin master’s work at Rollins School of Public Health this fall, Peng arrived at Emory with little awareness of sexual assault.

Taking a women’s studies class opened his eyes. Later, when a close friend disclosed an attempted rape, “It took me aback. I hadn’t realized how sexual violence could be so detrimental,” he says. “It changed her whole world.”

“Although I’ve never experienced sexual violence, that shouldn’t matter,” he says. “The pressure should be to help change our culture.”
decade, with reported incidents rising from 2,201 in 2001 to 3,344 in 2011. Even now, lawmakers on Capitol Hill are deliberating how the issue might be addressed through legislative remedies.

Sexual violence—unwanted sexual contact that may range from groping to sexual battery to rape—certainly isn’t a problem exclusive to higher education. It plagues college campuses just as it occurs in every corner of modern society.

But at colleges and universities, often seen as a formative incubator intended to nourish young minds as they step from youth to adulthood, crimes of sexual violence challenge the ideal of higher education as a safe haven for learning.

According to the US Justice Department’s National Institute of Justice, one in five women and one in thirty-three men will be the target of sexual violence during their college years—most often perpetrated by someone they know and in their first two years on campus.

Studies cite alcohol as a frequent factor, present in more than half of sexual assaults reported on college campuses. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, nationally more than ninety-seven thousand students between the ages of eighteen and twenty-four experience alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape.

While that doesn’t mean alcohol causes sexual assault, it does mean that campus actions to prevent high-risk alcohol use overlap with efforts to prevent sexual assault, according to Emory’s Office of Health Promotion.

As a major liberal arts research university and an acknowledged resource in public health and human behavior, Emory is well positioned to help change that landscape, says Senior Vice President and Dean of Campus Life Ajay Nair, who calls sexual violence “one of the greatest social justice and public health issues of our time.”

From student education, support, and prevention resources available through Emory’s Respect Program and a focus on sexual violence before and during new student orientation to a reevaluation of Emory’s sexual misconduct policy and a newly centralized hearing board system, the university already has much in place to help.

And those efforts are expanding. In April, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Claire Sterk and Nair
“No student should ever live in fear of violence on our campus.”

—Ajay Nair

appointed the Emory University Sexual Violence Prevention Visioning Task Force, a new, multidisciplinary alliance that melds the intellectual talents of key campus resources—including faculty, staff, researchers, and student leaders—with behavioral scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) who study violence prevention on a national scale.

In creating the task force, Sterk and Nair assert that sexual violence on college campuses can not only undermine students’ academic careers, it also has the power to create an “economic and social ripple effect” during their lifespans.

“Emory is using all the best practices currently available; however, we have still not eradicated sexual violence,” Nair says.

“In order to do that, we need more research to create that next batch of best practices.”

“We also need to understand the root of the problem,” he adds. “This is an unprecedented opportunity to leverage the intellectual strength of our faculty with the expertise of the CDC to inform our practice.”

The goal: develop comprehensive, evidence-based strategies aimed at preventing and reducing sexual violence. Members will review Emory’s existing support and prevention programs and provide recommendations by this fall.

“No student should ever live in fear of violence on our campus,” Nair says. “Our obligation as an institution is to ensure that students can flourish, that they can reach full potential.”

Laura J. Hardman 67C, chair of the Board of Trustees’ Campus Life Committee, emphasizes the university community’s broad commitment to addressing the issue.

“There is commitment from across the enterprise to efforts toward prevention of sexual violence in our community—trustees and alumni, students, faculty, and staff,” Hardman says.

“I think Emory is well positioned to address one of the most intractable problems facing our society globally with resources that include engaged community members, innovative programs, and research upon which to base our efforts.”

Cecilia “Ceci” Gilmore 12C recalls attending a women’s studies class during her first semester at Emory when she heard that one in four women would be sexually assaulted during her lifetime.

“I looked around the room and thought, ‘I don’t party, I don’t drink too much, I’m not out walking late at night by myself—this will never happen to me.’”

Then it did.

In 2009, her second semester at Emory, a former high school boyfriend—by then a student at another area university—invited her out for Valentine’s Day. They ended up at his apartment. “I had one drink, and the next thing I knew I was waking up the next morning, having blacked out. I sort of knew what had happened, but was trying to make myself believe it hadn’t.”

Distraught, she went to Emory University Hospital. Gilmore had never had a pelvic exam before and found herself overwhelmed, the exam room crowded with a friend, DeKalb Rape Crisis Center staff, Emory medical personnel, and two female police officers from the other campus.

That night, campus police searched her ex-boyfriend’s apartment—and that’s when her phone “started blowing up” with calls from mutual friends urging her to drop the accusation for fear of “ruining his life.”

Weeks later, Gilmore found herself dissolving into tears at random moments. She sought counseling, left school briefly, and for a while, blamed herself. Leaning on friends and family helped restore her strength, recalls Gilmore, who now teaches at a middle school in Jacksonville, Florida.

“At one time, I’d been on the other side of this—I’d looked down on people and thought, ‘They probably asked for it,’” she says. “But no one deserves to be treated that way.”

“If someone goes into a bank and steals something, that’s a crime. To have that happen to your body? This is your body, your personal being. They have to ask.”

Although she filled out an initial report through the other university, in the end Gilmore dropped the complaint.

“I couldn’t be traumatized again,” she says.

It was while working for Volunteer Emory that Khatdija Meghjani 12OX 14C was introduced to Men Stopping Violence, a Decatur-based nonprofit that engages perpetrators of violence to help change the ways they view and treat women.

Meghjani wondered: Why not take that framework and apply it to women?

That’s how she came to create the Red Lips Project, a campus campaign that empowered young women around issues of self-worth, using group meetings “as a means to heal and share a space that allowed women to be themselves.”

The idea: If a woman has self-worth and self-respect, she’ll have the power, ability, and gumption to leave an abusive relationship, reasoned Meghjani, who graduated in May with degrees in sociology and international studies, with plans to become a human rights attorney.

She developed the campaign while working as a summer intern with the Respect Program—a position she was drawn to out of personal experience.

“I am a survivor of sexual assault—once while I was in college and once when I was very young,” Meghjani explains. “It is a driving force of who I am and what I want to be. I also know that I’m not alone. Many believe that they are alone. I wanted to help them realize that they are not.”

The process was healing for her, too. “The project grew and helped quite a few women, including myself, understand what it means to be part of a community that loves you for who you are,” she says.
As a student at Emory, Ryan Sutherland ’16C has assumed many roles: Music and biology major contemplating medical school; Sexual Assault Peer Advocate (SAPA) facilitator, training others how to support and speak with sexual violence survivors; volunteer with both Emory’s Emergency Medical Service program and Global Medical Brigades, which promotes global health and sustainability; and summer intern with the Respect Program.

But a natural-born actor he is not. “My acting career began and ended in the sixth grade,” jokes Sutherland, a rising junior.

Yet Sutherland has found his voice—and a sense of advocacy—through Sex Ed Troupe, a student-powered program at Emory that uses skits, monologues, and short plays to explore issues that deeply affect college students, including real-world matters such as how to negotiate conversations and expectations around safer sex.

“What was really interesting to me is the whole idea of making theater a forum for change,” he explains. “The best part of the performance is what people walk away with, the fact that it provokes a conversation.”

This summer, Sutherland is serving as a student representative on Emory’s Sexual Violence Prevention Visioning Task Force, a new, multidisciplinary alliance that brings together Emory’s strengths and scholarship with behavioral scientists from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop evidence-based strategies aimed at preventing and reducing sexual violence.

“One of the things that is exceptional about Emory is our response strategy,” he says. “To be able to add my voice to the discourse, to talk about this with students, faculty, and CDC scholars is amazing—it’s something that wouldn’t have been done ten years ago.”

This spring, the US Department of Education released a list of fifty-five colleges and universities—including some of the nation’s premiere institutions—currently under Title IX review by the department’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

Best known for breaking down barriers for women in sports, Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender for educational programs that receive federal funding. It also protects students from gender-based violence and harassment.

Although Emory was on that list, university administrators say the investigation was not prompted by a student complaint. Instead, it is an OCR compliance review of the university’s Title IX policies and procedures; administrators report that Emory is cooperating fully with the process.

Part of the attention may stem from a rise in the number of Emory students now stepping forward to report sexual violence—a trend that most likely reflects the success of Emory’s efforts to increase education and awareness around the issue, Nair says.

From 2010 to 2012, the number of Emory students reporting forcible sex offenses more than doubled, rising from ten to twenty-five, according to reports filed under the Clery Act, which requires colleges that participate in federal financial aid programs to disclose crimes on or near their campuses.

“One interpretation might be, ‘You have a problem on your hands,’ and that would be right,” Nair says. “But we’re also working hard to create an environment where students feel comfortable reporting sexual assault.”

For students and staff who work with Emory’s support and prevention programs, the White House report sent an important message, says Lauren “L. B.” Klein, assistant director of Emory’s Respect Program, which engages the campus community to prevent and respond to sexual assault and relationship violence.

“To have federal support for the work we’re doing and to see that set as a national priority? I know that our students feel galvanized,” says Klein, who cochairs the Emory-CDC task force with...
When Elizabeth Neyman 15C wants to illustrate how far Emory’s Sexual Assault Peer Advocate (SAPA) program has come, she begins with the training she attended in 2011 during her freshman year.

Back then, there were only a handful of SAPA facilitators. Today, the student-based organization has trained nearly two thousand Emory students, staff, and faculty members in how to support survivors of sexual violence.

Not only are students more aware of SAPA, they’re actively seeking training. Now, resident advisers (RAs) routinely receive training, as well as those who help with freshman orientation.

This past year, Neyman says, not only has sexual assault moved more fully into campus dialogue, prevention efforts became a key campaign issue. New Student Government Association President Jon Darby 16C has not only been through SAPA training—and urged others to do the same—but has pledged to work to end sexual assault on campus.

SAPA strives to create a supportive campus for sexual assault survivors by training a network of peer advocates to help those who disclose assault and empower survivors to access resources.

“Over the past three years, I’ve definitely seen change,” says Neyman, current SAPA president and a rising senior in interdisciplinary studies in society and culture.

“When I first got here, activism around this involved a few engaged students, mostly sexual assault survivors, trying to get students to care,” she says.

“Now, I think we’ve reframed sexual violence as everyone’s issue. Everyone knows what SAPA is, no one has an excuse not to know what consent is, and everyone has the responsibility to support survivors and listen to friends.”

Jessica McDermott Sales, associate research professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education at Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health.

The White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault describes campus sexual assault as “chronically underreported,” arguing that victim reports alone don’t provide a fair measure of the problem or the response.

Last year, Carolyn Livingston, senior associate vice president of campus life and Emory Title IX coordinator for students, helped oversee a realignment of Emory’s sexual misconduct adjudication process.

“Each undergraduate, graduate, or professional school had a different policy or process,” she says. “Part of the recommendation was to centralize it.”

Colleges across the nation are now grappling with the same question: When it comes to preventing sexual assault, what works?

While the work of this summer’s task force should help provide evidence-based answers, Klein says that she’s also encouraged about what she sees unfolding: a new online program Emory students will take before arriving, along with orientation programs for all incoming students; the launch of a Title IX Student Envisioning Board, which will bring together student leaders from around campus; and ongoing peer-to-peer advocacy.

Nowhere has that been more apparent than through the work of SAPA—the brainchild of Emory alumni Ceci Gilmore and Anushka Kapoor 13C 13B, who imagined and created a network of students training peers how to help sexual assault survivors.

Today, Klein estimates, nearly two thousand Emory students have completed some level of SAPA training. It’s made a difference. According to referral data from the Respect Program, approximately one-third of clients who sought help through Respect in the 2011–2012 academic year were referred by SAPA-trained peers—that number jumped to 54 percent in 2012–2013.

“Emory is a different place because of SAPA,” says Kapoor, now a financial analyst in Atlanta. “It changes lives, provides students and survivors with resources and a voice, and changes the way other people perceive survivors.

“Once you experience that, it becomes a part of your life—how you speak to people, how you see things. In fact, I still feel that at work in my life today.”
“THE BEAUTY OF STANDING UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS IS OTHERS WILL SEE YOU STANDING UP AND STAND UP AS WELL.”

—CASSANDRA DUFFY, AUTHOR AND COLUMNIST

THE RAINBOW CHRONICLES

How Emory is preserving the history of civil rights across social movements in the South

BY MARIA M. LAMEIRAS
moving from suburban Cleveland, **David A. Lowe 92C** was looking forward to a change—a different part of the country, better weather, a new intellectual environment—when he enrolled at Emory in fall 1988. He had no idea how much his presence would change the university.

As an openly gay freshman, Lowe attended a meeting early that first semester of the Emory Lesbian and Gay Organization (ELGO) and was met by a very small group of about a dozen people who, he says, held occasional meetings and social activities, but little else. But then things started to get interesting.

“We started getting more active and visible, speaking at freshman dorms and organizing campus events. At some point, ELGO invited a guest speaker from **ACT UP Atlanta**, and I was just blown away. In the suburbs where I grew up, the AIDS crisis wasn’t talked about and gay issues in general were rarely discussed and there was not much activism. I found it refreshing that there was this group of people being vocal and being active and engaging with the media,” Lowe says. “I thought, ‘This is what the **LGBT** community...’

---

**BRANCHING ‘OUT’**

should be doing; not just with respect to AIDS, but in politics and on social issues.”

Lowe began participating in ACT UP meetings and community events—including several AIDS protests, and subsequent arrests, at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), CNN, and the state capitol—and brought that energy back to Emory. He started working with others in ELGO to increase visibility and engagement on campus; building awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) student needs; and advocating for increased resources.

During his four years at Emory, Lowe saw growing recognition of LGBT issues on campus—including advocating for the establishment of the university’s Office of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Student Life (now the Office of LGBT Life)—accompanied by a groundswell of new LGBT organizations on campus and growing influence among Emory’s LGBT community. By his junior year, acceptance of gay and lesbian students on campus had progressed so much that Lowe narrowly lost election as SGA president as an openly gay candidate.

Lowe collected many mementos of his activities that he took with him when he moved to California for law school and to San Francisco as he built his law career.

“I had a close friend working with the LGBT Historical Society in San Francisco, and I initially asked if there was anything I had from Atlanta that would be interesting to them,” Lowe says. “He told me that it was regional history that really belonged in the place where the history unfolded.”

Meanwhile, at Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL), Randy Gue 94G 97G was familiarizing himself with the library’s collection as the new curator of Modern Political and Historical Collections. An Atlanta historian, he was eager to build on MARBL’s strengths in chronicling “communities that were once at the margins of society and are now a part of the national mainstream,” including special collections focusing on Southern history and culture, African American history and culture, the civil rights movement, and the works of Irish poets and authors.

“That history of disenfranchisement ties all of these disparate collections together. These collections follow a path of civil rights and human rights struggles that is one long, continuous line. Civil rights, the struggle for social justice, and human rights are common throughout all of these areas. It is the same struggle in different ways and in different arenas,” Gue says.

As he looked at Atlanta’s history in the years after the civil rights era, he saw the emergence of another marginalized population that began to emerge as a national force for change.

“Beginning with the gay liberation movement of the early 1970s and followed by the activism that grew out of the AIDS crisis in the 1980s, the LGBT community had more visibility than before,” Gue says. “It was a remarkable transformation from an almost invisible population to one that was a major part of the historical conversation. There was no way to move the timeline of our collections about Atlanta forward without including these communities, their voices, and their histories.”

Although MARBL had LGBT materials in its collections already—video archives from Network Q, a video magazine that ran in the 1980s and 1990s, and the records of the Southeastern Arts, Media, and Education Project (SAME), which was founded by lesbian playwright Rebecca Ranson—Gue knew he needed to reach out to the LGBT community for help in identifying more.

In 2011 he attended a town hall meeting on the Georgia LGBTQ Archives Project, a joint effort of various community, governmental, and educational organizations to preserve Atlanta’s gay history and archives. There he met Atlanta activist Jesse Peel, a pivotal figure in the gay community’s response to the AIDS crisis in the 1980s and 1990s.

“That first meeting with Jesse was literally like throwing a rock into a pond. The circles in the community have gotten bigger and bigger and have just kept going,” says Gue.

The library is now collecting in a systematic manner and, more than simply preserving and storing the materials, Gue intends to foreground interconnections between the materials of individuals and organizations that could potentially be lost with time.

“As we are doing this, what we have in mind is the graduate student who will be using these materials 150 years from now. How can we organize these collections so they will not be seen as a bunch of archives from individual activists or organizations doing unrelated things, but as pieces of a larger history?” he asks. “Most of the people who have donated materials have known each other, and by
The Power of Making It Personal

In the early 1980s, Jesse Peel’s Atlanta psychiatric practice focused on the needs of the LGBT community, especially gay men who were consumed by the terror, anger, and grief the AIDS crisis had ignited.

“I was the token gay guy in a large psychiatric group, and about a third of my practice was gay men,” he says. “I began to see young men who were sick, who had friends who were sick, who had fears about their own health. As I began working with these guys, I wanted to get involved more in the community.”

Peel’s appointment calendars are a telling record of how his life changed during the crisis. The calendar from 1974 is filled with personal appointments and notes—theater and musical events, trips and dinners with friends, parties, birthdays, and church events. By 1984, the pages begin to chronicle biweekly meetings with AID Atlanta and all-too-frequent funerals and memorial services.

On the last page of the 1986 calendar is a list of names and dates—the friends and acquaintances who succumbed that year to AIDS-related illnesses or to the despair of the disease. Peel kept a tally in each year’s calendar until 1992, when the total reached seventy-three. After that he stopped counting, but the lists, with dates and personal notes, kept going.

Determined to do something, he attended a health conference at Emory where he met the director of AID Atlanta and offered to help. Because so many others did the same, Atlanta became a model of how an urban community can respond to a crisis of such proportions, Peel says.

“Atlanta had been a leader in the civil rights movement, and that was a blueprint for us on how to get things done for the common good. We had an awful lot of support from [then-Atlanta Mayor] Andy Young and people at the [Georgia] Department of Human Resources who understood that this was a major health care crisis. We also had a lot of friends in the straight community that we could not have done this without,” he says. “We had the CDC doing the scientific work, we had ACT UP doing the activism part in the street, we needed people who were going to create the policies and create change.”

In addition to his work with AID Atlanta, Peel served on the state AIDS Task Force and on the boards of many organizations that sprang from programs AID Atlanta started.

After retiring in 1992, he often wondered what would become of the extensive documentation he had collected of his lifetime.

“Emory offers us a place where this history will be preserved and respected, where they are bringing in other collections that relate to them and create a more complete picture. Looking at MARBL’s collections in civil rights and health, AIDS fits right in the middle of that,” Peel says. “I am not sure how this will be used in the future, but I know our community is part of the Atlanta story and our stories need to be preserved. So many of our peers are already gone and whatever history they had, important or not, is gone.”
research, but our alumni,” he says, ticking off a sampling of the many alumni who have gone on to influence the Atlanta LGBT community—Saralyn Chestnut 94PhD, first director of Emory’s Office of LGBT Life; Sara Luce Look 92C, owner of feminist bookstore Charis Books & More; musicians Emily Saliers 85C and Amy Ray 86C of the Indigo Girls; Laura Douglas-Brown 95C 95G, founder of Georgia Voice; Scott Turner Schofield 02C, an award-winning performer and speaker on transgender issues; Aby Parsons 13G, inaugural director of Georgia Tech’s newly formed LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual) Resource Center.

“These are Emory people. They are products of the Office of LGBT Life and the work they started here. I think Emory’s commitment to LGBT issues and preserving LGBT history has brought these people back into the Emory fold, and that is a really powerful thing,” he adds.

“Out from day one” of her freshman year at Emory, Douglas-Brown befriended classmates Michael Norris 95C and Alfred Hildebrand 95C, two gay students who became pivotal figures in LGBT rights at Emory. The young men were harassed in a residence hall after other students observed them kissing in a study area. The incident led to a formal complaint to the administration, a high-profile protest including a “kiss-in” at the residence hall, a rally at Dobbs University Center, and a sit-in at the president’s office. Douglas-Brown was there for all of them.

“I remember being so frightened the day we were going to march to the president’s office, because I was here on scholarship. I thought they would take it away from me,” says Douglas-Brown, who has recently returned to campus as editor of Emory Report, the university’s faculty and staff newspaper. “We were all sitting out in the hallway outside of President [James T.] Laney’s office while he met with our representatives. It was a very Emory moment because they came around and served us all Cokes. The administration listened to what we had to say and took our concerns seriously. That experience was fundamental for me in that it shaped who I wanted to be in the community. I saw myself as an activist.”

Maybe it was the Coca-Cola; more likely it was the attitude of respect. The incident influenced Douglas-Brown’s decision to remain and work in the South.

“Here was this huge institution—in the South, with religious ties—and they were doing their best to change,” she says. “The changes that happened over the next few years at Emory were dramatic, and they informed my belief in change.”

After graduating from Emory, Douglas-Brown became an intern at Southern Voice, the LGBT newspaper for Atlanta and the Southeast founded in 1988. She remained, eventually rising to editor, until Southern Voice closed its doors in November 2009. Just four months later, with the backing of community supporters, she helped launch Georgia Voice, an LGBT-oriented biweekly still in operation.

As a journalist, Douglas-Brown appreciates the importance of chronicling the history of the LGBT community.

“That was something that scared us at Southern Voice before it closed. What if something happened to our archives? So much of a community’s history is tied up in publications like that,” she says. “It is exciting to see MARBL collecting these things and knowing they will be preserved. These materials matter.”

Emory’s LGBT collection includes a complete set of issues of Southern Voice, as well as popular national gay magazines, national and local newsletters, academic papers, and literature. It reveals a growing analysis of issues within the lesbian and gay communities, and preserves the emergent media, poetry, and plays that expose and champion the struggles of individuals and the collective community.

“It was a remarkable transformation from an almost invisible population to one that was a major part of the historical conversation.”

—RANDY GUE, CURATOR OF MODERN HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL COLLECTIONS AT MARBL
Rosemary Magee, director of MARBL, says the collection supports Emory’s deliberate emphasis on research in the liberal arts. “These materials are becoming a major resource for MARBL’s teaching and research mission. The use of primary evidence is an increasingly significant focus for the university. Our collections provide the opportunity for undergraduates, graduate students, and scholars in all fields to see the connections between their work and the powerful voices represented here,” Magee says.

Lauran Whitworth 16PhD, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, began working in MARBL processing incoming materials for the library’s collections in 2013 and now serves as a graduate curatorial assistant for Gue.

As she worked with the materials—particularly LGBT periodicals and feminist and lesbian separatist literature and publications—she began to see a pattern. Many groups and publications used representations of nature in their materials. With an undergraduate degree in English and art history, Whitworth found the symbolism intriguing, and it has shaped her personal scholarship. She is using materials from the archive, as well as film and art, in her dissertation to “examine the role of representations of nature in LGBTQ liberation movements.”

“A popular symbol in 1970s feminist and lesbian thought is a web like a spider’s web. To me the archives are a lot like a web—full of connectivity, often unexpected or easily missed; ever evolving or changeable; and messy,” she says. “Like a web, an archival collection still has its holes, but it nonetheless reveals points of connection in the past and, in doing so, spurs further connection in the present.”

MARBL opened its first exhibition of materials in the LGBT collection—“Building a Movement in the Southeast: LGBT Collections in MARBL”—in August 2013.

Wandering the exhibit, David McClurkin ’74C recognized items that were very similar to those he and his husband, Ken Hunt, had collected during thirty years together. He encouraged Hunt, a longtime public health adviser at the CDC, to donate his professional papers, as well as items from the couple’s shared history in gay rights and human rights activism, community organizing, and HIV/AIDS work throughout the Southeast.

Hunt has an extensive history in the public health field, stretching back to the early days of HIV/AIDS. But just as important are the personal mementos that shaped him along the way.

In the collection he donated to MARBL, Hunt says two books—The Front Runner by Patricia Nell Warren and The Persian Boy by Mary Renault—were significant to him early on. “When you are trying to think about what your path is, you need to see a person who has gone down your path before you; how they’d done it and where they were in their lives,” Hunt says. “My connection to those books, in part, was me looking for a mentor. They were very impactful. They were important in learning about myself and the community I was growing into and that was helping me grow.”

Adding to that personal history, Hunt and McClurkin traveled to California, where they were married on April 25 of this year in the rotunda of San Francisco’s City Hall.

“It was very important to us to have the right to be married if we chose to. We’ve been, in every sense, married for twenty-nine years,” McClurkin says. “We chose to do it now for a couple of reasons. One is to stand and be counted. The other is to be eligible for the rights and benefits to which married couples are automatically entitled.”

In the year since the US Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional to restrict federal interpretation of “marriage” and “spouse” to apply only to heterosexual unions, many same-sex couples—like McClurkin and Hunt—have traveled to the seventeen states where same-sex unions have been legalized in order to marry.

By doing so, they ensured they are entitled to the 1,138 federal rights, benefits, and privileges connected to marital status, including Social Security and veteran’s benefits, federal civilian and military benefits, taxation, and immigration and naturalization benefits.

Just three days before Hunt and McClurkin were married on the opposite coast, Lambda Legal, a national LGBTQ legal organization, filed a federal lawsuit challenging Georgia’s constitutional ban on same-sex marriages.

Stephen R. Scarborough 87C was a staff attorney in Lambda’s Southern regional office in 1998. He authored the amicus brief that led to the Georgia Supreme Court striking down Georgia’s 182-year-old sodomy law on the grounds that it violated the right to privacy guaranteed by the state’s constitution. “There is a sense lately that everything is happening so very quickly in the LGBT rights movement. It is tempting to forget that there was a lot of groundwork that was done previously to get to this point,” Scarborough says. “To the extent that the civil rights work in this area can be documented and preserved, it’s important to tell a story that otherwise would be glossed over. Whatever hits us most recently seems to be emphasized, but there were centuries of nonrecognition of our existence, then active hostility to it. There has been a lot of work done, some by lawyers and some by just brave people, to get us to this point.”

After studying public and criminal law at Yale Law School, Scarborough practiced as a federal public defender until returning to Atlanta in 1997 to work with Lambda Legal’s new Southern regional office. Within a year, he had helped overturn Georgia’s sodomy law—a victory that set the stage for future progress.

“As long as they could say ‘this is illegal,’ you could be denied visitation with your children, be fired or denied employment—so many
things. If you look at the little amount of time that has passed between decriminalization and now, it is remarkable,” he says.

In March, Emory hosted the Whose Beloved Community? Black Civil and LGBT Rights Conference, sponsored by the university’s James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference and the Center for Women at Emory (CWE). More than three hundred attendees gathered to examine the points of intersection and divergence among the US black civil rights and LGBT movements and to explore ways to advance a comprehensive vision of justice.

Leslie Harris, associate professor of history and African American studies, cochaired the international conference with Dona Yarbrough, associate vice provost for community and diversity and director of the CWE.

“The issues surrounding LGBT rights, racial identity, gender identity, and sexuality hit on different things. But the idea of civil rights is not about just racial equality, it is about defining our rights as human beings,” Harris says.

The complex, and sometimes tense, relationship between the African American and LGBT movements has been challenging for black members of the LGBT community, Harris says—but that is changing.

In 2011 the Arcus Foundation, a global organization dedicated to advancing equality for LGBT people, awarded Emory a grant to examine the historical, political, and cultural connections between the civil rights and black LGBT movements. The late Rudolph Byrd, founder of the Johnson Institute and Goodrich C. White Professor of American Studies at Emory, assembled a working group of international scholars and experts whose work culminated in the Whose Beloved Community Conference.

“Rudolph Byrd began to put a lens on examining this at Emory. Black LGBT people have been obscured in discussions of traditional civil rights and LGBT movements. They have parallel and unique issues that are not taken into account,” Harris says. “Attention needs to be given to the distinctive issues faced by black LGBT individuals.”

Yarbrough adds that many feel there are much more important issues than marriage—economic justice, access to health care for victims of HIV/AIDS, legal justice issues.

“People in the black LGBT community often describe themselves as marginalized in the larger black community and in the larger LGBT community,” Yarbrough says. “That is why this conference was really moving, because we saw people coming together from all over the United States and internationally and finding community there.”

In June, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights opened its new museum and center in Atlanta. CEO Doug Shipman 95C likens the LGBT rights struggle to the “long tail of integration” that still leads to firsts, such as Barack Obama’s 2008 election as the first African American US president. He foresees a similar path for LGBT rights.

“When families come to the exhibit on civil rights history, everyone may have a positive reaction to the exhibit, but when they get to the display on LGBT rights, there are vast differences among the generations,” Shipman says. “That intergenerational conversation around LGBT rights is one of the most important dialogues that can happen, and the center can be helpful in those discussions. Often only time can change a society's perception of civil rights issues.”

Shipman says it is gratifying to see Emory making LGBT history an institutional priority by investing in the collection in MARBL.

“Human rights is not a destination. We have to work on it and constantly push the boundaries to keep it going,” he says. “Scholarship is a great part of that. Opening and creating a space for people to be able to be who they want to be, especially at a university like Emory, is critical to progress.”

As incoming president of the Emory Alumni Board, Shipman says the LGBT collection complements MARBL’s African American holdings and the strength of the CWE, as well as scholarship in these and related fields.

“Making sure Emory reflects the diversity of its alumni base is a real priority for me, in its leadership, its pipeline, and its programming,” he says. “This is a really good step in that direction because there are many alumni whose history is represented in this collection.”

“The idea of civil rights is not about just racial equality, it is about defining our rights as human beings.”

—LESLIE HARRIS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES
Within months of graduating from Emory as a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow with a degree in women’s studies and global health—not to mention the Lucius Lamar McMullan Award, one of the university’s top student honors—Monique Dorsainvil ’09C was working in the White House. In September 2009, she was one of seven interns selected to work with First Lady Michelle Obama. Now serving as director of planning and events for the Office of Public Engagement (OPE) and the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA), she’s been learning her way around the White House ever since. This summer, Emory Magazine caught up with Dorsainvil for a Q&A.

Tell me a little about your background and childhood. What people or experiences influenced you as a kid?

I grew up in Woodland Hills, California, a suburb of Los Angeles, and was raised in a single-parent household alongside my two younger brothers—one of whom currently attends Emory. I come from a lineage of spirited women. My grandmother emigrated from Haiti to New York in the 1950s and raised five women on her own. Raised during a time where there was pressure on immigrants to assimilate, my mother and her siblings never learned French or Creole, as they were instructed to solely speak English.

When I was born, my mother decided that would change. She enrolled me in a bilingual French school when I was five years old and worked at the Lycée International of Los Angeles (LILA) to offset my tuition. She has worked there for more than twenty years now, teaching ESL and managing campus operations to ensure my brothers and I could benefit from a dynamic education.

When you were young, did you aspire to a career in politics or public service? What did you want to be when you grew up?

I knew from a young age that education was important to me and that whatever I did I wanted to do it well. Throughout my childhood, my mother placed a strong emphasis on hard work and education. As a first-generation Haitian American woman raising a daughter in a single-parent home, my mother taught me a thing or two about tenacity and drive. Growing up in a low-income home, she focused less on what we didn’t have and more on how my siblings and I could obtain the skills that would be necessary to realize our dreams. My mother pushed us to work hard and equipped us with the tools and the mentors that helped transform our hard work into concrete opportunities. With no family background in government or politics, working in D.C. was not something that had previously
entered my childhood imagination. In addition to working at LILA, my mother worked odd jobs and around the clock to put food on the table, pay the bills, and ensure that my two brothers and I received a strong education. Despite these constraints, my mother made sure that the four of us got up each Thanksgiving to volunteer at our local homeless shelter. Similarly, when I came home from school one day asking to go on the expensive annual ski trip with my class, my mother taught me what it was to launch a fund-raising campaign. It was because of her that I began to understand the power of organizing and to view myself as an individual in a collective community with the agency to change the circumstances that I lived in.

How did you choose Emory for college?

As a sixteen-year-old Davis Scholar attending the Armand Hammer United World College of the American West (UWC), a high school consisting of two hundred students from more than one hundred countries around the globe, my understanding of “community” was challenged and expanded as we were moved to transcend our own local realities and embrace an ethic of shared responsibility and diversity of thought. It was at the UWC in New Mexico that my focus became global and I could envision myself working in an international context. With Nelson Mandela and Queen Noor of Jordan as the honorary presidents of the school, we were pushed to think through the concept of global citizenship and creative ways to constructively engage in conflict.

Tell me a bit about your Emory experience. Are there memorable professors or classes that inspired you? How did Emory help put you on the path to the career you have today?

At Emory, I was granted the opportunity and the resources to lead. As the founder of Feminists in Action and the undergraduate representative to the President’s Commission on the Status of Women, I created a two-way platform to tackle highly charged issues around sexual assault and campus safety. Ultimately, upon graduation, I was recognized with the 2009 Lucius Lamar McMullan Award for effective organizing and the positive leadership I demonstrated on campus. I was also deeply involved in the Transforming Community Project (TCP), an initiative created to unpack the complex history of race at Emory. Consisting of faculty, students, and staff, TCP was a constructive venue to have candid conversations about Emory’s past and ways to transform the community.

I had the opportunity to travel, volunteer, and conduct research abroad. I spent time in southern India with the Journeys of Reconciliation project and then in Pune, India, volunteering at the Ashraya Initiative for Children (founded by Elizabeth Sholtys 07C)—where I conducted photography workshops with the children at the home. I also spent time in Haiti with my mentor, Dr. Regine Jackson, attending the Haitian Studies Association Conference, and interned in Tanzania with the Emory Development Institute.

One of my favorite courses at Emory was Feminist Intersections: Advanced Feminist Theories taught by Professor Rosemarie Garland-Thomson. The course focused on feminist disability theory and challenged binary ways of thinking about gender, sexuality, and the body. The most challenging course I took at Emory was PSYC 110: Psychobiology and Cognition taught by [Charles Howard Candler Professor of Psychology] David Edwards. Known for his multiple, multiple-choice exams with no partial credit, Dr. Edwards implored students to think critically about the material he presented and ensured that we grasped the content on a cerebral level.

I was surrounded by strong leaders. I was encouraged to chase opportunities, connect with faculty and staff, and submerge myself in the greater Atlanta community. The focus on leadership and intellectual curiosity at Emory positioned me to pursue opportunities that eventually led me to work in politics in D.C.
In your previous roles at the White House, you worked with the First Lady as an advocate for women and girls, and later the LGBT community. What interests you about this work? Do you have personal experience that drives you? Why do you feel these groups benefit from targeted public policy support?

When I moved to D.C. in fall of 2009, I didn’t have a job offer, any relatives or mentors in the city, or a place to live, but I did know one thing: I had been accepted to be a White House intern in First Lady Michelle Obama’s office. One of the initial things that drew me to intern in the First Lady’s Office was her commitment to mentoring and strengthening the next generation of young leaders. Not only did I hear the First Lady speak about her vision of paying it forward in speeches, I experienced it firsthand as an intern in her office. The First Lady and her team created once-in-a-lifetime learning opportunities and fostered an environment that stimulated our professional growth.

As a White House staffer, my initial focus was on the Council on Women and Girls and outreach to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community. Currently, I manage strategic planning and presidential events for the Office of Public Engagement and the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. In this position, I work across constituency groups to facilitate direct engagement with the president and White House staff on priority administration issues.

For me, working in public engagement bridges the personal and the political. As a lesbian-identified, Haitian American woman, I consider it important to actively represent my communities while highlighting key issues in other marginalized communities with the goal of improving lives and fostering substantial social change. It’s important to fight for passage of key policies like the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) because they remove barriers to collective success. We prosper as a nation when everyone has a fair shot to reach their full potential.

What specific accomplishments in this work (above) make you most proud? What experiences in the White House have had a profound impact on you?

Working alongside the former LGBT issue lead, I helped launch the inaugural Black LGBT Emerging Leaders policy briefing at the White House. This initiative, now an institutionalized program in its fourth year, focuses on elevating the concerns of Black LGBT America by connecting young LGBT leaders from the black community to high-level administration advisers in key policy areas.

Being part of the team at the White House preparing for the fiftieth anniversary of the March on Washington was a life-changing experience. The opportunity to help organize President Obama’s participation in the event was humbling and inspiring all in the same breath.

I find myself the most fulfilled when I have the chance to work with young people who are visiting the White House with their teachers and mentors for the first time. Some students have lived in D.C. their whole lives and have never had the chance to visit the White House, and others are coming in from out of state.

Tell me about your day-to-day life in your current role as director of planning and events for the Office of Public Engagement and the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. What do you enjoy about it? What do you feel you contribute for the administration?

As the director of planning and events, I oversee strategic planning and project management for OPE/IGA meetings, briefings, and large-scale events. In my role, I work with my White House counterparts to ensure that legislative, communications, and outreach strategies are implemented leading up to and following all OPE/IGA briefings and events.

A lot of the work I do is behind the scenes, ensuring the president’s key policy agenda is reaching the American public, and vice versa, that the American public can constructively engage the president and his key advisers on meaningful policy issues that impact their daily lives. I feel the enormous weight of the decisions that are made at the White House on a day-to-day basis. My work is a team effort. Knowing that the work we do impacts people both holds my feet to the fire and drives me to do better every single day.

Who are your heroes and why?

I come from a lineage of working women. My grandmother was a domestic worker in New York in the 1950s and 1960s. My mother works diligently at the Lycée and has done so for more than two decades. My grandmother’s life experience and my mother’s resilience inspire me to do the work I am doing every day.

Based on your White House experience, what do you feel are the most critical political and social issues the U.S. faces in the next five to ten years?

From my perspective, fixing our broken immigration system, raising the minimum wage, tackling climate change, paving the way for LGBTQ equality, and creating concrete ladders of opportunity into the middle class are the most salient social and political issues of our day.

What do you do for fun?

I’m a photographer. I enjoy independent and foreign films. I’m an avid reader, love biking, and am a major foodie.

What’s one thing you wish you had known as an Emory student that you would like to share with current students?

You shape the contours of your life and daily reality. Speak up when you have the opportunity to sit at the table. Don’t let those chances go to waste. Get to the table!

Build strong relationships with the people you work with. I’ve found that the best way to develop a mentor relationship with someone you admire is through presenting a solid and consistent work product. From there, your relationship will grow.
poetic memory

by Darren Miller

Kevin Young still remembers the smell of the mimeographed poem the instructor circulated among his fellow seventh graders. The teacher of this summer writing workshop intentionally omitted the name of the poet, wanting his gifted middle school students to focus on the words rather than the writer. But the thirteen-year-old Young instantly recognized the poem. It was his.

“Kevin stood out to me pretty darn early,” says Thomas Fox Averill, writer in residence and professor of English at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, who led that workshop. “Kevin had a real love of and facility with language that was pretty extraordinary for his age,” he says, recalling Young’s first attempts at writing poetry.

The son of an ophthalmologist father and chemist mother, Young fell in love with the world of poetry that summer. “The secret thrill of seeing my poem being passed around was enough to get me writing, and reading, lots of poetry,” he says.

Flash forward thirty years.

Now the Atticus Haygood Professor of Creative Writing and English, an endowed faculty position that is among Emory’s highest honors, Young returned to Topeka in April for a reading from Book of Hours, his widely praised eighth collection of poetry released by Knopf a month earlier.

In the midst of a national tour to promote his latest book, the trip home included a two-day stint as author in residence at his alma mater, Topeka West High School.

“It was intense,” Young says. “I was teaching in the very room where I sat and learned from visiting writers.”

That experience, however, was not the only reason Young described the visit as intense. Ten years earlier, Young returned to Topeka in the wake of his father’s untimely death—the result of a hunting accident. While grieving the loss, Young had to deal with the heartbreaking responsibilities—some significant, others small—left to loved ones: deciding which organs to donate; finding homes for his father’s dogs; giving away his clothes.

These are the moments that form the first part of Book of Hours—less elegy for his father, more daybook of grief that explores the “daily process of living after his death.”

In the poem “Charity,” Young shares the difficult task of picking up his father’s dry cleaning:

One place with none of your clothes, just stares as if no one ever dies, as if you are naked somewhere, & I suppose you are.

Nothing here. The last place knows exactly what I mean, brings me shirts hanging like a head. Starched collars your beard had worn.

One man saying sorry, older lady in the back saying how funny you were, how you joked with her weekly. Sorry—& a fellow black man hands your clothes back for free, don’t worry. I’ve learned death has few kindnesses left. Such is charity—so rare & so rarely free—that on the way back to your emptying house I weep. Then drive everything, swaying, straight to Goodwill—open late—to live on another body & day. From “Charity,” 2013
For Averill, who spent time with the poet in Topeka during the days after the tragedy, reading *Book of Hours* causes a flood of memories. “His ability to know what to say and how to say it is the real strength of the book,” Averill says. “You didn’t have to be there to understand and relate to these poems.”

Young, who revisits his father’s death and his own grief with every reading and interview for *Book of Hours*, says it can be difficult at times. “But these poems are comforting,” he says. “Poems transform the memory, and they can change the reader’s own experience of grief. We often don’t talk about grief and loss in our culture,” Young adds. “Poems are a powerful way to do that.”

Not all of *Book of Hours*, however, confronts death and loss. Young moves to another point in the cycle of life in the second section of the book, writing about the birth of his son in poems like “Colostrum”:

> We are not born with tears. Your first dozen cries are dry.
> It takes some time for the world to arrive and salt the eyes.

Young concludes *Book of Hours* with a section of poems about his own rebirth following the death of his father and arrival of his son.

After publishing his first book of poetry at the age of twenty-four, Young has managed to merge marathon and sprint, writing seven more full-length collections of poetry, editing eight anthologies, and penning a nonfiction book that put him on the map as a cultural critic.

His award-winning oeuvre as a poet is as diverse—in subject matter, themes, and form—as he is prolific: Jean-Michel Basquiat, the blues, his family roots in Louisiana, elegies, rebellion on the *Amistad*, odes to food, film noir, and grief. “Kevin is a remarkable poet,” says Natasha Trethewey, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of English and Creative Writing at Emory who served two terms as the nineteenth US Poet Laureate (2012–2014). “His knowledge of poetry, history, and popular culture informs his work as a scholar and teacher—from the Atlantic slave trade to the blues to the elegy.”

Amy Hildreth Chen 10G 13PhD included Young on the syllabus for a course she taught at Emory for first-year English students in 2010, From Birmingham to Belfast: Reading American and Irish Civil Rights Poetry. Instructors at other universities are doing likewise.

“His work is very accessible to a new poetry audience, yet he still tackles important subject matter,” she says. “Kevin brings a poignant perspective that doesn’t let you off the hook, but he has a tone and style that allow students to really connect with the poems.”

Young earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard University, followed by a Stegner Fellowship in Poetry at Stanford University and an MFA in creative writing from Brown University. The beneficiary of renowned teachers and mentors, including Nobel Prize in Literature recipient Seamus Heaney, Young knows firsthand the power of passionate professors.

“I learned from them each in different ways,” he says. “Most importantly, I learned how to be a writer in the world, that it’s possible to really connect with the poems.”

Young, who revisits his father’s death and his own grief with every reading and interview for *Book of Hours*, says it can be difficult at times. “I really try to get them to think of the poetry workshop as a laboratory—try things, fail better, forward progress,” he says, echoing Samuel Beckett’s oft-quoted words:


As curator of Emory’s Literary Collections and the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library—the world-renowned, seventy-five-thousand-volume collection of rare books, first editions, manuscripts, and more—Young enjoys the ability to show, not just tell, his students why invest-
of first editions, manuscripts, proofs, and other materials from Black Sparrow Press, the independent publishing company that rolled the dice on Charles Bukowski when no others would. As Young highlighted, the comprehensive collection—second only to that of the company’s founder, John Martin—now even includes an original letterpress block with the publisher’s logo.

“He has incredible discernment and a collector’s eye, which infuses all aspects of his work,” Danowski says. “Not only is he one of the best English-language poets today, Kevin has invigorated the library with his energy and lifted it to a vital level.”

Though Young’s list of favorites in the collection can fill a book, he points to a first edition of Walt Whitman’s *Leaves of Grass* as the cornerstone. Another rare gem, he said, is a “true first edition” of Allen Ginsberg’s seminal *Howl*—one of about twenty-five known copies typed and mimeographed by the poet to send to peers, prior to its publication by City Lights.

Chen, now a postdoctoral fellow with a focus on special collections at the University of Alabama, credits her success to serving as Young’s graduate research assistant for three years.

“By spending so much time with Kevin, I learned a whole profession,” Chen says. “He taught me a lot about curating and the rare book trade. He also taught me so much about literature just from looking at the manuscripts and rare books in the archive. There are not many people working in special collections who are also working poets.”

Young’s love for books seeps into his poetry workshops, too. After inviting printers to speak to his class, Young tasked his students with creating chapbooks of their work last semester.

“Doing that is so radically different than just handing in a portfolio at the end of the semester,” he says. “They had to organize their poems with more thought, not just in chronological order. What they submitted was so inventive, it makes me want to do more of that.”

For Young, a self-described autodidact, learning is a perpetual process, and the roles and responsibilities of poet, professor, and curator are intertwined—his years of experience as a writer shared with students who, in turn, stoke his creative fire through their efforts; his own work informed by revelations uncovered in the archive, which offer students portals into the process of the literary heroes they admire.

“They all feed into each other,” he says. But when Young made the decision at Harvard to pursue his love of poetry as a career, his mother, public health professional Azzie Young, worried how he would feed himself. She called her son’s first mentor, Tom Averill.

“We had some initial concerns,” she says, “so we sought information from one of the best writers we knew at the time.”

Averill’s advice: “Whatever Kevin decides to do, it’s going to work out well.”

By all accounts, Young proved his mentor right.

“Not everyone lives up to their potential,” Averill says. “Kevin has.”
If you’ve been touched by the stories in this issue of Emory Magazine, these windows can open up ways for you to turn your inspiration into action. Here you’ll see how you can invest in the people, places, and programs found in these pages and beyond. Gifts to Emory produce powerful, lasting returns; they help create knowledge, advance research, strengthen communities, improve health, and much more.

Award-winning poet Kevin Young, Atticus Haygood Professor of Creative Writing and English, brings the world of contemporary poetry into his classroom. As a working poet, he offers his students insight into the craft while encouraging them to explore and experiment. Young is an inspiring example of the caliber of professor Emory attracts and retains through faculty endowments. For more information on funding or creating an endowed professorship in Emory College of Arts and Sciences, contact Rhonda Davidson at 404.727.8002 or rhonda.davidson@emory.edu. To support faculty endowments in other Emory schools, contact Ami Franklin at ami.franklin@emory.edu or 404.712.6338.

Children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are more than four times as likely to experience gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms than other children—according to new research by Marcus Autism Center, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and Emory University School of Medicine. The study results reinforce the need for specialized screening practices and new standards of care that will better inform the detection and treatment of GI symptoms among children with autism. To support this research or other pediatric health initiatives at the School of Medicine, contact Margaret Lesesne at 404.778.4632 or margaret.lesesne@emory.edu.

Whether preserving the past or fostering progress, Emory amplifies human rights movements through the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL). You can help MARBL assemble an extensive collection documenting the LGBT community’s fight for civil rights that will parallel its comprehensive African American archive. To help chronicle history at MARBL, contact Alex Wan at 404.727.5386 or alex.wan@emory.edu.
35

ATTRACTING THE BEST STUDENTS

Competition among universities for the nation’s best students is fierce, and often the choice comes down to the best scholarship package. 

Monique Dorsainvil 09C, a student leader who now works at the White House, received several scholarships during her time at Emory, including a prestigious Emory Scholar award. You can help Emory attract talented students like Dorsainvil by investing in scholarships at Emory College of Arts and Sciences. To learn more, contact Jamie Clements at jamie.clements@emory.edu or 404.727.5863.

Genetic screening matters because everyone wants a healthy family. For Ashkenazi Jews, the risk for genetic disease is higher than for the general population: approximately one in four Ashkenazi Jews carries a gene for a serious disease. JScreen, a nonprofit public health initiative at Emory School of Medicine, combines education, access to premier gene screening technologies, and personalized, confidential support to prevent hereditary diseases. You can partner with JScreen to help more families have healthy futures. Contact Gabrielle Stearns at 404.727.2512 or gabrielle.stearns@emory.edu.

William H. Fox Jr. 79PhD was among Emory’s most beloved figures. He influenced hundreds of students over the years and was a lifelong advocate for the university. Alumni and friends can honor his memory with gifts to the Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry at Emory College. The Fox Center offers fellowship programs and hosts conferences, seminars, and lectures to advance research and teaching in the humanities. To support the Fox Center, contact Ben Corley at bcorley@emory.edu or 404.727.1157.

The Michael C. Carlos Museum’s conservation program is unique in the Southeast. Combining scholarly research, scientific practice, and faculty collaborations, the conservation lab is a center for interdisciplinary inquiry—a place where art meets science. Highly trained conservators, student interns, scientists, and scholars work together to ensure that valuable historical treasures and works of art are preserved for the benefit of future generations. To learn how you can invest in conservation at the Carlos Museum, contact Jennifer Long at 404.727.2115 or jennifer.long@emory.edu.
Future of Oxford Science Rises on the Quad

To see the future of science at Oxford, you need only look at the northwest corner of the Quad. Next door to Phi Gamma Hall, Emory’s oldest academic building, and on a site where Branham and East residence halls once stood, construction has begun on a 57,500-square-foot building that will bring Oxford’s successful program in science to an even greater level. The anticipated date of opening is January 2016.

Says Oxford Dean Stephen Bowen, “Having a science facility that can meet the needs of our thriving science curriculum has been our primary goal for a number of years. The completion of this building will have an enormous impact.”

The long-awaited start of construction was cause for celebration. At a ceremony following Commencement 2014, Dean Bowen was joined by Zoe Hicks 63OX 65C 76L 83L and Mike Dennis 67OX 69C, who chaired the alumni fund-raising committee for the science building; Eloise Carter 78G 83PhD, professor of biology who led the faculty team providing input into the building’s design; and Emory University President James Wagner in symbolically breaking ground on the project.

**SUPPORTING SCIENCE AT OXFORD**

Despite being housed in Pierce Hall, built in 1962, and expanded in 1985, Oxford’s science program has had...
DEAN’S LETTER

Dear Alumni and Friends of Oxford:
Freshmen and sophomores are different from juniors and seniors. Those of us who have taught at all levels in the undergraduate curriculum know this from experience. Freshmen and sophomores are most interested in “the big questions. They are good intellectual risk takers. They are open to learning in ways that upperclassmen are less interested in and more inclined to engage faculty and their classmates in challenging ways.

Developmental psychologists explain this as an expected result of the transition from adolescence to adulthood, beginning when students leave home for college. The curriculum for the first two years supports exploration and the development of broad understandings and fundamental intellectual skills. At the end of the sophomore year students take adult-like responsibility for their futures when they declare a major, and from that point onward they are more narrowly focused as they prepare for a specific career.

All of Oxford’s students are in this developmental transition phase—the point at which a liberal education has its greatest impact and its most transformative effect. This is why Oxford is about great teaching; it is key to delivering the essence of a liberal arts education.

Oxford supports effective teaching in numerous ways. Most of the improvements to Oxford’s buildings and grounds over the past several years have been made to enhance the teaching and learning environment. We are very excited about the latest in that line: the new Oxford science building, which is optimally designed for the collaborative learning style of freshmen and sophomores.

Please join me in celebrating our new science building and all the ways that Oxford offers an extraordinary experience in teaching and learning. And thank you for your support of Oxford College.

Stephen W. Bosher

LEARNING TO THRIVE

Most of us experience recurring themes in our lives. For Kenneth “Ken” J. Lander 87’OX 89C, this involved thinking beyond the boundaries of his life and taking action, even when it meant starting over. That sort of pluck emboldened him to leave a successful law career, move his family to Costa Rica, and take up coffee farming. It provided the tenacity he needed to overcome financial loss. These traits took root at Oxford College. “Oxford taught me to think on my own two feet and gave me an ability to evaluate where I am in life,” he said.

ENDURING INFLUENCES

Reflecting on the person he was when he arrived at Oxford, Lander is candid. “I was a dreamer with some raw talent for reading and writing. At Oxford, I began to have a passion to learn.” Professors William Shapiro and Michael McQuaide were influential in his academic development. “Bill Shapiro took a personal interest in me, a country boy from Monroe, Georgia. The seminal thing he taught me was the ability to read and think critically. That allowed me to become a lawyer.” Remembering a pivotal conversation with Professor McQuaide, Lander remarked, “He taught me that to be successful, you have to work with people. You have to listen to them and understand them. That was a huge lesson in my life.”

One of his most meaningful Oxford friendships had an ordinary beginning. Needing to fulfill a science requirement and intrigued by the class trip to Big Bend National Park, Lander enrolled in Professor Stephen Henderson’s Desert Biology class. Lander didn’t know it at the time, but Professor Henderson would remain a guiding, stable force in his life. An only child, Lander was seven when his father died. “I can count on one hand the men who have shaped my life. Steve Henderson, Michael McQuaide, and Bill Shapiro are among them.”

The Lander and Henderson families have also become friends. Lander’s stepdaughter, Lindsey Mason Reynolds 06’OX 07C, attended Oxford due to Professor Henderson’s encouragement.

CHANGING COURSE AND COUNTRIES

At the height of Lander’s fourteen-year law career, he left Georgia for Costa Rica. Having added three adopted children to their large family, Lander and his first wife wanted to slow down and let the children adjust. Lander bought a coffee farm, planning to supplement the income with his real estate investments. In 2008, he lost everything but the farm. He soon realized coffee farmers “didn’t make enough to cover grocery bills.” Professor McQuaide’s mentoring served him well as he collaborated with others to survive.

What started as survival initiated a new paradigm in coffee commerce. Partnering with coffee farmer Alejandro Garcia and entrepreneur-investor Michael Jones, Lander founded Thrive Farmers Coffee. Thrive supplies farmer-direct coffee to retailers, wholesalers, and consumers. Their revenue-sharing model allows coffee farmers to participate in and benefit from the market value of their coffee as it flows through the supply chain. “Thrive is in the right place at the right time,” Lander said. His statement echoes another “right place, right time” scenario—the Oxford years, when he acquired the knowledge that helped guide his life.—Nancy Moreland
Scholarship Makes for Well-Rounded Oxford Experience

The second of four children, Robert Hight 14OX knew academic success was his ticket to college admission and that scholarship support was the only way he would be able to attend. The Covington, Georgia, native earned valedictorian honors in his high school graduating class and is a Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar at Oxford. As a freshman he earned the Andy Autry General Chemistry Award for outstanding freshman chemistry students.

Familiar Faces among Faculty, Staff Retire

After decades of service to Oxford, three faculty members retired this year: Gayle Doherty, associate professor of physical education and dance; Penelope England, professor of physical education and dance; and Delia Nisbet 92PhD, associate professor of German.

Doherty taught dance and produced a much-anticipated annual performance showcasing the work of her students of dance, but also incorporating participation from members of the faculty and staff. She came to Oxford in 1990. England, who joined Oxford in 1976, taught a variety of physical education and health courses, with emphasis on instruction in tennis and swimming. She received the Fleming Award for Teaching in 1993, the Emory Williams Award for Teaching in 2010, and the Oxford College Alumni Board’s Honorary Alumna Award in 2011. Nisbet joined Oxford in 1982 and through the years taught not only German, but also Italian and French. In 2000 she published a book, Heinrich Heine and Giacomo Leopardi: The Rhetoric of Midrash, and she is at work on another about the German Jewish press prior to and during World War II.

Why did you choose Oxford College?
I wanted to stay in state, so I applied to large and small universities, but I knew I wanted to really know my professors and have personal relationships with them. I was accepted to both Emory College and Oxford College, but after visiting Oxford and talking to the students and faculty, I knew this is where I wanted to be. I never expected to be this close to home, but I love the sense of community here.

What are your interests outside of classwork, and how has your scholarship helped you?
I am a Leadership Oxford sophomore leader, the treasurer for the Asian Culture Club, and a work-study supplemental instructor in chemistry. I am grateful that my scholarship allows me the flexibility to balance academics, campus activities, and time with the many friends I’ve made since coming to Oxford.

What other opportunities has Oxford College provided?
I came to Oxford because of the opportunities available for research. I want to build all of the skills I will need early on, but I want to stay open-minded. I’d like to take classes in political science, psychology, calculus, statistics, and child development. I want to see what those disciplines are about.

What does it mean to you to be the recipient of a scholarship?
It means the world to me that people are willing to contribute to help me achieve my dreams. It proves that if you do well, people will believe in you and help you realize your potential. I hope to be able to give that to someone else one day. —Maria Lameiras

Funded jointly by Oxford College and the Newton County Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund and generously supported by General Mills and C. R. Bard Inc., the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship is awarded to a student from a Newton County high school who chooses to attend Oxford College.

Also retiring are Jennie Taylor, dean of enrollment services, and Marvlyn Kirk, associate director of development. Taylor served Oxford for thirty-six years, joining in 1978 as a member of the admission staff, and rose through the ranks to become dean of enrollment services. She received the Bond Fleming Award for Excellence in Service and, in 2011, the Oxford College Alumni Board’s Outstanding Staff Award.

Kirk served thirty-three years with Oxford’s development office and served for many years as liaison to the Oxford Board of Counselors. She received the Spirit of Emory–DAR Award, the Bond Fleming Award for Excellence in Service, Emory’s Award of Distinction, and the Oxford College Alumni Board’s Outstanding Staff Award.

A sentiment Taylor expressed in her retirement announcement no doubt is shared by the other four, “I have had a long and rewarding time at Oxford, with the decades passing all too quickly. I want to [express] my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all who have been part of this journey.”
Future of Oxford Science continued

wide and measurable success. Students who enter Oxford expressing interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors continue on to graduate in STEM disciplines at higher rates than students nationwide.

Carter says, “Oxford’s science alumni are teachers and professors of science, challenging and inspiring the next generation of scientists. They are nurses, veterinarians, physicians, and pharmacists. They are biologists, physicists, chemists, and geologists, who fight disease at the CDC, work on the influenza virus at Cambridge University, and curate fossils at the Smithsonian Institution.”

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
The new science building will be the largest structure on the Oxford campus. It is designed by EYP, an award-winning architectural firm noted for higher education facilities that reflect each institution’s history while also meeting the space and technology needs of contemporary education. The building will be clad in red brick, used in several of Oxford’s historic buildings, with elements of Georgia Lithonia granite, a locally quarried stone that adorns many buildings around the campus.

The main entrance to the four-story building, which will be from the south (Quad) side, will lead visitors to the “Nucleus,” a two-story, dramatic and inviting gathering space. Designed to feel like the center of the building, it also will be used for group study, learning activities, or impromptu meetings for faculty and students. A large, two-story window will fill the Nucleus with light, and it will be graced with wood-plank flooring and Gothic-influenced decorative details.

LABORATORY AND LEARNING SPACES
The building is designed to be a comprehensive learning environment, with the overriding aim of promoting and encouraging collaboration.

Teaching spaces will be able to house a variety of learning activities, and each floor will feature a research/investigation zone with space for instrumentation and support, encouraging faculty/student research.

The building includes:
- Nine teaching laboratories, with adaptable space supporting biology, chemistry, physics, geology, and environmental and field sciences
- Three laboratories for cross-disciplinary faculty and student research
- Three classrooms supporting diverse instructional approaches with the latest technology and furnishings
- An imaging center with specialized microscopy, lighting, and photography
- Public gathering spaces including a large atrium, outdoor porch, and balcony study area

While the greatest impact will be on those who choose science majors, all students regardless of major are required to take at least one laboratory course, and science education at Oxford emphasizes learning to think like a scientist. Adds Dean Bowen, “This building will touch the lives and education of every Oxford student.”

News in Brief

Matthew W. Morris, professor of French emeritus who taught at Oxford from 1978 to 2008, died on January 16. A specialist in medieval French poetry, he remained actively engaged in scholarship into retirement. In 2008, he codirected an international colloquium on the medieval figure Mélusine and later edited the papers associated with the conference. In 2010, he was awarded Emory’s prestigious Heilbrun Fellowship.

At an awards ceremony in May, Oxford received a 2014 Excellence in Rehabilitation Award from the Georgia Trust for the restoration of Language Hall. In June the restoration of Language Hall was given an Award of Excellence from the Associated Builders and Contractors of Georgia.

In fall semester 2014, the lineup of intercollegiate sports at Oxford will once again include men’s soccer.

CALENDAR

Emory Homecoming, September 18–21
Oxford Alumni Awards Dinner, September 18, Oxford Campus
Oxford Alumni Reception, September 20, Atlanta Campus
Oxford Family Weekend, October 24–26
Emory Cares International Service Day, November 8
Oxford Alumni Reunions, April 25
Bridge to the Future

Ashley London 12OX 14C (above from left), Ashley Grimes 14C, Joy Mitchell 14C, and Jeffeline Ermilus 14C become new alumnae in the ceremonial Candlelight Crossover during Commencement weekend.

Photo by Ann Borden.
Dear friends,

Summer is a wonderful time to reflect on the memories of recent (or not so recent) Commencements on the Quad and to begin to envision a new year in the life of Emory. With the newly minted degree holders, the ranks of Emory alumni have topped 121,000, represented by chapters across the globe. The spirit of Emory lives in cities and towns through the extraordinary impact made by each of you in ways large and small.

I’m honored to be the incoming 2014–2015 president of the Emory Alumni Board, and always happy to be a part of the Emory College Class of 1995. The Alumni Board continues to be the active voice of Emory alumni, providing leadership input to the administration and ongoing engagement with current Emory University staff and students. Each day my distinguished colleagues on the board and the Emory Alumni Association staff work to improve the Emory experience for every member of the Emory family.

Whether you engage with Emory through your local alumni chapter, mentor students on career choices, interview prospective Emory students, volunteer locally, use Emory’s education-enrichment programs, or benefit from the exclusive services offered to Emory alumni, there is an ever-expanding array of ways to facilitate an active and ongoing connection to Emory and to your fellow alumni.

I look forward to serving alongside each of you to enrich our ongoing Emory experience.

Sincerely,

Doug Shipman 95C
Incoming President, Emory Alumni Board

Upcoming Alumni Events


September 4, 2014: Exploring the Future of Atlanta—A conversation with Emory President James Wagner and CEO of the Center for Civil and Human Rights, Doug Shipman 95C.

For more, visit www.alumni.emory.edu/calendar.
Join IN the fun!

HOME COMING
SEPTEMBER 19-21

Concert • Parade • Reunions • Kids Activities
Varsity Soccer Games • Golf Tournament
5K Run • So much more!

#ImInEmoryHC

EMORY.EDU/HOMECOMING
Generation Celebration

ALL IN THE FAMILY: Emory families were the stars at the Legacy Medallion Breakfast during Commencement weekend. Daniel Shipley Reed (above from left), Mary E. Reed 75G, Christopher Stanley Reed 14AH, Cindy Prussner Matthewson 93C, and Judy Prussner Moretz 69C. Seated is Christine Gamble Camp 47N.

WORTH FIFTEEN THOUSAND WORDS: An epic Commencement selfie (top right) by Kadean Maddix 14C, class orator and member of the 100 Senior Honorary.

PASSING IT ON: Benito Thompson 14C (right) accepts his legacy medallion from big brother Joel Thompson 10C 13G.

WORKING IT: OXFORD

As a Bobby Jones Scholar, Emily Allen 06OX 08C earned a master’s of research in health geography at St Andrew’s University and later a master’s degree in public health from Johns Hopkins. Both have served a career that has taken her around the globe. Director of international business development in the Advisory Board Company’s London office, she manages relationships with health care executives in the UK, Europe, Middle East, Canada, and Australasia. She still finds time to serve on the Oxford College Alumni Board, as a leader in EAA’s London chapter, and as a guest lecturer in Emory’s sociology summer study abroad.

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

WORKING IT: COLLEGE

Darrah Brustein 06C has become a serial entrepreneur, creating three successful ventures since 2009. That year she launched Equitable Payments, a merchant services brokerage. While growing that company into 37 states, she created Network Under 40 in 2011 to bring high-quality networking events to young professionals. The events have garnered national attention in publications including Inc. and Forbes. Meanwhile, Brustein identified a pressing need for resources for parents to teach young kids about money, and she authored Finance Whiz Kids to teach elementary-aged children basic financial principles.

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

WORKING IT: BUSINESS

Steve Carlin 00MBA joined Facebook in early 2014 as the head of gaming on the global vertical strategies team, driving the global strategic vision for the gaming business. Previously, Carlin was the senior director of marketing and insights for Ubisoft, where he oversaw the shopper marketing and insights functions for the company’s North American operations. Carlin also held multiple roles in sales, channel marketing, and brand marketing at Energizer Battery Company, developing strategy for Energizer’s business in the grocery and mass and electronic trade.

Share your career news and updates with E-Class Notes. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.
Leadership-level annual support makes a difference.

Your gift gives opportunity.

We invite you to become a part of the Wise Heart Society by making your leadership-level annual gift of $1,000 or more* to the area at Emory that is most important to you.

annualgiving.emory.edu/WiseHeart

founders
$1,000*–$2,499
mentors
$2,500–$4,999
pioneers
$5,000–$9,999
innovators
$10,000–$24,999
visionaries
$25,000+

*$500 for graduates of the last decade
Two Halves of a Golden Heart

J. JOSEPH “JOE” EDWARDS ’54OX ’56B ’58B and Patricia “Pat” Carter Edwards ’61C have shared many things over the years—and now, something new. Together they were honored with the 2014 Judson C. Ward “Jake’s” Golden Heart Award during Commencement weekend.

“We are humbled to be receiving this,” says Pat Edwards. “We still have a hard time believing it.”

The Edwardses accepted their Emory Alumni Association award at the May 11 Corpus Cordis Aureum induction ceremony.

“We’ve been a team now for more than fifty years,” Joe Edwards says. “It’s very appropriate that we received this award together. What we have done for Emory has been a labor of love and only partial payment for the positive influence it has had on our lives over the decades.”

Established in May 2010 in honor of Judson “Jake” Ward ’33C ’36G, the Jake’s Golden Heart Award is bestowed on alumni who have demonstrated values of service, generosity of spirit, and loyalty to the university. Recipients of the award must be eligible members of Corpus Cordis Aureum, comprising alumni who graduated fifty or more years ago from any of Emory’s schools. The Edwardses are the fifth and sixth recipients of the award.

The Edwardses have been alumni leaders for strategic planning and fund-raising at Oxford College for more than forty years. Joe Edwards was an active fund-raiser for the Hugh and Gena Tarbutton Performing Arts Center and the Oxford College Library and has been a loyal supporter of Sigma Chi Fraternity. He was the Oxford College cochair for Campaign Emory and served on the Oxford Board of Counselors for decades, chairing the board from 1998 to 2000. He received the 2002 R. Carl Chandler Award for Lifetime Service to Oxford College and the Oxford Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2006. Additionally, he received the 2000 Goizueta Business School Alumni Entrepreneurship Award.

CEO of United Bank Corporation in Barnesville, Georgia, he has served on the Emory Board of Visitors and the Goizueta Advisory Board.

Pat Edwards, a former teacher, has served as chair of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Board, the Georgia Trust Board, and the Georgia National Register Board, and as a member of the Joe Frank Harris Education Review Commission. She is active in Barnesville civic organizations, serving on the boards of the Barnesville-Lamar Community Foundation, the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy, the Barnesville-Lamar County Library, and the Azalea Garden Club.

Together, the Edwardses received the Barnesville-Lamar Outstanding Citizen Award in 2005. The Edwardses have two sons, Chris Edwards and his wife, Michelle; and James J. Edwards Jr. ’87B and his wife, Laura Starr Edwards ’88C; and seven grandchildren. The Edwardses established the Bradley Patrick Edwards Leadership Award in memory of their son, Brad Edwards, who died in an auto accident the fall of his freshman year at Oxford. The endowment provides scholarship awards for two Oxford students each year. The Learning Commons in the new Oxford College Library also is named for Brad Edwards.—Michelle Valigursky

Doubly Honored:
J. Joseph Edwards and Patricia Carter Edwards were jointly presented the 2014 Judson C. Ward ‘Jake’s’ Golden Heart Award.

More online: Find a video about the Edwardses at www.emory.edu/magazine.

SUMMER 2014 EMORY magazine 54
Congratulations

2014 NCAA Champions

The Number 1-ranked Emory women’s tennis team captured the program’s sixth national title. The title is the first for the Eagles since 2006 and joins the 1996, 2003, 2004 and 2005 squads as other Emory teams to win national crowns.

Emory University took home its fifth consecutive NCAA Division III Women’s swimming and Diving Championship and the seventh overall in the program’s history. The title joins the 2005, 2006, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 squads as other Emory teams to win national crowns.
Gotta Have It

In his book, *Hooked: How to Build Habit-Forming Products*, author and lecturer Nir Eyal ‘01C tries to get to the root of the question “How do companies, producing little more than bits of code displayed on a screen, seemingly control users’ minds?” Using the work of researchers and psychologists and his own experience in consulting and practical experience, Eyal examines Americans’ obsession with technology and uncovers the triggers companies use to instill those compulsions that keep users checking their devices dozens of times a day. The book introduces readers to the “hook model,” a four-step process companies use to build customer habits. Through consecutive hook cycles, successful products reach their ultimate goal of bringing users back repeatedly. Eyal’s writing on technology, psychology, and business has appeared in the *Harvard Business Review*, the *Atlantic*, *TechCrunch*, and *Psychology Today*.

**Sacred Relics:** Humans need things: objects, keepsakes, stuff, tokens, knickknacks, bits and pieces, junk, and treasure. They carry special objects in pockets and purses and place them on shelves in homes and offices. As commonplace as these objects are, they also can be extraordinary, as they allow people to connect with the world. In *A History of Religion in 5½ Objects: Bringing the Spiritual to Its Senses*, S. Brent Plate ‘99PhD takes a fresh approach to the study of religion, asking readers to focus on five ordinary types of objects—stones, incense, drums, crosses, and bread—with which humans connect in the pursuit of religious meaning and fulfillment. Considering each of these objects, he explores how the world’s religious traditions have put them to different uses throughout the millennia. Plate is visiting associate professor of religious studies at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York.

**Adrift in a Draft:** Written from the perspective of a patient in a white paper gown, R. Lynn Guberman Barnett ‘78C ‘79G hopes *What Patients Want: Anecdotes and Advice* will give insight to doctors on what it’s like to sit on the table and wait. Written with humor and heart, the author highlights issues between doctors and patients and opines on why patience is the best prescription for everyone. —M.M.L. ■

**Branson Law, LLC**

Branson Law is an Atlanta firm founded in 1985 by A. Hillier “Dusty” Branson ‘82L. We provide comprehensive estate planning and administration, including wills, trusts, probate and estate and trust administration. We also provide legal services for protection of hard-earned assets, an area of law overlooked by many in their planning.

3355 LENOX ROAD, NE / ATLANTA, GA 30326
404.720.0600
WWW.BRANSONLAWATLANTA.COM

**Real Living/Capital City**

Gerald B. Lowrey, PhD
This doctor makes house calls! Realtor® and Founding Member. Whether buying or selling your home, having a knowledgeable real estate professional you trust by your side should be the first “must have” on your list.

1799 BRIARCLIFF ROAD, SUITE Q2, ATLANTA, GA 30329
678.362.9596
WWW.GLOWREY.COM, GERRY.LOWREY@GMAIL.COM

**Mountain House Rental**

Comfortable, spacious, two-story home in a private mountain community just 12 miles and 18 minutes from all of Asheville’s charm. The elevation is 3,450 feet and affords one of the area’s most spectacular long-range, year-round views. Go to http://bit.ly/1qadSa for information. Ask for the Emory alumni discount.

CHESTNUTFOREST@MINDSPRING.COM
678.595.8785
WWW.CHESTNUTFOREST.COM OR HTTP://BIT.LY/1QADSA

**Your Ad Could Be Here**

Reach more than 100,000 Emory alumni by marketing your business or service in a peer-to-peer ad like one of these in the next issue of *Emory Magazine*. With high alumni readership and competitive prices, these ads are a great way to capture the attention of a sought-after audience.

DAVID MCCLURKIN
404.727.7146 OR DAVID.MCCLURKIN@EMORY.EDU
WWW.EMORY.EDU/MAGAZINE/ADVERTISE
Miller-Ward Alumni House

YOUR HOME
For Special Events

RETREATS • WEDDINGS • BUSINESS MEETINGS • PARTIES
available exclusively to Emory faculty, staff, students, alumni, and their families

For more information or to schedule a tour, please visit us on the web at
MILLERWARD.EMORY.EDU
or call 404.727.6924

See yourself in a whole new light.

14 accommodations.
World-class hiking and dining.
Book now.

• TheSwag.com
Waynesville, NC
800.789.7672
Hail the Gold and Blue

Survey Says: Alumni Want More Connection to ‘Heart of Dear Old Emory’

Across demographic groups and generations, Emory’s alumni are loyal to their alma mater and willing to extol it to others—but they want to feel more connection to faculty, current students, and fellow alumni.

These revelations were among the results of a survey conducted earlier this year by the Performance Enhancement Group and commissioned by the Emory Alumni Association (EAA) to gauge alumni attitudes toward the university. The survey was the second of three to be conducted over five years by the group to help the EAA understand how alumni perceive and use their services. Results of the last survey were examined in Emory Magazine in 2012.

According to this year’s survey, alumni are happy they chose to attend Emory, had good experiences as students, and left the university well prepared for graduate school, careers, and community involvement. Correspondingly, 37 percent say they promote Emory at least occasionally to others, while 59 percent recommend the university regularly or “all the time.”

Among the influencing factors of respondents’ overall opinion of Emory, value and respect for degree top the list, followed by the accomplishments of faculty and students, providing scholarships for qualified students, accomplishments of fellow alumni, and Emory’s outreach to the community.

Emory is in the midst of a scholarship initiative that will give the university a competitive edge in recruiting the most qualified students by providing scholarship support at levels that meet or exceed peer institutions.

“This reinforces that we are investing in areas alumni are telling us are most valuable to them,” says Susan Cruse, senior vice president for development and alumni relations.

While use of Emory’s alumni benefits and services had the least sway over respondents’ opinion, most would welcome more information on career-related activities, specific school programs, and alumni activities.

“We are working on better sharing Emory’s story, those things we are doing to reconnect alumni with campus, and the amazing things happening here,” says Sarah Cook 95C, senior associate vice president for alumni affairs. “Our alumni had overwhelmingly positive experiences at Emory, and we want to continue to foster them as active members of the Emory community, no matter where they live.”

The EAA’s department of Alumni Career Services offers career resources, online networking, job postings, recruitment of Emory-educated talent, and volunteer opportunities.

“The positive feelings of our alumni about Emory came through loud and clear in the survey. The majority had great student experiences, and they have wonderful feelings about the faculty they learned from and the organizations they participated in,” Cook says. “It is our role to help them reconnect and renew that feeling through the opportunities we provide.”

—M.M.L.
Emory alumni travel the world. Immerse yourself in exotic locales and engage in cultural experiences you’ll never forget.

Explore Morocco or Churchill this fall. See Holland or escape to Lisbon in the spring. In between, rock in the new year in London.* What better way to celebrate than a toast and fireworks in this fabulous international city?

Visit your dream destination with Emory friends and family.

alumnittravel@emory.edu  •  404.727.7150

*London event is designed for young alumni, but all are welcome.

The information and dates above are based on information provided by our travel vendors as of June 2014 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 404.727.7150.
Who INspires you?

Do you know an Emory graduate who makes our world a better place?

The Emory Medal is the highest university award given exclusively to alumni for significant achievement.

Share your inspirations with the Emory community: alumni.emory.edu/nominate

2013 Emory Medalists

Shown here with Emory President James Wagner:
Joan Houston Hall 71G 76PhD, lexicographer, research scientist, scholar, educator; and Walter M. “Sonny” Deriso Jr. 68C 72L, public servant, philanthropist, Emory trustee, banker.

Learn more: alumni.emory.edu/alumniawards

Emory Magazine reply form

Name

College/School Degree(s) Class year(s)

Title:  Dr.  Mr.  Ms.  Mrs.  Miss  Rev.

Spouse/partner's name and class year(s)

Home address (  check if new) City

State Zip Country

Home phone Email

My firm, employer, or professional specialty (  check if new)

Title Prefer contact at  home  work

Business address City

State Zip Country

Business phone Fax Email

Please include the following news in Emory Magazine

Please note that all class notes may appear online as well as in the printed Emory Magazine. Notes may not appear for up to six months following submission. Emory Magazine does not publish engagement announcements; submit wedding announcements after the ceremony has taken place. Birth announcements should include the names of both parents. Please provide a daytime telephone number in email submissions. Thanks for sharing your news.
Groundbreaking Scholar, Beloved Mentor

PROFESSOR GEORGE ARMELAGOS

GEORGE ARMELAGOS, PROFESSOR OF anthropology at Emory and one of the founders and leaders of the field of paleopathology, died May 15, six days after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Armelagos, seventy-seven, came to Emory in 1993 as the Goodrich C. White Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and helped solidify the university’s reputation as a national leader in the biocultural approach to anthropology. He continued to teach, mentor, and publish until his death.

“George was a joyous man who loved life, people, and his work,” said Peter Brown, Emory professor of anthropology and global health. “He taught all of us many things—humility, generosity, curiosity, hard work, and the critical importance of social relationships.”

He also was a prolific scientist, leaving behind thirteen books and monographs and more than 250 journal articles.

While a graduate student at the University of Colorado, Armelagos worked on a dig in Sudanese Nubia, including human remains that dated back five hundred to ten thousand years. He didn’t restrict his analysis to individual skeletons, applying epidemiology and demography to study patterns of illness and death among populations. This revolutionary approach led to a flurry of groundbreaking papers.

One of Armelagos’s major contributions was this marriage of biology with archeology. He used this approach to ask “some of the really big questions of our time,” said anthropologist Debra Martin in a 2013 article. “He showed how the past sheds light not only on the origins of human conditions, but where we’re going.”

Armelagos made significant contributions to our understanding of the evolutionary history of infectious diseases like syphilis and was a world expert on the impact of the human diet on evolution. In 1980, he cowrote Consuming Passions, about the anthropology of eating.

In addition to writing about food, he was an accomplished chef who cooked gourmet meals for his students and turned the dining table of his home into an extension of the classroom.

Recent graduate Megan Light 14C, winner of the 2014 Marion Luther Brittain Award (see page 10), was nominated for the award by Armelagos.

“George was much more than just a professor for me and many other students at Emory. He had such a passion for what he did and, even more so, did everything he could to ensure that his students enjoyed the material as well,” Light says. “Learning from the best in the field can’t be beat, but beyond the classroom he was so interested in everything else that was going on in his students’ lives. That’s the kind of guy he was. A great professor and an even better mentor.”

Armelagos won the highest honors for his scholarship and service to anthropology, including the Viking Medal from the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the Charles Darwin Award for Lifetime Achievement to Biological Anthropology from the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, and the Franz Boas Award for Exemplary Service to Anthropology from the American Anthropological Association. Prior to chairing Emory’s Department of Anthropology from 2003 to 2009, he was a professor at the University of Utah, the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the University of Florida.—Kimber Williams

WORKING IT: NURSING

Anne Bavier 73MN was named dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Texas at Arlington. She will oversee the merger of the Department of Kinesiology and the College of Nursing, raising the number of college faculty to 350. Formerly she was dean of nursing at the University of Connecticut and Saint Xavier University in Chicago and assistant dean of development for Emory’s School of Nursing. She also directed programs for the National Institute of Health’s Office of Research on Women’s Health and the National Cancer Institute. Bavier currently is president-elect of the National League for Nursing.

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

WORKING IT: PUBLIC HEALTH

Zanethia Eubanks 97PH is a lieutenant commander in the US Public Health Service and serves as a health services officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) Office of Informatics. She is business analyst team lead for the Vaccine Tracking System (VTrckS), an information technology system that coordinates and tracks the nation’s vaccine supply chain from purchasing and ordering to distribution of vaccines to physicians and health departments across the country. She received the NCIRD Excellence Award for her work.

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

WORKING IT: THEOLOGY

Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, has appointed Myka Kennedy Stephens 04T as seminary librarian. Stephens is a library professional with a background in theological and church libraries. She joins Lancaster Seminary after eight years as a library and information services consultant. She is a deaconess of the United Methodist Church, and a member of the American Theological Library Association, the Church and Synagogue Library Association, and the American Library Association.

Share your career news and updates with E-Class Notes. Visit www.alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.
When the Plane Goes Down

BY LYNN GARSON

I used to think that I was unbearably unique. No one understood me because there was no one like me; I was a *rara avis* of the first order. Later I came to understand that I was the quintessential Baby Boomer, in fact a little behind the curve, so that by the time I thought it, felt it, ate it, smoked it, drank it, or wrote about it, most of my generation had either already done the same or was right there with me.

So when I wrote my first book, *Southern Vapors*, I was the only one surprised to hear that one of the deepest chords of resonance was what I wrote about the disappointed expectations of the Baby Boomers. A typical passage:

*In 1998, we moved back to Atlanta. It was there that the coup de grace to my lifestyle was administered by the Internet stock boom. I bought what was being sold hook, line, and sinker. The new-era b.s. fed right into my desire to be as wealthy as my parents—not tomorrow, but yesterday. I had waited long enough on the fringes; I don't think anything could have stopped me from investing in those soaring stocks. Like most people, I had enough success to get intoxicated and stay that way until getting sober was no longer a possibility—not voluntarily, and not until it was way too late.*

*And, like many people who participated in that particular market frenzy, the bloodletting for me was severe, about a 70 percent loss. Not too long thereafter I proceeded to get divorced, and the subsequent descent to my personal financial bottom was swift and merciless. I seriously contemplated what I would do when all of the money was gone, and whether my daughter, Rachel, could realistically be expected to come stay with me in a trailer during the weeks that I had custody.*

It never came to that, but by June of 2010, I was living in a tiny apartment with a washer/dryer room in the parking lot and gaping cracks around the doors and windows through which the frigid wind blew in winter. I was jobless, not by design, and close to being broke. I was not cool with this by any means, but I was trying to tolerate the idea that I was put here to learn something and that this was part of the lesson. Who knows, maybe I was going to make a career out of teaching formerly rich people how to be poor with grace.

When I talk to people in my age bracket about the book, they tell me how strongly they relate to this description of what it feels like to watch your life tank unexpectedly. Along with baby formula, we were bottle-fed a dream that had no chance at all of becoming reality; yet for many of us, it wasn't just our expectation of reality, it was immutable fact. Is it laughable to look back and understand that many of us felt entitled to a problem-free future? Yes. Does that make our false sense that the world owed us certain things any less real? No.

I thought that my life was going to be like an airplane flight: takeoff, a few bumps on the ascent, and smooth sailing once I hit cruising altitude of thirty-eight-thousand feet. Even air pockets were not part of the flight plan, and my idea of bumps consisted mostly of getting grades on tests that were lower than what I thought they should be. I know people who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I know people who who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I know people who who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I know people who who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I no longer expected to be as wealthy as my parents—not tomorrow, but yesterday. I had waited long enough on the fringes; I don't think anything could have stopped me from investing in those soaring stocks. Like most people, I had enough success to get intoxicated and stay that way until getting sober was no longer a possibility—not voluntarily, and not until it was way too late.

And, like many people who participated in that particular market frenzy, the bloodletting for me was severe, about a 70 percent loss. Not too long thereafter I proceeded to get divorced, and the subsequent descent to my personal financial bottom was swift and merciless. I seriously contemplated what I would do when all of the money was gone, and whether my daughter, Rachel, could realistically be expected to come stay with me in a trailer during the weeks that I had custody.

It never came to that, but by June of 2010, I was living in a tiny apartment with a washer/dryer room in the parking lot and gaping cracks around the doors and windows through which the frigid wind blew in winter. I was jobless, not by design, and close to being broke. I was not cool with this by any means, but I was trying to tolerate the idea that I was put here to learn something and that this was part of the lesson. Who knows, maybe I was going to make a career out of teaching formerly rich people how to be poor with grace.

When I talk to people in my age bracket about the book, they tell me how strongly they relate to this description of what it feels like to watch your life tank unexpectedly. Along with baby formula, we were bottle-fed a dream that had no chance at all of becoming reality; yet for many of us, it wasn't just our expectation of reality, it was immutable fact. Is it laughable to look back and understand that many of us felt entitled to a problem-free future? Yes. Does that make our false sense that the world owed us certain things any less real? No.

I thought that my life was going to be like an airplane flight: takeoff, a few bumps on the ascent, and smooth sailing once I hit cruising altitude of thirty-eight-thousand feet. Even air pockets were not part of the flight plan, and my idea of bumps consisted mostly of getting grades on tests that were lower than what I thought they should be. I know people who who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I know people who who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I know people who who died along the way because they shared what I thought they should be. I no longer expected to be as wealthy as my parents—not tomorrow, but yesterday. I had waited long enough on the fringes; I don't think anything could have stopped me from investing in those soaring stocks. Like most people, I had enough success to get intoxicated and stay that way until getting sober was no longer a possibility—not voluntarily, and not until it was way too late.

Two things made me feel better. One, the awareness that really bad stuff could happen to me, which took away fear of being blindsided; and two, slowly, painfully, brick by brick, adding to my storehouse of knowledge of what to do when the really bad stuff happens.

Where does a person go to take Life 101 as an adult? I visited three different mental institutions between 2000 and 2010, and I learned a lot at every juncture: on the way there, during my time inside, and on the way back. That's a pretty extreme path. Most people can probably make do with some combination of connection to community, counseling, and spiritual practice. Each of those categories is purposely broad. Community can be anything from family and friends to a twelve-step program and everything in between. Counseling can be anything from the kinds of experiences I had in hospitals to a few sessions with a therapist. Spiritual practice is whatever works for you.

For my part, knowing that I'm not the only one to crash is very cheering, so I have gladly traded in my perceived uniqueness for a seat in the row next to the rest of you.
“MY GIFT WILL SUPPORT three areas at Emory that I am most passionate about: Emory College, the Barkley Forum, and the GALA Student Leadership Award, which is an endowment I created and raised funds for. These gifts are a natural progression of my relationship with the university, and I am extremely proud that undergraduate students will benefit from them well into the future.”

Have you planned your legacy?

emory.edu/giftplanning  404.727.8875
GOLDEN GIRLS: Pamela Tibbetts 64N, Marjorie Nunn 61C, and Mary Sue Nunn McDaniel 64C at the ceremony for new inductees to the Corpus Cordis Aureum—Golden Corps of the Heart—for Emory alumni who graduated fifty or more years ago. Photo by Tom Brodnax 65OX 68C.

Recycle Me! Finished with this issue of Emory Magazine? Pass along to a friend or colleague!

CONNECTING
with the right mortgage

EMORY ALLIANCE CREDIT UNION
Visit emoryacu.com or call 404.329.6415

Apply online 24/7. Get pre-approved in less than 20 min.