Finding Flannery O’Connor
Revelations from the archive
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18 Grace Notes
BY CHARLES MCNAIR

26 The Secret History
How an Oxford professor unearthed the fascinating origins of the Few Memorial—and discovered Emory’s earliest associations with a Masonic “band of brothers.”
BY KEVIN QUARMBY

32 On His Honor
When Meng Lim 95C fled Cambodia with his family as a young child, he little dreamed he would become the first Asian American elected as a superior court judge in Georgia.
BY MARIA M. LAMEIRAS

38 The Beautiful Mind
Sophisticated 3-D brain imaging is driving research and creating new hope for patients with treatment-resistant depression.
BY STEPHANIE ROMAN

On the cover: Flannery O’Connor at Andalusia, her family’s Milledgeville dairy farm. From the Flannery O’Connor Collection, Emory Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

VIDEO: THE FULL SENSE OF A LIFE
Expanded archive gives further insight into Southern author Flannery O’Connor’s personal and literary lives. Story on page 18.

VIDEO: SEEING BETTER TREATMENTS
Brain images help Emory researchers choose the right course for patients with depression. Story on page 38.

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY
President James Wagner challenges the Emory community to “embrace bold aspirations and square off against challenging problems” in his annual video address. Link to it at www.emory.edu/magazine.
6 View from the Hill
Emory Scholars get an insider tour of Washington, D.C. (shown above with White House staffer Monique Dorsainvil 09C).

8 FACULTY BOOKS A LOOK AT THE PRODIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS OF 2014

9 NEW INITIATIVES TO ADVANCE THE LIBERAL ARTS

10 STUDENTS CAMPUS KITCHENS PROGRAM REPURPOSES UNUSED FOOD

11 EMORY IN THE NEWS

12 EBOLA UPDATE

13 IN CLASS HEALTH IN HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES

14 SECRET LIVES LYNNE HUFFER, PROFESSOR AND DOWNHILL SKIER

15 OFFICE HOURS SCOTT LILIENTHAL ON HOW NOT TO SPOT A PSYCHOPATH

16 RESEARCH HEART ATTACK RISK IN YOUNGER WOMEN

17 DOOLEY NOTED VINTAGE DOOLEY FEATURED IN NEW MERCHANDISE

49 Emory Cares International Service Day

REGISTER
58 Emory Medalists 2014
Judge William C. O’Kelley S1C S3L and philanthropist John W. Stephenson 70C.

56 ALUMNI INK

64 TRIBUTE: KENNETH MURRAY 55C 58L

67 TRIBUTE: BILL MURDY

68 CODA REVELATIONS
More than two hundred members of the Emory community participated in a symbolic event on December 4 outside Candler School of Theology, joining protests around the nation in response to controversial rulings related to the shooting deaths of two black men in Missouri and New York. Photo by Bryan Meltz.
Determination and Discovery

When I was a girl, one of my best friends (a “bosom friend,” as she would earnestly put it) was Anne Shirley, the spirited, ginger-haired heroine of the much-loved book series beginning with *Anne of Green Gables*. I read and reread a lot in general, but those books in particular drew me back again and again, attaining a sense of familiarity and affection that was every bit as real to me as a relationship with a friend or family member—and possibly even more comforting, as Anne never changed.

A couple of years ago, I ran into Rosemary Magee 82PhD, a prominent figure in this issue of *Emory Magazine*, at an event on campus. In passing, she mentioned that she had recently returned from a pilgrimage—her word—to Prince Edward Island, the Canadian province that is the setting of L. M. Montgomery’s *Anne* books.

I recognized a “kindred spirit” (another of Anne’s favorite phrases), and we began trading anecdotes from the books—schoolgirl Anne cracking a slate over her future husband’s head when he called her “Carrots” because of her red hair; populating a woodland near her home with imaginary ghosts so vivid, in her mind, that she became terrified to walk through it after dark, even though she had invented its inhabitants; and accidentally intoxicating her best friend with what she thought was innocuous raspberry cordial but was, in fact, something else entirely.

It was a quick, casual exchange, but a small testament to the power of the shared experience of literature. A much more sweeping testament is already evident in the widespread response to the new collection of Flannery O’Connor’s materials that arrived at Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, of which Magee is director, this past fall.

One of Anne’s most memorable qualities, in addition to her boundless enthusiasm and irrepressible imagination, is her determination; her readers know that once she gets an idea into her head, something is sure to come of it—whether or not the outcome bears resemblance to what she originally intended. As my friend and colleague Maria Lameiras recently noted, determination is a theme found throughout this issue, with outcomes profoundly positive for the Emory community and far beyond.

We can start with Flannery O’Connor herself, an icon of Southern literature who easily might have despaired at various points in her all-too-short life—when her father died of lupus in her teenage years, when she was diagnosed with the disease less than a decade later, when her first novel met with mixed reviews, when she struggled with illness and pain. Yet it seems there was never any question that she would write. “I write to discover what I know,” she once said. When considered that way, it’s no wonder she was driven to write every day with an almost fierce discipline; as scholars and readers continue to discover in her fiction and correspondence, she knew a great deal.

A different sort of determination marks the path of discovery narrated by Oxford faculty member Kevin Quarmby, who followed a trail of primary evidence that led to remarkable findings about Oxford’s history. He vividly describes the elation he felt when, the night before he was to return some borrowed historical documents, he decided to go through them just one more time—and found the key he was looking for. One can imagine similar scenes unfolding amid boxes of O’Connor’s papers.

Meng Lim 95C can remember the day he was able to say his first sentence in English. After a childhood shadowed by political violence and hardship in his native Cambodia, Lim and his family were able to make a home in the United States when Lim was nine years old. The youngest in his family, Lim quickly became the interpreter for his parents, watching them struggle to acclimate and find work. He, too, could have given up many times—such as when he tragically lost his older brother to a car accident. Instead, he attended Emory with the help of scholarships and became the first Asian American elected as superior court judge in Georgia.

As always, we hope you enjoy these stories and the others in this issue. Perhaps you will find in them the inspiration, or determination, to pursue something unexpected—to begin a new project, take up a new book, return to a search that you had given up just one more time in hopes of finding something new. Or simply dust off a dog-eared childhood book and rediscover an old friend. —PPP.
Thank you for the excellent coverage of Emory’s participation in the care and treatment of recent Ebola patients (“Ebola: From Microscope to Spotlight,” autumn 2014). I have always been proud to be an alumnus of Emory University, but in the past two to three months, my pride has been magnified several times over. Emory’s response to the Ebola outbreak, its willingness to treat these patients, and its education of the public in regard to this disease has been commendable. Ebola has been known for more than thirty years and it was not until it had reached United States shores that the American public had any interest in finding a treatment or cure. It is a disgrace that it took Americans contracting this disease for the public to take any interest in what should be a global concern. It will take a worldwide humanitarian effort to control this outbreak.

—Charlsie Farmer Woolley 70C
Atlanta, Georgia

The incredible care and thoughtfulness for the safety and well-being of these patients, the staff, the local community and the public health of our nation makes me so proud to be an alumna of Emory University. Professionally, this article inspires those of us who daily work “quietly, efficiently, and effectively” to successfully impact our communities. Following strict protocols agreed upon by the team and the larger health care community highlight the importance of cooperative collaboration especially in this life and death scenario. I look forward to sharing this article with my family members and colleagues. Thank you.

—Ann Byrd Bullock 83MBA

I very much enjoyed reading the article “Shaping a Freshman Class.” You made me feel as though I were sitting in the admissions office on admit day.

—Andrea Ceisler P16, mother of Katherine Ceisler Rookard 16L
Springfield, Virginia

I was bemused to see in the autumn 2014 article on Pavlo Sheremeta (“One of Tomorrow’s People,” autumn 2014) that corruption in Ukraine is so extensive that the “police forcibly disbursed the protests” (p. 40). I guess it pays to be a protestor, at least when error creeps into prose. (I do believe “dispersed” is the word the author is looking for.)

—Su Fang Ng 96G
Norman, Oklahoma

I am a proud parent of an Oxford sophomore. I loved this article (“Scholarship Makes for Well-Rounded Oxford Experience,” summer 2014) so much, that I posted it to my daughter’s Facebook wall. I wanted her to begin her college experience at Oxford and finish at Emory. I felt the campus was a great size and starting point for her to develop good study habits and not be distracted with campus activities—which it has. It felt really good to post this article to remind her.

—Teresa Lains P15, mother of Gabriella Lains 15OX
Conyers, Georgia

I was impressed by the new Emory Magazine. I read the first and last articles in your magazine—very interesting.

—Mura Bauman Chey 85A 16P, mother of Megen Chey 16OX

I am a proud parent of an Oxford child, who is a freshman at Oxford, is in the right place! Appreciate your wonderful journalism!

—Maura Bauman Chey 85A 16P, mother of Megen Chey 16OX

I just finished reading your article “Shaping a Freshman Class” (autumn 2014) and I enjoyed it immensely! It opened my eyes and truly seems that the admissions staff takes a lot of time to carefully handpick an interesting, exceptional, and diverse student body who embody our ever-changing society. It is nice to know that the admissions committee makes every effort to ensure that Emory is right for the student as opposed to the “student being right for Emory.” What a wonderful life-changing opportunity for these lucky students! Thanks for writing the article, as it really opened my eyes and made me appreciate that my

—Jonathan Zung 91PhD
Research Triangle, NC

Letters

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.
Ahmed, Larsen elected to Institute of Medicine

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has elected Rafi Ahmed, director of the Emory Vaccine Center, and Christian Larsen 80C 94M 91 MR, dean of the School of Medicine, to its new class of 70 leading health scientists and 10 foreign associates, one of the highest honors in the field. With the election of Ahmed and Larsen, Emory currently has 25 members in the IOM.

Sheth Distinguished International Alumni Award

Umesh Parashar 96MPH received the 2014 Sheth Distinguished International Alumni Award, which recognizes international alumni who have distinguished themselves through service to universities, governments, or the private sector. Parashar leads the enteric viruses epidemiology team in the Division of Viral Diseases at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As a high school freshman in Anchorage, Alaska, Camden MacDowell 15C (above, center) read The Hot Zone by Richard Preston, the nonfiction best seller that introduced millions to the ravages of the deadly Ebola virus.

The book sparked a sustained interest in viruses, leading MacDowell to pursue an internship at the Alaska branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Through the internship, he learned about Emory, applied, and was accepted.

Eight years after he first encountered Ebola virus, MacDowell found himself in Washington, D.C., sitting in a US Senate committee hearing on the disease and efforts to control its spread around the world—particularly in West Africa where an unprecedented outbreak has taken a shattering toll. The star witness at the hearing was Kent Brantly, a physician and missionary who was successfully treated for Ebola virus disease at Emory University Hospital and became the first patient treated for the disease in the US.

“Ebola, in a way, is why I am at Emory,” MacDowell says. “So it kind of came full circle when we went to this Senate hearing and I saw the powerful impact Emory is making. I know from experience that Emory has an impact in the Atlanta community and the Georgia community, but the Senate hearing was a really tangible example of the positive impact that Emory is making across the nation, and even helping to contribute resources to the Ebola outbreak in Africa. That’s why it was so exciting.”

MacDowell, a Woodruff Scholar majoring in neuroscience and behavioral biology, traveled to D.C. in September with a group of eleven other Emory Scholars on a specially planned trip that was the first of its kind. The students, mostly seniors, spent two days meeting with Emory alumni and officials working in a broad range of fields and learning about life in the nation’s capital.

The Emory Scholars trip was originally the wish of Charlie Harman, Emory’s vice president for government affairs, who previously served for five years as chief of staff to US Senator Saxby Chambliss. One of the highlights of that role was hosting a group of students from the University of Georgia, so when he arrived at Emory, Harman suggested a similar trip for Emory Scholars.

Cameron Taylor 90C, Emory’s director of federal affairs, and Lydia Soleil, director of the Emory Scholars Program, put together a packed schedule of meetings and events for the students—including time with Susan Henry Crowe 76T, chief executive of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society and former dean of the chapel and religious life at Emory; Joan Kirchner, chief of staff for Senator Johnny Isakson; Jonathan Levy 04C, deputy chief of staff for the US Department of Energy; and two White House staffers—Emory Scholar Monique Dorsainvil 09C, director of planning and events in the White House Office of Public Engagement and the Office of Intergov-
Emory Law creates named professorship
The School of Law has announced the establishment of the David J. Bederman Research Professorship and its first recipient, Jonathan Nash. The professorship will be awarded annually to recognize the outstanding contributions of a faculty member and offers a course release to foster increased scholarly work. Nash’s work focuses on federal courts and jurisdiction and environmental law.

Business students have eyes on Honduras
Goizueta Business School students Shannon Lin 15B, Jacob Ethel 15B, and Eric Banister 15B helped launch a three-year campaign to make investments at Lions’ Eye Hospital Fraternidad in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Working with Professor Peter Roberts, academic director of Social Enterprise @ Goizueta, and the nonprofit ECHO Foundation, the students developed innovative fund-raising for improvements.

In Ten Years, 25 Percent Less Energy

In 2005, Emory pledged to reduce energy usage by 25 percent in ten years—a goal the university exceeded ahead of schedule in 2014. “Sustainability was a major theme that emerged from Emory’s strategic planning efforts, and efficient energy consumption is an important component of sustainability,” says Mike Mandl, executive vice president for business and administration. “If we want to contain costs and allocate a higher proportion of resources to the academic mission, reducing energy consumption and associated costs must be a very high priority.”

Achieving the goal required extensive engagement across all levels of the university—from administrators who saw the wisdom of investing in energy efficient systems for both new and old buildings to every individual who turned off a light.

“While investment in technology and more energy efficient systems played a significant role, there is no way that the goal would have been reached without the changes made by faculty, staff, and students,” Mandl says.

The conservation goal was part of the university’s ten-year strategic plan and includes electricity, natural gas, and fuel oil use. Energy is one of the largest nonpersonnel expense categories at Emory.

In 2005, Emory spent a total of $24.8 million on utilities for the year. To meet the 25 percent per square foot reduction goal, the university aimed to reduce energy consumption per square foot from 217 kBtu to 162.7 kBtu by 2015.

“The 25 percent per square foot reduction goal was considered very ambitious when set by the visioning committee,” says Cianan Howett, director of the Office of Sustainability Initiatives. “It is exciting that Emory has achieved this important reduction goal ahead of schedule.”

One was that we got to engage a really stellar group of Emory students and interest them in public service,” she says. “Another was that we got to show off these amazing students, who are wonderful representatives of Emory—bright, curious, and respectful. And finally, it became very evident that excitement really built among the alumni as they visited with the students, so we were able to engage a group of alumni with varied jobs and interests that I had not had the opportunity to reach out to before.”

Kaylee Tuggle 15C (above, seventh from left), a Woodruff Scholar and sociology and creative writing major from Griffin, Georgia, says her favorite part of the trip was meeting Lewis, who “made every individual feel like they were the only person in the room.”

“It was a really incredible experience to meet someone who not only has so much history associated with them and how they came to be where they are today, but also just the wisdom that he has stockpiled,” Tuggle says. “It’s a wisdom of peace and an appreciation for life that I would hope to have someday.”

Tuggle, who plans a career in education, says meeting Emory Scholars alumni helped make the business of policy making real for her. “They were all extremely approachable and interested in making connections between what we are interested in and what they are doing,” she says.

A highlight for Tuggle was a lunch meeting with Elizabeth Barchas Prelogar 02C, assistant to the solicitor general in the US Department of Justice. In addition to a varied and accomplished career spanning both the public and private sectors, Prelogar impressed Tuggle with her ability to connect with the students over almost any interest—from creative writing to neuroscience. “She made connections so flawlessly, I thought, ‘I have to have that skill,’” Tuggle says.

Taylor hopes the Emory Scholars trip to D.C. might become an annual event. “The students were able to get different perspectives from alumni who are engaged in careers they are excited about and proud of,” she says. “The timing really could not have been better for these seniors as they begin to think about what they will do after graduation.”—P.P.P.
Reading List

If you have a wide-ranging appetite for a great diversity of narrative subjects, find a cozy chair with hours aplenty to explore Emory faculty publications of the past year. Their pages will take you around the world, back in time, and on journeys through the mysteries of the human mind.

Here’s a sampling of the impressive fare that Emory faculty produced in 2014—although, as Provost Claire Sterk reminds us, faculty contributions go beyond what can be contained within the covers of books.

“Emory’s faculty are dedicated teachers and scholars whose expertise is recognized by honors and awards, research grants, citations, and the publication of journal articles and books,” Sterk says. “Their passion and knowledge spread from conference proceedings to global field studies to the written page.”

For the complete list of 2014 faculty publications, visit www.emory.edu/magazine.

The Letters of Samuel Beckett, 1957–1965. Edited by George Craig, Martha Dow Fehsenfeld, Dann Gunn, and Lois More Overbeck, a research associate at the James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies and a visiting lecturer in the Department of Theater Studies

Volume three in this acclaimed series has a great deal to stimulate interest. Ironically, the same eclectic fellow who uttered the words “Try again. Fail again. Fail better” was beginning to contend with runaway success in this time period. As a result, Beckett’s range of correspondents expands. Beckett divulges details of writing How It Is, his first novel in a decade. And, for the first time, Beckett has a woman as his chief correspondent—Barbara Bray, a respected translator. They met during the production of his radio play All That Fall. She would later say that it took thirty seconds to fall in love with him. According to the

Independent, Letters is “a beautifully wrought publication and, thanks to its four editors, it has an artistry all its own.”

History Lessons: A Memoir of Madness, Memory, and the Brain. By Clifton Crais, professor in the Department of History

For those moved to tears easily, prepare for a river. Crais offers a haunting account of his childhood—the parts he can remember. He suffers from chronic childhood amnesia, the most common and least understood form of the disorder. Crais grew up in New Orleans with an alcoholic mother who tried to drown him in the bathtub at the age of three. A year later, she tried to kill herself.

As Crais notes of his training as a historian, “I have spent a lifetime sifting through the records of others . . . revealing the hidden patterns of our common past.” And yet—“It’s my own life I can’t remember.”

He turns to plane tickets, postmarks, court and medical records, and crumbling photo albums for answers. And he consults experts about the neuroscience of memory. In the end, Crais reaches, if not an epiphany, at least accommodation with what is. “There is something different now,” he writes. “It’s not memory but still powerful: the knowledge that helps fill in the blank spaces where a child once walked all those lost years ago.”

A Climate of Crisis: America in the Age of Environmentalism. By Patrick Allitt, Cahoon Family Professor of American History

Although environmentalism has been widely reported for more than four decades, this is the first general intellectual history of the movement. Allitt takes readers back, well beyond the first Earth Day in April 1970. In his mind, the movement owes its birth to the “mood of crisis created by the first atom bombs and the Cold War arms race,” which influenced ideas about population, resources, and climate change.

Does the media hype the dangers to the planet? The answer is almost certainly, in part because the science is complicated. As Allitt

Research funding tops $500 million for fifth year

Researchers at Emory received $521.8 million from external funding agencies in fiscal year 2014, a 2.56 percent increase over last fiscal year. This marks the fifth consecutive year that research funding has exceeded $500 million. Federal agencies awarded more than $396 million, or 68 percent of the total, led by the National Institutes of Health, with nearly $300 million in awards.

Blumberg receives Creekmore Award for Internationalization

Henry Blumberg, professor of medicine and of epidemiology and global health at the Rollins School of Public Health, received the 2014 Marion V. Creekmore Award for Internationalization, which is given to an Emory faculty member who advances the university’s commitment to internationalization. Blumberg has longstanding tuberculosis-related research and training in the Republic of Georgia and Ethiopia.
notes, “Only when scientists’ cautious conclusions were turned into thrilling headlines predicting disaster would citizens take notice.”

**Vaccine Nation: America’s Changing Relationship with Immunization.** By Elena Conis, assistant professor in the Department of History

The sugar cube that many of us remember containing our polio vaccine was a treat for the tongue. The recent history of vaccination in the US is more bitter, but it wasn’t always so.

As Conis reports, in 1943 New York health official Leona Baumgartner reported results of a poll exploring Americans’ attitudes toward immunization: more than 90 percent trusted in vaccines. This is a far cry from conditions in the new millennium, as the role of the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine in autism is debated endlessly; the vaccine against HPV (human papillomavirus) sparked controversy when lawmakers attempted to require it for sixth graders; and parents marched on Washington.

As Conis points out, “The larger debate over vaccination . . . wasn’t just about vaccine risks. At a deeper level, it was a debate about the roles of children in our society, our health care politics, gender relations, chronic disease risks, and more.”

**The Accidental Scholar.** By Jagdish N. Sheth, Kellstadt Professor of Marketing at Goizueta Business School, with John Yow

Philip Kotler of Northwestern University writes the foreword to Sheth’s autobiography, and his curiosity about Sheth becomes our own. What about Sheth’s phenomenally successful career in business and education could possibly be “accidental,” as the title implies?

There is no denying that change has been Sheth’s constant. In addition to working in virtually every area of business, he has been on the faculty at a half dozen different American universities. Along the way, this rolling stone has gathered quite a bit of wisdom to share. — Susan Carini 04G

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**When Great Minds Think Alike**

**NEW INITIATIVES WILL CREATE SHARED INTELLECTUAL EXPERIENCE**

Imagine a university-wide seminar experience, something that unites disciplines and transcends departmental boundaries. Or a series of campuswide readings, performances, panels, or discussion groups stemming from a central university speaker, program, or event.

Both offer blueprints for building intellectual engagement through shared campus experiences, among several recommendations to emerge from a final report released this fall by the Commission on the Liberal Arts (CoLA), which has been engaged in a vigorous, long-running examination of the future of the liberal arts at Emory.

 Initiated by former Emory Provost Earl Lewis in 2012 and recharged by Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Claire Sterk, CoLA was established to consider the long-range future of liberal arts and sharpen a vision for Emory as a residential liberal arts research university. Working toward the goal of integrating a liberal arts education into the student experience across the entire university, the final report identifies several themes and long-term initiatives, along with three specific recommendations: Facilitate intellectual engagement by creating opportunities for sustained conversations, events, and interactions among students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the Board of Trustees; create a new kind of cross-unit course that would integrate scholarly and experiential learning with an interdisciplinary, cross-unit team of undergraduates, graduate and professional students, and faculty to provide an integrative liberal arts educational experience; and expand and coordinate mentoring programs across the university.

“We want to think of ways to create more flexible, permeable learning environments,” says CoLA Chair Robyn Fivush, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Psychology, who led the committee along with vice chairs Karen Stolley, professor of Spanish and chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and Deborah Bruner, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Nursing and associate director of outcomes research at the Winship Cancer Institute.

“We’re already a highly successful university; we have so many innovative programs and already do many things extremely well,” says Fivush, who will now help implement recommendations as associate vice provost of academic innovation. “At the same time, knowledge is dynamic. Moving forward, the idea is not to squash those ideas that have worked, but to use them as models to leverage greater access to the community, building to reflect new technologies, new ideas, and new interdisciplinary initiatives.” — Kimber Williams

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**Graduate school joins new BUILD Initiative**

The James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies at Emory is one of 11 higher education institutions partnering with Xavier University of Louisiana as part of the National Institutes of Health–funded Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity (BUILD) Initiative. Laney Graduate School will have access to Xavier STEM students to participate in summer research programs and to recruit to Emory graduate programs.

**Endowment reaches record high**

Emory University’s endowment value reached a record high of $6.7 billion as of June 30, 2014, fueled by a 19.1 percent return on investment. Emory’s endowment return was among the highest in the nation. The average return for all college and university endowments was 15.8 percent for the same period, according to a preliminary report by the National Association of College and University Business Officers.
Kitchen Aid
CAMPUS KITCHENS PROJECT REPURPOSES UNUSED FOOD

NAOMI MAISEL 16C VIVIDLY REMEMBERS the day that began her quest to turn wasted food at Emory into much-needed meals for the hungry in Atlanta.

She was a freshman, clearing her dishes after eating at Dobbs Market.

“There was this large trash can, and it was filled to the brim with uneaten food,” she says.

“It bothered me so much, I left thinking about it.”

The next day, she headed to eateries on and around campus to see if they would donate unused food that otherwise would go to waste.

“They told me I needed to be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit,” Maisel says.

This past fall, armed with a commercial freezer, a group of dedicated student volunteers, and the support of a successful nonprofit organization, Maisel saw her mission come to fruition as student president of the new Emory chapter of the Campus Kitchens Project (CKP).

The Washington, D.C.–based community service program helps students recover food from university dining venues that otherwise would be wasted to prepare and deliver meals to community organizations fighting hunger.

Now a junior human health and anthropology major, Maisel says the chapter would not have been possible without support from Emory Campus Dining Services and Sodexo, which partners with CKP to address hunger through the Sodexo Foundation.

David Furfman, senior director of Emory Dining Services, came to Emory from Johns Hopkins University, where he helped start a Campus Kitchens chapter.

“Having Naomi start a chapter here allows us to really bring to life many of the values that we have in campus life and at Emory,” he says.

Maisel has spent much of the past two years working with Dining Services, Sodexo, the Office of Student Leadership and Service (OSLS), and CKP planning and organizing. With their help, she located a space to prepare meals and secured an industrial freezer to store food collected from dining services. By the end of the 2013–2014 academic year, she had organized a group of like-minded student charter members, made sure everyone got state-certified to handle and prepare food, and planned a pilot of the program.

In fall 2014, the group began picking up food from Cox Hall Market, Dobbs Market, and other campus eateries and taking it to the preparation kitchen located in the basement of Few Hall. Food collected includes prepared breads and unprepared fruits, vegetables, and other foods from catered campus events. The group has a scale in the packaging room to track the amount of food collected and the amount of prepared food donated to the community.

Once a week, students will repurpose the food into prepared meals using recipes provided by Campus Kitchens and freeze them for distribution to community organizations including Mercy Community Church, Intown Collaborative Ministries, Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children, and Meals On Wheels Atlanta, with other partnerships pending.

Robert A. Stern, chair of the Sodexo Foundation, says the organization is committed to helping develop the next generation of antihunger leaders.

“There are nearly 184,000 people living in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. “With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. “With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. “With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. “With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. “With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children,” Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of hunger, of which more than 52,200 are children," Stern says. "With a need this considerable right in Fulton County who are at risk of..."
Emory University’s backyard, collaborative efforts like the Campus Kitchens Project that engage students and the campus community are vitally important.”

In November, Campus Kitchens student volunteers helped prepare meals for the group’s first delivery to local organizations—home-made vegetable soup with couscous and zucchini pasta casserole to feed 120 people.

Rebecca Lichtenstein 16C, marketing and fund-raising chair for the group, worked with a food recovery program in her hometown of Boca Raton, Florida, as a high school student. She hopes to use her experience to help Emory’s Campus Kitchens grow.

“I am focused on spreading the word on campus and getting volunteers and any other clubs and organizations who want to partner with us on board, so we have a bigger base of volunteers,” Lichtenstein says.

An administrative board made up of members from Campus Dining, Sodexo, the Office of Sustainability, OSLS, Emory’s Interfraternity Council, Campus Life, and Emory Catering will help ensure that the program continues after Maisel graduates in 2016.

“It is an incredible feeling because it was just an idea, and it is amazing to see that really blossom,” Maisel says. “The great thing about Campus Kitchens is that everyone involved has a stake in it because it is your university, your friends, your administration, your community. This is something I want to continue for years after I am gone.” —M.M.L.

Emory welcomes new marketing and communications leader
David Johnson will join Emory’s Division of Communications and Public Affairs in February in the new position of associate vice president for marketing and communications. Johnson comes from the University of Texas at Arlington where he served as associate vice president for communications and marketing.

National Academy of Inventors elects Emory chemist as fellow
Huw Davies, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Organic Chemistry at Emory, has been named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). Davies, who holds 23 patents and has published 280 scientific articles, is focused on the design of new catalysts to enable synthetic technologies for drug discovery. He is Emory’s third NAI fellow.

Headlines: Emory in the News

EBOLA VIRUS AND EMORY’S LEAD ROLE IN TREATING PATIENTS WITH THE DISEASE HAVE DOMINATED THE HEADLINES SINCE AUGUST. HERE’S A SAMPLING OF OTHER EMORY NEWS THAT CAPTURED THE ATTENTION OF MAJOR MEDIA THIS PAST FALL.

Political Perspective: This year’s Georgia senate and governor’s races brought national and international attention to the state, as well as a focus on the public scholarship of political science professors Alan Abramowitz, Merle Black, and Andrea Gillespie, and Emory Law professors Michael Kang and Joanna Shepherd. They all shared their expertise with numerous major media outlets, including CBS News, National Public Radio, the New York Times, and the Washington Post.

Healthy Hearts: Emotional stress is more likely to physically impact younger women with heart disease compared to men with heart disease, according to new research by Viola Vaccarino, chair of cardiovascular research and epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health. Several media outlets covered the study, including US News & World Report, Yahoo! News, and Fox News. See page 16 for more.

Project of a Lifetime: Legendary English Professor Emeritus Ronald Schuchard and his labor of love to gain access to and catalog the immense—and virtually unseen—prose archives of modernist poet T. S. Eliot was the subject of a major feature in the Chronicle of Higher Education. Schuchard spent decades in conversation with Eliot’s widow, Valerie Eliot, until she finally gave him full access to the poet’s papers, which he is now annotating and cataloging with a team of Emory students.

Best in Show: Emory’s Gregory Berns, Distinguished Professor of Neuroeconomics, and his groundbreaking “dog project” were featured on 60 Minutes, along with Emory alumnus Brian Hare 98C, an associate professor at Duke University, where he founded the Duke Canine Cognition Center. Correspondent Anderson Cooper profiled Berns’s research to discover “what dogs are really thinking” through the first-ever study of dogs’ brain activity with fMRIs while they are awake and unrestrained.

A Good Archive Is Hard to Find: The acquisition of the archive of iconic American writer Flannery O’Connor at Emory’s Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library was hailed as a watershed event in the literary world. Emory shared the story and a preview of the long-hidden archive with the New York Times, which ran a major feature on the day of Emory’s public announcement. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution also featured the story prominently, and Associated Press gave the news wide distribution. See page 18 for more.

Three in Ten: “Out of 28.4 million people with diabetes, more than a quarter don’t know [it],” Mohammed Ali, an assistant professor of public health at the School of Medicine, told Time magazine in November. Ali and other researchers are looking at innovative care models to increase awareness for the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes.
Emory-based Experts Leading Global Fight against Ebola

RIBNER, OTHERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR ROLE IN BATTLING THE OUTBREAK

Since the first two patients with Ebola virus disease treated in the US were brought to Emory University Hospital (EUH) in August, Emory physicians, nurses, health safety officers, public health experts, and administrators have taken the lead in developing and disseminating protocols for the successful treatment of the disease, recommendations for infection control, and procedures for triage and screening of potential patients.

In December, doctors, nurses, scientists, and caregivers who are fighting the biggest outbreak in the history of Ebola virus disease—including Bruce Ribner, medical director of the EUH Serious Communicable Disease Unit—were named as Time magazine’s 2014 Person of the Year. Included in Time’s coverage are essays from physician Kent Brantly, aid worker Nancy Writebol, and Dallas nurse Amber Vinson, all of whom were successfully treated for the disease at Emory.

“Our own protocols from day one haven’t changed much. We came up with procedures and protocols that have really stood the test of time,” Ribner told Time magazine writer Alexandra Sifferlin. “In the process of getting our patients better, we are learning a great deal about the virus, and we are adding an enormous amount, which we hope feeds back to our colleagues in Africa, so that they perhaps can no longer have such high fatality rates.”

As the Ebola crisis in West Africa continues, the world’s national public health institutes (NPHIs) are on the front lines—and facing unprecedented challenges—in efforts to detect and prevent the spread of the disease. With overburdened infrastructures pushed to the limit, public health officials from the affected and neighboring countries are partnering with the US Office of the International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI), based in Emory’s Global Health Institute, to strengthen the national public health systems needed to stop the spread of disease.

Founded in 2006 with thirty-nine members and support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, IANPHI was the brainchild of Jeffrey Koplan, Emory’s vice president for global health and former director of the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and colleagues. Under the leadership of director Courtenay Dusenbury 08PH, it creates and strengthens NPHIs—organizations, similar to the CDC, which lead public health efforts in a country.

During the current Ebola outbreak, IANPHI has worked with its more than one hundred member institutes, bilateral aid agencies, private-sector partners, the CDC, donors, and others to identify the most urgent needs of countries fighting the outbreak and to address them through collaboration, training, and funding.

For example, with more than $160,000 in funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, IANPHI partnered with the Guinean National Institute of Health and the Cameroon Ministry of Health to offer training in infection control and prevention and to provide personal protective equipment to health workers. The CDC announced in November its intent to award $1.1 million in Ebola funding to IANPHI for fiscal year 2015.

“IANPHI is uniquely positioned, in terms of authority, ability, track record, infrastructure, and credibility, to engage its member institutes to respond to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa,” the award notice said. These funds will help the most heavily affected nations of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, as well as neighboring Guinea Bissau, to strengthen Ebola surveillance and control activities.

IANPHI’s member institutes outside West Africa also are working to mount a coordinated global response, which the World Health Organization says is necessary to stop the current outbreak. As part of this, IANPHI has linked volunteers from its member institutes into joint missions. The CDC has sent scores of employees to work in Ebola-affected countries and has established a site providing exhaustive information and guidelines. France’s Institute of Health and Medical Research has created a series of educational videos, and Public Health England is working to recruit additional volunteers to staff its diagnostic laboratories in Sierra Leone. —Michelle Boone
GHCS300R: Health in Humanitarian Emergencies

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course covers the technical and management principles that undergird planning, implementing, and evaluating health programs for displaced populations in developing countries. Initially a graduate-level course, this course introduces undergraduate students to public health and trains graduate students in teaching.

FACULTY CV: Dabney Evans is an assistant research professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health at Rollins School of Public Health and faculty lead in the Center for Humanitarian Emergencies. She received a doctoral degree in law in 2010 from the University of Aberdeen in Aberdeen, Scotland, a master of public health degree from Rollins in 1998, and a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Arizona State University in 1996. Graduate coinstructors are Katie Hatfield 15MPH, Evelyn Howatt 15MPH, Samantha Perkins 15MPH, Meaghan Novi 15MPH, Kelcie Landon 15MPH, and Michelle Leisner 15MPH.

TODAY’S CLASS: A Walking Dead–style risk exercise that challenges students to take on the role of civic leaders and health officials responding to a new outbreak of a “zombie virus” that wiped out 85 percent of the world’s population a hundred years earlier. In this scenario, it is about seventy-five years since the last case of the infection was recorded—a period marked by paranoia over the perceived threat of the virus reemerging. When a possible new outbreak occurs, students have to decide what information civic and public health leaders should release and discuss key threats to effective risk communication.

QUOTES TO NOTE: “In emergency situations, people want to focus on surface things, but you have to look deeper. If you start focusing on the surface things you won’t get down to the root causes of an emergency, and many of the most successful interventions are the ones that empower people in the communities to get at those root causes.”—MEAGHAN NOVI 15MPH, COINSTRUCTOR

STUDENTS SAY: “Public health is where the policies need to change and where we can make the greatest changes.”—ALICE KIM 15C

“The national Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded a five-year grant of more than $9 million to Emory researchers to study fragile X syndrome–associated disorders and work toward developing effective treatments. The grant is one of three nationally to support the Centers for Collaborative Research in Fragile X, and a renewal of Emory’s National Fragile X Syndrome Research Center that has been continuously funded by NIH since the inception of such centers ten years ago.

Fragile X syndrome is the most common form of inherited intellectual and developmental disabilities and often results in emotional and behavioral problems; as many as 30 to 50 percent of people with fragile X syndrome also have features of autism spectrum disorders. Fragile X syndrome, fragile X–associated tremor/ataxia syndrome (FXTAS), and fragile X–associated primary ovarian insufficiency (FXPOI) result from a variety of mutations in the FMR1 gene.

FMR1 normally makes a protein that helps create and maintain connections among cells in the brain and nervous system.

The Emory research team plans to perform whole genome sequencing on six hundred patients to find modifier genes that predispose people with mutations in the FMR1 gene to epilepsy, FXTAS, or FXPOI.

“By identifying genome variants that trigger another disease or increase the severity of the associated medical outcome among carriers of a FMR1 gene mutation, we will gain insight into the mechanisms of disease and potentially be able to develop a diagnostic test that can predict those at risk prior to clinical onset,” says principal investigator Stephen T. Warren, William P. Timmie Professor of Human Genetics and Charles Howard Candler Chair of Human Genetics at the School of Medicine.

“We also expect the genes we identify in the affected systems will provide insight into other forms of epilepsy, ovarian dysfunction, and neurodegenerative disorders.”
**Day Job:** Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**Secret Life:** Expert skier

Lynne Huffer doesn’t remember her first time skiing—she was only about three years old—but her love of the sport has carried throughout her life. Growing up in an energetic, outdoorsy family, Huffer enjoyed camping, hiking, backpacking, and skiing in the many places the family lived. She’s skied slopes around the US—and in Austria when the family lived there—for two years—but she especially loves her “home” slopes in Colorado, where she lived from age ten until she left for college. Huffer has tackled the most difficult slopes in downhill skiing—those with a double black diamond rating—and even spent time as a ski instructor. After her freshman year at Wells College, Huffer spent a year teaching in Winter Park, Colorado, the ski resort area where her family spent weekends and vacations. She later taught for another year at Snowshoe Resort in West Virginia. There she gave both group lessons and private instruction, including teaching the family of then-West Virginia Governor John D. “Jay” Rockefeller IV, who is now senior US senator from the state. Huffer, who travels back to Denver each year to visit family and to take advantage of prime skiing in Winter Park, hopes to follow her mother’s example when it comes to skiing. At nearly eighty years old, Betsy McConnell still skis regularly and volunteers with the National Sports Center for the Disabled, providing ski lessons for children and adults with disabilities.

**Her Words:** “I have been committed to my career—like most professors, I am a workaholic—so for a while I wasn’t skiing as much. But, as I have gotten older, I have realized that life doesn’t last forever. Skiing is something I associate with being playful and is a way to be out in nature. If I’m feeling bad, there is nothing like going into a wild area to help me find myself again. It’s very healing for me. Skiing gets me out of my head, for sure. There is nothing like being on a slope. It requires you to be completely in the moment—just you and the rhythm of the turns, the snow, and the cold air on your face. It can be a little bit scary, but I like that. I like to push the edge a little, to challenge myself and do something that is a little hard.”

—M.M.L.
Was he also a psychopath?

Professor of Psychology Scott Lilienfeld and two of his graduate students, Sarah Francis Smith 13G PhD and Ashley Watts 20PhD, drew on the life story of Burton and others for their article “On the Trail of the Successful Psychopath,” published recently in the Psychologist.

Modern-day scholars, the authors write, have noted that Burton displayed many of the traits of so-called “successful psychopathy,” also known as “adaptive psychopathy.” A constellation of characteristics are associated with psychopathy, including superficial charm, dishonesty, narcissism, lack of remorse, lack of empathy, physical fearlessness, social boldness, and relative immunity to anxiety.

The authors describe how Burton often traveled to areas full of turmoil and dangerous enemies, and he reported feeling “quite jolly” about killing another person. In addition, Burton’s obituary stated that he was known for “telling tales about himself that had no foundation in fact.”

“Perhaps in response to recent economic and social disasters, such as the United States housing market crash in 2008, the Enron scandal, and Bernie Madoff’s Ponzi schemes, the concept of successful psychopathy has become the subject of increasing interest to researchers and the general public alike,” the authors write.

“In fact, we know surprisingly little about how prevalent psychopaths are in the business world, whether they’re more likely to attain positions of power, and what they’re like as bosses,” Lilienfeld says. Psychopaths can seem completely “normal” and can be hard to detect, even by those who study the disorder in depth, he adds. “Hollywood has shaped the popular perception of psychopathy more than anything else,” he says.

It may be easier to define what not to look for in a psychopath, despite what popular culture has told us about them. Following are five common myths about psychopaths.—Carol Clark

### Five Myths about Psychopaths

1. **Psychopathy is a general term for severe mental illness.**
   “Psychopathy is a very specific type of mental disorder. It is not the same as mental illness in general,” Lilienfeld says. “In fact, ironically, classic psychopaths are less likely to develop many mental illnesses like severe depression or severe anxiety disorders because they probably don’t have much capacity for emotional distress.”

2. **Psychopaths are always violent.**
   “It is true that psychopathy increases the risk for violent behavior to some degree, but that increased risk tends to be only modest,” Lilienfeld says. “Most psychopaths are not particularly violent, and the substantial majority of violent people are not especially psychopathic.”

3. **Serial killers are always psychopaths.**
   “Many, if not most, serial killers are not markedly psychopathic,” Lilienfeld says. “And we certainly know that the overwhelming majority of psychopaths are not serial killers.”

4. **Psychopathy is similar to psychosis.**
   “People who are psychotic are out of touch with reality. They typically don’t know the difference between right and wrong,” Lilienfeld says. “Psychopaths, in contrast, are almost always quite rational. They can even reason through moral problems quite well. That reasoning just doesn’t necessarily translate into their actual behaviors.”

5. **Psychopathy is a basis for an insanity defense.**
   “The primary basis for an insanity defense is some variant of not knowing the difference between right and wrong,” Lilienfeld says. “Psychopaths will almost always fail that cognitive prong because they do know the difference between right and wrong in nearly all cases.”
Kindred Holman Knew Something Was Wrong when She Became Too Winded to Climb a Second Set of Steps up to the Check-Out Office at the Local High School. She Was There to Pick Up Her Daughter, Who Had Phoned Earlier to Say That She Didn’t Feel Well. Holman Wasn’t Feeling Very Well Herself, Having Experienced Fatigue and Shortness of Breath during the Previous Two Days.

At the School, “I Broke Out in a Cold Sweat,” She Recalls. “I Wasn’t Feeling Good, but I Was Going to Take My Daughter to the Doctor Anyway, and While I Was There, Have Them Check Me Out, Too.” Holman Ended Up Spending the Next Ten Days in the Hospital.

The Forty-Two-Year-Old Mother of Three Was Having a Heart Attack.

According to Viola Vaccarino, Professor and Chair of the Department of Epidemiology at Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health, Research Has Shown That Women in Their Forties and Early Fifties with Early Onset Heart Disease Are Particularly Susceptible to the Damaging Effects of Psychological Stress on the Heart. Young Women with Heart Disease Tend to Fare Worse Than Men of the Same Age, Especially After a Heart Attack; They Suffer a Higher Mortality Rate, More Disability, and More Medical Complications.

The Phenomenon “Is Not Explained by the Severity of the Disease Itself, Preexisting Risk Factors, or Other Diseases They May Have. If Anything, Women Have Less Severe Disease,” Says Vaccarino, Who Also Has a Joint Appointment in the Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, at Emory School of Medicine. Her Hypothesis Is That Psychological Stress May Be the Key Differentiating Factor.

“Women, Particularly Those in This Younger Age Group, Tend to Have More Stresses in Their Lives,” She Notes. “Many of Them Work Outside the Home and at the Same Time Have Lots of Responsibilities at Home—Caring for Children or Elderly Parents, to Name Just a Couple—and Many of Them Don’t Take Good Care of Themselves and Don’t Find the Time to Exercise or Relax Because of All of the Demands on Their Time and Attention.”

But for Some Young Women at Risk, an Important Source of Stress Is Financial Hardship and All the Tension and Struggle It Brings to Everyday Life.

Holman Is a Case in Point. A Single Parent Raising Two Teenagers and an Eight-Year-Old, She Is Always on the Go, Trying Her Best to Be a Dutiful Mom by Supporting Her Kids’ Various Activities and Helping Out at Their Schools.

Financially, the Family Struggles to Get by on a Fixed Income. They’ve Faced Homelessness More Than Once, and There’s a Seemingly Insurmountable Mountain of Debt—and Relentless Pressure from Bill Collectors. In Addition, Holman Admits That Her Eating Habits “Weren’t All That Great.”

“There Were a Lot of Things I Was Stressed Out About,” She Says, “And One Thing Led to Another. It Was Just Too Much.”

Holman Was One of 534 Men and Women With Stable Coronary Heart Disease Who Were Recruited for an Experimental Protocol Designed by Vaccarino and Her Team to Provoke Mental Stress in a Clinical Setting While Measuring the Heart’s Response.

Each Participant Was Asked to Think About How He or She Would Handle a Hypothetical Scenario—an Aging Parent Had Been Abused in the Nursing Home, for Example, and the Staff Must Be Confronted About the Situation. Then, Participants Were Asked to Deliver a Brief Speech About the Given Scenario Before a Small Audience of Grim-Faced Emory Staffers Dressed in White Lab Coats.

During the Test, Nuclear Imaging Was Performed on the Volunteers to Measure Blood Flow to Their Hearts. “We Focused on Abnormalities Called Ischemia, Which Is Basically a Deficit
of blood flow to the heart,” Vaccarino explains. “It’s the basis of heart attacks and other acute coronary events.”

The results, presented by Vaccarino at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association in November, showed that women under age fifty-five exhibited ischemia three times greater than that of men under fifty-five. Women between fifty-six and sixty-four exhibited a blood-flow reduction twice that of men the same age. But differences between women and men disappeared among participants aged sixty-five and older.

On a separate day, members of the group were given a standard physical stress test, which showed no differences in blood flow to the heart between men and women of all ages.

“Although stress was artificially induced for the study,” Vaccarino says, “past research indicates that the physiological reactions we observed in the clinical setting closely correlate to how people would’ve responded had the scenario been real.”

Vaccarino says that physicians should be made aware of the extra risk that stress poses for young women with early onset heart disease, and pursue the matter with them by offering advice on ways to get help.

“Some women may need referrals for psychological counseling, so that should be kept in mind,” she says. “In some cases, just finding a little time every day for herself would be sufficient, maybe by taking regular long walks. If they have the time and resources to go to a gym every other day, that would be an excellent way to decrease stress levels and also decrease depression levels—which is very pronounced in this group as well—and at the same time help to improve their cardiovascular health.”

Holman says she has good days and bad days health-wise, but of late the good ones outweigh the bad. “I’m taking my medicine, and I’m eating the right things,” she says. “If I can’t fix it, I don’t worry about it. I don’t let as much get to me now, because life is too short for me to worry about the little things. So I feel like I’m headed in a positive direction rather than a negative one.” —Gary Goettling

DOOLEY NOTED

Vintage Bones
THE SKELETAL SPIRIT OF THE 1940S FINDS NEW LIFE

In many ways, the 1940s cemented Dooley’s place in the Emory campus consciousness. During that decade, he acquired a physical presence and ceased being just a voice in occasional letters to the Phoenix, Emory’s literary magazine. The spirited Lord of Misrule also welcomed World War II veterans home and survived a kidnapping by Georgia Tech students. He was finding his persona—if not his voice.

The Dooley of this era is now featured in a new line of Emory spirit items, the Vintage Dooley Collection. The renderings were drawn by Nicholas Petkas 49C 51G 54M and other students from the time, and were first seen in yearbooks and other publications.

Petkas is the son of Greek immigrants who left Turkey because of religious persecution. After his father came to the United States to join his brother, the two opened a restaurant in Texas and eventually transferred their livelihood to Atlanta, where they ran the Ship Ahoy restaurant for many years.

Petkas had always wanted to be a doctor and chose Emory because of its association with a medical school. Graduating midterm from the college in 1949, Petkas decided to bide his time before medical school by earning a master’s in psychology, which was conferred in 1951. Though the young medical student doubtlessly met other skeletons, given his field of study, Dooley is the one that fired his imagination. Petkas’s talents as a sketch artist came to the attention of someone on Emory’s yearbook staff, who asked him to do drawings for that publication. “I had no formal training,” says Petkas, “but my cartoons were used in high school publications, so I felt comfortable contributing to the yearbooks.”

That work led to another commission: Petkas was asked to do a half-dozen, life-size, oil renderings of Dooley—of which no known images remain. The compensation was $275, which Petkas used to buy a scooter to get him back and forth to Grady Hospital. Seated on his fire-engine-red scooter in his white lab coat with his black doctor’s bag, Petkas traversed what was then known as the “Emory-Grady Expressway.”

Petkas went on to a surgical residency at the Medical College of Virginia and service in the Army Medical Corps, marrying, and having four children. He became the classic door-to-door family doctor of the time, even delivering children at his patients’ homes. He established his practice in the West Palm Beach area, but health challenges later led him to sell his practice and work independently for much of his career.

Now eighty-five, Petkas is pleased to see his old sketches of Dooley find new life. “To this day, I am blissfully unaware of Dooley’s background,” Petkas says. “I am just happy to be a chapter in that history.” —Susan Carini 04G

HONORING THE DOOLEY ARTISTS: THE NEW VINTAGE DOOLEY COLLECTION

The Vintage Dooley Collection—also known as the Eternally Yours Collection—employs rarely seen illustrations of Dooley from Emory’s past. Drawn by various students beginning in the 1940s, they represent an evolving Dooley. The illustrations were first seen on decals and in yearbooks and other publications. Consider Dooley the young student, scholar, dancer, and even as a female student from the dawn of coeducation. The female depiction is from Dooley’s Rib, an informal student handbook written specifically for those first brave female souls. This new collection of apparel and gift items is available in the campus Barnes & Noble bookstore and on the bookstore’s website.
"It is a pity I can't receive my own letters. If they produce as much wholehearted approval at their destination as they do at their source, they should indeed be able to keep my memory alive and healthy."

—Flannery O’Connor journal entry, 1944

Grace Notes

Flannery O’Connor’s papers add richness to MARBL special collections

BY CHARLES MCNAIR
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BY CHARLES MCNAIR
EVERYTHING CONVERGED.

In October, Emory welcomed a historic arrival more than a half century in the making. "We are pleased and proud to announce an acquisition of Flannery O'Connor's materials that substantially deepens and expands the O'Connor archives," said Rosemary Magee 82PHD, director of the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL), where the O'Connor collection now resides for use by faculty, students, and visiting scholars. Joining the papers of literary giants including Seamus Heaney, Natasha Trethewey, Alice Walker, Salman Rushdie, Ted Hughes, Samuel Beckett, and others, the papers and effects of O'Connor, arguably Georgia’s most acclaimed and influential writer, filled more than thirty boxes.

The trove came to Emory from a storage unit in Milledgeville, Georgia, O'Connor's hometown. It contained writings and physical mementos from O'Connor's early childhood in the 1930s to her untimely 1964 death, due to lupus, at thirty-nine.

The boxes held handwritten letters (more than 630 to O'Connor's mother, Regina, alone) and personal items such as O'Connor's trademark eyeglasses, a communion veil and a rosary, and charming handwritten, hand-illustrated books the writer created in her childhood. Along with journals filled with reflections and prayers and with manuscripts, including the meticulously hand-edited original draft of O'Connor's first novel Wise Blood, the collection contains the writer's Thurberesque cartoons and many one-of-a-kind photographs.

Emory procured the collection from the Mary Flannery O'Connor Charitable Trust, the literary estate of the writer. Louise Florencourt, O'Connor's first cousin and coexecutor of the materials, explained in a New York Times interview that after a half century of family stewardship, the time had come for the archive to be made available to the wider world.

"I thought that Flannery should be seen as whole as she could be made possible," Florencourt told the Times. "She's not here to speak for herself. So everything that I know of that she wrote has to speak for her."

EMORY’S EFFORT TO BRING THE O’CONNOR COLLECTION—THAT CONVERGENCE OF five decades of interest, hope, and trust building—read like a story worthy of the writer. It began in July 1963. On a hot summer day, David Estes 46G 51G, then head of Special Collections (now MARBL) at Emory, drove the ninety minutes or so to Milledgeville. He pulled up the dirt drive of Andalusia Farm, the 554-acre dairy enterprise where Flannery O'Connor and her mother lived, and climbed out of the car to admire the flocks of high-stepping peafowl and other birds the author famously raised.

"Anybody who has survived his childhood has enough information about life to last him the rest of his days."

—Flannery O'Connor, Mystery and Manners

The Estes visit and the university’s continued contact built on a previous connection. Flannery O’Connor had made several visits to Emory in her shortened lifetime to speak to classes. As well, O'Connor's doctor, Albert Merrill, first diagnosed her lupus at Emory Hospital. His diagnosis, in fact, brought the writer home to Andalusia from the Connecticut farm of Sally and Robert Fitzgerald, friends and patrons who played a vital supportive role in the writer’s life.

The incurable lupus had claimed the life of O'Connor’s father in 1941, when Flannery was just fifteen—a crushing loss. O'Connor succeeded his father in an effort to bring the O'Connor collection to Emory from a Connecticut farm of Sally and Robert Fitzgerald, friends and patrons who played a vital supportive role in the writer’s life. As such, the collection contains the writer’s Thurberesque cartoons and many one-of-a-kind photographs.

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History and manners

The inciting event and the welcome Fitzgerald received at Emory impressed her, and she visited as a research scholar almost every year afterward until her death in 2000.

In 1980, Rosemary Magee and fellow graduate students in Emory’s Graduate Institute of the Liberal Arts invited Sally Fitzgerald to a symposium, “Communities of Flannery O’Connor: Enigma of a Georgia Writer.” The event and the welcome Fitzgerald received at Emory impressed her, and she visited as a research scholar almost every year afterward until her death in 2000.

In 1987, Fitzgerald, along with William Sessions, a Georgia State University scholar and a friend of O’Connor, helped special collections director Linda Matthews 77G and curator Steve Eoinis 83G acquire a very important cornerstone of its O'Connor archive, Flannery’s letters to Betty Hester (famously “A” in The Habit of Being). But there was a strict stipulation: They could not be made public for twenty years.

Scho...
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—Flannery O’Connor, Mystery and Manners

The boxes held handwritten letters (more than 630 to O’Connor’s mother, Regina, alone) and personal items such as O’Connor’s trademark eyeglasses, a communion veil and a rosary, and charming handwritten, hand-illustrated books the writer created in her childhood. Along with journals filled with reflections and prayers and with manuscripts, including the meticulously hand-edited original draft of O’Connor’s first novel Wise Blood, the collection contains the writer’s Thurberesque cartoons and many one-of-a-kind photographs.

Emory procured the collection from the Mary Flannery O’Connor Charitable Trust, the literary estate of the writer. Louise Florencourt, O’Connor’s first cousin and coexecutor of the materials, explained in a New York Times interview that after a half century of family stewardship, the time had come for the archive to be made available to the wider world.

“I thought that Flannery should be seen as whole as could be made possible,” Florencourt told the Times. “She’s not here to speak for herself. So everything that I know of that she wrote has to speak for her.”

History and manners

EMORY’S EFFORT TO BRING THE O’CONNOR COLLECTION—THAT CONVERGENCE OF five decades of interest, hope, and trust building—reads like a story worthy of the writer. It began in July 1963. On a hot summer day, David Estes 46G 51G, then head of Special Collections (now MARBL) at Emory, drove the ninety minutes or so to Milledgeville. He pulled up the dirt drive of Andalusia Farm, the 554-acre dairy enterprise in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, O’Connor’s hometown. It contained the flocks of high-stepping peafowl and other birds the author famously raised.

“The Estes visit and the university’s continued contact built on a previous connection; Flannery O’Connor had made several visits to Emory in her shortened lifetime to speak to classes. As well, O’Connor’s doctor, Albert Merrill, first diagnosed her lupus at Emory Hospital. His diagnosis, in fact, brought the writer home to Andalusia from the Connecticut farm of Sally and Robert Fitzgerald, friends and patrons who played a vital supportive role in the writer’s life.”

The incurable lupus had claimed the life of O’Connor’s father in 1941, when Flannery was just fifteen—a crushing loss. O’Connor succeeded to the disease a year after Estes’s visit, in 1964.

The writer enjoyed modest success during her life, and her stature continued to rise after her death. A posthumous volume, Complete Stories, won the 1972 National Book Award for Fiction, the first time the prestigious award ever went to a deceased author. The Habit of Being: Letters of Flannery O’Connor, released in 1979, introduced O’Connor as an avial and lively correspondent through the brilliant letters she exchanged with an array of other writers and friends. These probing, witty, insightful missives revealed to the world the intense Roman Catholic faith that bedrocked O’Connor’s fictional world—a shocking, often violent place where grotesque misfits and freaks sought redemption (or ran from it), always under what O’Connor termed “the stinking mad shadow of Jesus.”

In 1980, Rosemary Magee and fellow graduate students in Emory’s Graduate Institute of the Liberal Arts invited Sally Fitzgerald to a symposium, “Communities of Flannery O’Connor: Enigma of a Georgia Writer.” The event and the welcome Fitzgerald received at Emory impressed her, and she visited as a research scholar almost every year afterward until her death in 2000.

In 1987, Fitzgerald, along with William Sessions, a Georgia State University scholar and a friend of O’Connor, helped special collections director Linda Matthews 77G and curator Steve Enniss 83G acquire a very important cornerstone of its O’Connor archive, Flannery’s letters to Betty Hester (famously “A” in The Habit of Being). But there was a strict stipulation: They could not be made public for twenty years.

Scholars who encountered the archive at its opening in 2007 found further revelations in O’Connor’s letters about the brave, uncompromising moral underpinnings of her fiction.
Friendship also played a role. Magee regularly stopped in Milledgeville to visit Florencourt while on the way to Savannah. “The pace of convergence quickened the next year, 2008. The Fitzgerald family had further enhanced its previous contributions with additional letters and research materials.”

Conrad W. M. Newton 75C.76G., active on the Emory Alumni Board, earned a bachelor’s degree in history and a master’s in librarianship while working forty years ago as the first graduate assistant to Linda Matthews, who later became special collections director and director of Emory Libraries. Newton feels his own four-decade-old degree benefits from the O’Connor acquisition. “This collection,” he says, “enriches the value of an Emory degree and the Emory name.”

One doesn’t have to be a scholar or student to benefit from the O’Connor acquisition, according to Bill Newton 75C’76G., who as a MARBL research assistant to Linda Matthews, who later became special collections director and director of Emory Libraries. Newton feels his own four-decade-old degree benefits from the O’Connor acquisition.

“I don’t deserve any credit for turning the other cheek as my tongue is always in it.”
—The Habit of Being

Sarah Harsh 18PhD, who as a MARBL research assistant and doctoral student had the good fortune of arriving at Emory at the same time as the O’Connor archive, has probably touched more of the items than anyone at Emory. As a budding scholar, she understands the promise and possibilities that radiate out of every box. “Here’s a hoard of raw material, with every correction Flannery O’Connor made to many of her drafts and with every letter to her mother,” Harsh says. “It’s a great thing to see firsthand this primary evidence and to be part of the archival process as it unfolds.

“Flannery O’Connor is not the most approachable of authors,” Harsh adds. “This work has made me feel a connection to her.”

Berit Reisenauer 15C, double majoring in religion (with a concentration in Catholic studies) and political science, delved into the collection as she wrote her honors thesis.

“This has been such a gift,” she says. “It’s phenomenal how much Flannery O’Connor’s personality comes through in these letters and papers. She has this little devious spark in her. It helps me understand who she is and more about her writing to see both aspects of her, in her fiction and in her nonfiction.”

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“My solo piece will relate to religion, illness, and personal relationships,” Freeman says. “I hope to be able to delve more deeply into Flannery O’Connor’s psyche and create the solo piece on site if possible.”

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"What moral sense has been bred out of certain sections of the population," one letter reads, "like the wings have been bred off certain chickens to produce more white meat on them . . . . This is a generation of wingless chickens, which I suppose is what Nietzsche meant when he said God was dead."

The pace of convergence quickened the next year, 2008. The Sally Fitzgerald collection arrived from the Fitzgerald estate thanks to the support of local foundations. (Emory announced concurrently with the 2014 acquisition of the O'Connor collection that the Fitzgerald family had further enhanced its previous contributions with additional letters and research materials.) Friendship also played a role. Magee regularly stopped in Milledgeville to visit Florencourt while on the way to Savannah. The trustee of the O'Connor estate found a connection to her. "Here’s a board of raw material, with every correction Flannery O’Connor made to many of her drafts and with every letter to her mother," Harsh says. "It’s a great thing to see firsthand this primary evidence and to be part of the archival process as it unfolds.

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The racially themed story pays homage to the title story of O’Connor’s short story collection, Everything That Rises Must Converge, published in 1965, one year after the writer died. With author and Emory permissions, Warren arranged for publication of the Walker story in the Flannery O’Connor Review, edited and printed at Georgia College and State University. She also authored an introduction.

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Rosemary M. Magee: The process of bringing the undiscovered short story to light involved Warren more fully in the letters and papers of O’Connor. The collection confirmed something in her mind. "There is something in us, as storytellers and as religious professionals. It’s the only true vocation."

Walker grew up in Eatonton, only twenty-six miles from Milledgeville.

The raw, unembellished facts of O’Connor’s life belie her restless, roaming mind. She grew up in a little Georgia town distinguished by a former state capitol building, some nice antebellum houses inexplicably spared by General Sherman, two colleges, a gabelle of churches, a boys’ reformatory, and a state asylum.

At age six, she taught a chicken to walk backward, a sort of quizz Ripley’s Believe it Or Not! that attracted a Yankee film crew to make a movie reel short that showed all over the nation in the 1930s. She drew cartoons for her high school and later for her college in Milledgeville, and wrote ambitiously, in her journals and letters, proud of her skill.

After college, she was accepted to the University of Iowa, where she planned to study journalism as a cartoonist, but found herself on the literary map. Despite frailty, nonetheless found herself on the literary map. Despite frailty, she possessed a wicked humor. She wrote

The life you save in letters

the RAGS, unrehearsed facts of O’Connor’s life

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Pamela Hall, associate professor of religion, agrees that O’Connor presents more of a challenge in classrooms today, you know colors what you read. "For me, " Warren says. "The more you know, the more what

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She wrote thirty-plus stories and a second novel. She reviewed books for a little Catholic journal. She never married. She had an operation for a fibroid tumor in 1964, after which her stoic-managed lupus returned with a vengeance. She died of kidney failure on a hot August morning.

These facts can be accessed with a few clicks. But in her letters, as her cousin Louise Floren-court noted, O’Connor speaks for herself still. A single hour among O’Connor’s papers tells a story beyond the history, revealing a rich life through nuanced details of her personality and philosophy. She possessed a wicked humor. She wrote this to her mother in 1942: Much obliged for the soap. Am I supposed to use it or something? Here’s another: Sister sent the dress to the cleaners, but she is having it altered according to her own conceptions . . . it is going to look like a mail bag.

And another in 1960 to friends: I can’t stand my own voice on the tape recorder. I prefer to go with it where it goes.

Flannery O’Connor would not have been happy at the University of Georgia or Georgia Tech on a fall Saturday. She wrote this from college at Iowa City in October 1946: I will be glad when all this football mess is done with. It is a lot of crooked rot. I have never seen so many drunk people as after it yesterday afternoon.

O’Connor would not bend the rules of her faith, even for a friend: You are good to want me in your wedding. The reason I cannot be is bluntly that cannon [sic] law forbids you are good to want me in your wedding. The reason I cannot be is bluntly that cannon [sic] law forbids

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Hall sees a more accessible O’Connor in letters and journals like the ones in the new MARBL collection.

“Then she transposes to another key in nonfiction. I love O’Connor’s nonfiction. I love her reflections on the craft of writing. I adore her religious observations. O’Connor’s nonfiction remains under-studied.”

The racially themed story pays homage to the title story of O’Connor’s short story collection, Everything That Rises Must Converge, published in 1965, one year after the writer died. With author and Emory permissions, Warren arranged for publication of the Walker story in the Flannery O’Connor Review, edited and printed at Georgia College and State University. She also authored an introduction.

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"That's where she's more direct," Hall says. "What is human ignorance? What is human freedom? How do people become good? She asks questions that never get drained of their spiritual charge because we continue to wrestle with them.

Hall, raised in a Southern Catholic and with a possible distant family connection to O'Connor, says she has "always felt I understood her at a blood level." O'Connor, Hall says, "has a prophetic rage in her fiction. Her anger is a hard place to be.

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The RARE, UNBESPOKEN FACTS OF O'CONNOR'S LIFE belie her restless, roaming mind.

She grew up in a little Georgia town distinguished by a former state capitol building, some nice antebellum houses inexplicably spared by General Sherman, two colleges, a gaggle of churches, a boy's reformatory, and a state asylum.

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She attended to her mother's illness with a tireless devotion. "I don't think anyone could have been more effective this for her," Hall says.

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the secret history

by Kevin A. Quarmby
Originally founded in 1834 as a manual labor school in the north of Covington, with young men expected to fulfill their farming duties in the fields as well as study in the classroom, the first Methodist educational project at Oxford soon fell into financial difficulties. Nonetheless, a successful petition of the Georgia legislature in 1836 secured a charter for the school's transition to a "sub-freshmen" liberal arts college, and Emory College, as it was originally called, was born. One name associated with both educational establishments was Emory College's first president, Ignatius Alphonso Few. Hailed as a founding light in the Emory firmament, Few and his short-lived tenure—ill health forced his retirement within a year of the college's opening—are commemorated in a tangible way on the Oxford College Quadrangle. In its center proudly stands the Few Memorial, a pillar-like structure that records the college president's many achievements: his call to the Methodist ministry, his military service, and his devotion to education. Most prominent, however, is the reference to Few's Masonic association. Few and his Masonic "band of brothers" influenced Southern education throughout the Georgia region and beyond.

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The spring of 2013 was wet at Oxford College. Rain fell long and hard. On Oxford’s 175-year-old Quadrangle, the paved walkways resembled red brick rivulets crisscrossing the saturated grass. As the grounds became more and more waterlogged, huge trees, some for nearly two centuries offering shelter from Georgia’s searing sun, lost their root-ball footholds. Like stunned Goliaths, these massive giants toppled unceremoniously and frighteningly swiftly, dragging down all that lay in the arc of their demise.

Mercifully, no human would suffer from these surrenders. Oxford’s leadership took wise precautions, especially since open-air Commencement was scheduled for early May. Another tree fell and Oxford’s Class of 2013, along with faculty and some top Emory dignitaries, could be nature’s unwitting victims. Tree specialists scaled and sawed at the college’s remaining verdant heritage. Areas of the Quad were cordoned off with yellow hazard tape as branches were systematically lopped and trunk roots checked for damage or further weakness. Spring 2013, for Oxford College, was not without its drama.

One particularly dramatic fall occurred on the morning of April 4, when a Quad giant succumbed to gravity and toppled ominously toward Seney Hall. The tree’s trajectory sent it crashing into the Quadrangle since 1849. This antebellum monument received a glancing blow that dislodged its heavy capstone and demolished the ornate 1850s iron railings guarding its base. Like an unsteady elderly gentleman with his hat askew, the Few Memorial remained standing, and Oxford’s Class of 2013, along with faculty and some top Emory administrators, were cordoned off with yellow hazard tape as branches were systematically lopped and trunk roots checked for damage or further weakness.

The uncanny timing of this act of nature was not lost on a small group of Emory employees for whom the Few Memorial held an immediate significance and fascination. The day before the tree’s fall, the Few Memorial was to be moved to San Marino, dating back to the lodge’s founding in the 1820s. In their stead, a fraternity has evolved whose sole purpose is to raise money for national and international charities, the Few Memorial with its dislodged capstone (black, from top left); Georgia Grand Master William C. Dawson; the undated petition to form a Few Lodge; the Few Memorial’s Masonic square and compass; the crushed 1850s iron railings.
Mercifully, no human would suffer from these saviors. Oxford's leadership took wise precautions, especially since open-air Commencement was scheduled for early May. Another tree fell and Oxford’s Class of 2015, along with faculty and some top Emory dignitaries, could be nature’s unwitting victims. Tree specialists scaled and sawed at the college’s remaining verdant heritage. Areas of the Quad were cordoned off with yellow hazard tape as branches were systematically lopped and trunk roots checked for damage or further weakness. Spring 2013, for Oxford College, was not without its drama.

Our particularly dramatic fall occurred on the morning of April 4, when a Quad giant succumbed to gravity and toppled ominously toward Seney Hall. The tree’s trajectory sent it crashing into the famous Few Memorial, a square stone pillar that has graced Oxford’s Quadrangle since 1849. This antebellum monument received a glancing blow that dislodged its heavy capstone and demolished the ornate Victorian iron railings guarding its base. Like an unsteady elderly gentleman with his hat askew, the Few Memorial remained standing, to san marino, dating back to the lodge’s founding in the 1820s. In 1866, for Oxford Dean of Campus Life Joseph Moon, the key historians for the college, could outline plans for the lodge, or the university’s, Masonic heritage. Freemasonry appeared to play a significant, albeit as yet unrecognized, role in Emory’s early years.

Of course, the imagery was not alien to an English “Lewis” (the son of a Freemason), brought up in the British tradition of philo- thermoply and charitable fund-raising that this fraternity represents today. Gone is the need for covert gathering, when Masonic meetings offered private settings for like-minded individuals to discuss radical political positions. Remember the close masonic ties of the nation’s founding fathers. In their stead, a fraternity has evolved whose sole purpose is to raise money for national and international charities, the Masonic association? as for many modern researchers, a first port of call into the uncharted. The search for, and acquisition of, this rich archive reads like a dime-novel detective story mixed with twenty-first-century technological good fortune. As a newly arrived assistant professor of English at Oxford College, who in fact English—I’d travelled from London to Oxford only eight months before to begin my US teaching career—was intrigued by the overt Masonic symbolism emblazoned on the Few Memorial. A large set square and open compass stand in proud relief midway up the column’s eastern elevation. Beneath these symbols, a lengthy and effusive inscription describes the Grand Lodge of Georgia’s role in erecting the monument to Ignatius Few, even citing his personal attributes as a “MASON” above those of Methodist “MINISTER of the Gospel” and “PATRON of Education and Learning,” as well as “PATRIOT” colored in the 1812 war against the British. When questioned, neither Vice President Gary Hauk Ph.D nor Oxford Dean of Campus Life Joseph Moon, the key historians for Emory and Oxford, could offer definitive answers as to the monument’s location or the university’s, Masonic heritage. Freemasonry appeared to play a significant, albeit as yet unrecognized, role in Emory’s early years.

The uncanny timing of this act of nature was not lost on a small group of Emory employees for whom the Few Memorial held an immediate significance and fascination. The day before the tree’s damaging descent, the author of this article, accompanied by Randy Gue and Gary Hauk, Ph.D., had traveled the forty-odd miles east along I-20 to the town of Greensboro to meet with members of Greensboro Masonic Lodge No. 34. This follow-up mission, fully supported by MARBL, Director Rosemary Magee Ph.D., was to negotiate Emory’s acquisition of a collection of manuscripts and documents belonging to San Marino, dating back to the lodge’s founding in the 1820s. In 1866, the lodge, or the university’s, Masonic heritage. Freemasonry appeared to play a significant, albeit as yet unrecognized, role in Emory’s early years.

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resolved, calling upon sister lodges throughout the State, to express their appreciation of the memory of our late brother.

What connection did Greensboro have with Ignatius Few? Why should a lodge a day’s horse ride away from Oxford wish to erect a memorial in his honor? Why were so many freemasons gathered at the lodge building in the center of Greensboro, two blocks from its antebellum courthouse.

...so many questions, all posed by a thirty-three-line news report from 1850.

The search through Emory's Masonic history suggested an ever-expanding band of brothers. This local lodge on the evening of December 1, 1838. That year was an important one for Few. He was awarded a doctor of law degree from Wesleyan University and, less than three months earlier on September 17, the first freshmen and some sophomores from Few's manual labor school were welcomed as boarding students at the newly established Emory College.

Few's affiliation into the Covington lodge gave the impression more of a Masonic coup than a benign association. Golden Fleece had seen so few new members for more than six years; its fortunes were obviously in decline. That same December evening, however, two more brethren affiliated into the lodge with Few. One was Harmong Lamar. Thanks to his passion for US political history, Tyler Goldberg (a ’16SCE, the undergraduate research student working on this project, immediately recognized Harmong’s surname. He was the brother of Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar I, a Georgia attorney and jurist who committed suicide in 1834, and Mitreua Buonnata Lamar, who fought for Texan independence and became its second president. Harmong Lamar also was the uncle of Lucius Q. C. Lamar II, later secretary of the interior, Mississippi senator, and associate justice of the Supreme Court. Prior to the Civil War, Lucius was a member of the House of Representatives from Mississippi until joining the 1860 Mississippi Secession Convention.

Few was associated with a powerful Southern family.

Since Uncle Harmong was Few’s Masonic brother and fellow affiliate, it is not surprising that his then thirteen-year-old nephew Lucius II should later find himself a student at Emory College (graduating ’83). Neither, given the legal associations of brothers, should Lucius II’s marriage to the daughter of Augustus Baldwin Longstreet, who inherited Few’s presidency of Emory College, appear anything less than further acceptance into the Masonic family. Longstreet was a respected Greenwood courthouse lawyer, later judge. In 1868, Longstreet entered the practice of law with the Rev. Dr. Means, who gave the ‘elloquent and touching’ address at Few’s ’89 memorial dedication service. Longstreet helped found the Southern Masonic Female College (SMFC) in Covington (in 1868), a relatively short-lived experiment for educating young white women in the area, which apparently shared educational resources and faculty with the nearby manual labor school. Evidence from the digitization project of Benjamin Poulson, the present lodge secretary of Golden Fleece No. 6 in Covington, indicates that Few “affiliated” himself (was already a full-fledged Mason but transferred over) to this local lodge on the evening of December 1, 1838. That year was an important one for Few. He was awarded a doctor of law degree from Wesleyan University and, less than three months earlier on September 17, the first freshmen and some sophomores from Few’s manual labor school were welcomed as boarding students at the newly established Emory College.

Emory's history is suggested an ever-expanding band of brothers.
resolution, calling upon sister lodges throughout the State, to express their appreciation of the numerous and valuable services rendered.

What connection did Greensboro have with Ignatius Few? Why should a lodge a day’s horse ride away from Oxford wish to erect a monument to his life? Why did so many Freemasons gathered at this educational establishment? What role did Methodism play in Georgia’s Masonic history? So many questions, all posed by a thirty-three-line news report from 1854.

Most intriguing, though, seemed the fact that a copy of the minutes of San Marino Lodge could be read from all. A copy of the minutes! I could only imagine what such a document might reveal about Few’s early years. For this Englishman, a geophysical bachelor whose family remained in the UK and whose office now represented home, there seemed no better course of action than to follow the trail. whose office now represented home, there seemed without some assistance. Dean Moon, author of an article on the lodge’s early history, it would be him. of the current lodge secretary. If anyone knew about Few’s Masonic credentials, these can also be traced relatively easily, at least in relation to the Oxford area. Evidence from the digitization project of Ben Pousson, the present lodge secretary of Golden Fleece No. 4 in Covington, indicates that Few “affiliated” himself (was already a full-fledged Mason but transferred over) to this local lodge on the evening of December 1, 1858. That year was an important one for Few. He was awarded a doctor of law degree and declining fortunes, recorded the fatal months of war-torn 1864.

Determined to find something of relevance in this final book, I again read each page, but no evidence record of lodge matters after the day of meeting, until a name suddenly sprang to view. Dated January 24, 1846, meeting minutes acknowledged how Bro. Walter R. Bransham, accompanied by several of Few’s Masonic brethren, delivered a Masonic sermon at Greensboro’s Union Church. Bransham name, whose 1845 house on Oxford’s Wesley Street carries his life and wealth (and whose personal archive resides in MARRL), seemed the first confirmation of an Oxford and Greensboro Masonic connection. This was exciting enough, but what followed might have caused consterna- tion for Oxford police officers seen this normally reserved, late-fifties Brit dancing around his office, punching the air and shouting, “Yes, yes!” The meeting held by the lodge had, records the following “resolution” presented in the presence of Grand Master Dawson: “Bro TP King [the lodge’s master] resolved [to form] a committee to address the several subordinate Lodges within this jurisdic- tion … upon the expendability and Propriety of erecting a monument to the Memory of our late lamented brother Col Ignatius Few.” This handwritten record was the very copy of the minutes referred to at the February Masonic dedication in 1849. San Marino Lodge No. 34 was indeed instrumental in its erection. Here was the primary evidence; now the excitement of the chase really kicked in. A few pages farther on, even more information sprang to light. The lodge minutes describe how, following the dedication of the Masonic Temple above the newly built Greensboro courthouse on October 17, 1849, the “members of the San Marino Lodge No. 34, records of an invitation extended to them by the Grand Lodge of the State of Georgia, & addressed to all the subordinate Lodges in the State, attended the rededication ceremony on Friday the 28th day of October 1849 … erected in honour [sic] of our late brother Dr Few Ignatius Few.” Although this eyewitness account records no 96 Masons, but passing a large number of the Masonic Fraternity.” Some sixth sense drove my quest to find the copy of the minutes. It had to be here somewhere, all that was needed was patience and dogged determination.

Back at Oxford, the enormity of the task became evident. There was no systematic arrangement of the materials; letters, requests for help, occasional records of punishment for indiscreet liaisons with the wives of fellow Masons. Several large, dusty, handwritten minute books with dates recorded, in Masonic tradition, with adding four thousand years to accommodate the biblical creation story. An undergraduate research assistant eagerly looked through the archives box, as the time to return the material neared, no sign, no reference, even not a passing mention of Oxford emerged from the pages. On the eve of the prearranged return trip to Greensboro and the promised restoration of their treasures, a final foray into the dog-
Cambodian native Meng Lim 95C took the bench for the first time in January as superior court judge for the Tallapoosa judicial circuit in rural West Georgia. The first Asian American elected as superior court judge in Georgia, Lim escaped atrocities in his homeland as a child and overcame adversity as a refugee in his adoptive country to achieve professional and political success in a community that embraced him as its own.

By Maria M. Lameiras
Atkins, Lim won a July runoff versus Morris to vent their overthrow, the Khmer Rouge exterminated anyone suspected of being capitalists or traitors, including almost anyone who was educated, ethnic minorities, professionals, and people connected to foreign governments.

Many of the new regime’s policies intended to force the country into its agrarian ideal disproportionately affected Lim’s family. His parents were both educated city dwellers and ethnically Chinese. Although his mother had been born in Cambodia, her mother was from China. Lim’s father had escaped his native land to Cambodia in 1949, after the Maoist government executed his own father, a landlord in China.

Before Lim’s birth, his father had fled the city out of fear with the couple’s oldest son. The rest of the family, including Lim’s mother; his middle brother, Lymeng; and his older sister, Siv Lang, were driven from their home in 1975 and forced into farm labor camps outside the city. Little more than a toddler, Lim was separated from his mother and siblings and settled in a one-room barracks with about a dozen other children, watched over by an adult loyal to the movement.

Each morning, the children were awakened at sunrise and marched to work in rice fields. Lim’s memories are spotty, but he recalls some incidents vividly.

“At noon, they would march us from the rice fields to the cafeteria to eat. One day, I remember I had to sit down underneath a tree because I was too weak to walk. When I gathered enough strength and got to the cafeteria, they had eaten all the food. That was one of the few things I remember that was bad,” Lim says, without bitterness. “Most of the experiences were surprisingly positive. We didn’t have toys, but we would play with all kinds of stuff. I remember catching crickets and fighting fish. We would make balls of clay, and that would be our medium of exchange.”

Other than periodic visits to the women’s camp to see his mother, Lim says life went on this way until 1979, when the Vietnamese armed forces invaded Cambodia in response to Cambodian aggression across its borders. As the Vietnamese made headway into the country, the Khmer Rouge soldiers and their supporters fled into the jungles and mountains, abandoning the work camps.

As soon as she was free of her guards, Lim’s mother raced to collect her children. She arranged for the older two to stay with a friend, then set out with her youngest son in tow to search for her missing husband with only a photograph and scraps of information to go on.

“She would hitch rides with army trucks sometimes, but mostly we walked,” Lim recalls. “She would ask any people we met if they had seen this man in the photo. Every time we got news about him, she would chase down that path, only to realize he was no longer there.”

Lim remembers the day, after scouring the Cambodian countryside for more than a month, when they finally found his father. But the joy was tempered with grief, as Lim’s oldest brother had contracted malaria while traveling with his father and died due to lack of medicine.

“It was really strange. I saw this man who my mom said was my father, but I’d never met him before. I remember them crying, and they talked for a long time, late into the night,” Lim says.

Once reunited, Lim and his parents traveled back to pick up his older brother and sister. Back together, the family resettled in a smaller city and tried to rebuild their lives.

While his father worked at any job he could find, Lim’s mother tried to do some basic nursing, but without medication there was little she could accomplish. She resorted to cooking whatever she could find to sell on the streets.

For about a year the family lived in a make-shift hut fashioned from bamboo and palm leaves. One night, a man with a knife came into the shelter and demanded the family’s money. Shaken, the Lims decided they would seek shelter in refugee camps that had been set up in neighboring Thailand to take in Cambodians fleeing the war. The family gathered a few treasured belongings and set out, traveling mostly at night to remain undetected, on a long, harrowing journey to the border. At the border, Lim’s parents paid a guide to take them into Thailand and to a Red Cross camp.

To a seven-year-old Lim, the camp was a chance to catch up on a lost childhood.

“The Red Cross gave us toys and clothes, and there was a school there. Most of the time we would just play, and I remember learning to play Chinese chess,” he says. In the meantime, his father was desperately writing letters to friends and acquaintances around the world, seeking asylum for the family in another country.

It was eighteen months before the family was “called” by an Atlanta organization, Jewish Family and Career Services, who agreed to sponsor them in the United States. In preparation for the trip to the US, the family was transferred to another camp in Indonesia where they learned rudimentary English. Another six months passed before the day came for the
family to fly to Atlanta. Lim remembers the anticipation of his first airplane flight and his mother giving him a handkerchief to put in his pocket and admonishing him that when they got to America he was to be careful not to throw trash on the streets.

When they landed in Atlanta, a host family took the Lims to an apartment that had been set up for them in College Park. The things that stand out in Lim's mind from that first real home were a thirteen-inch, black-and-white television set and the freezer.

He and his siblings immediately started school, and his parents sought work. His mother soon found employment as a live-in nanny for a doctor's family, forcing her to be away from her family during the week. His father, however, struggled with English and was frustrated with his inability to find a job. After about eight months in College Park, Lim's parents were hired as custodians for the First Baptist Church in Bremen. The church provided them with a house just across the large asphalt parking lot from the sanctuary.

As the youngest of the family, Lim says he found learning English daunting at first, but quickly began to pick up the language.

“I remember when I finally could say my first sentence. After that I became the interpreter for my mom and dad when they went places where they needed me to help translate,” he says. “Probably because of that, my parents gave me a lot of freedom. That is mostly good, but sometimes it had its negative effect too. They gave me so much freedom that I did pretty much whatever I wanted to do.”

During this time, Lim's older brother, Lymeng, was a positive role model for him, starting high school as soon as they arrived in Bremen and managing to complete his studies in four years while learning English. He went on to Dubuque University in Iowa for a year before finishing his business degree at West Georgia College in Carrollton.

“My brother really had to work hard to get this kind of education because he started so late. He would read his textbooks and translate them the night before class into Chinese, writing it in between the lines, so in class he would know what they were talking about,” Lim says.

Following his brother's example, Lim excelled in school and did his part to contribute to the family.

David Tarpley, who volunteered with Lim's campaign as public relations manager, recounts the story of when a thirteen-year-old Lim walked into his father's convenience store, the People Pleaser, and asked for a job.

“Meng was in the eighth grade, and he told my father that he needed the job because he needed braces,” Tarpley says. “Some of the other kids had braces, so he wanted them too, but his family could not afford them.”

When Tarpley took over the store in 1989, he experienced firsthand the tirelessly work ethic and engaging personality that have been constants in his friend ever since.

“He was always so accommodating with customers, he always wanted to help people,” Tarpley says.

By the time he started high school, however, Lim's home life had deteriorated. His father had become increasingly bitter and angry about struggling to make ends meet as a janitor when he had been an educator in Cambodia. He felt isolated in a community where he could not speak the language or drive.

“He was angry a lot and yelling,” Lim says. “My mother just tried to enjoy things; she adapted in everything she did. But my mom is very strong-minded. When Dad got to a certain point, she began to push back. There was just constant arguing and fighting.”

It became difficult for Lim to concentrate in school, and he began skipping classes—sometimes going to the mall or out into the woods, but other times leaving town with a friend and not returning for days.

“You could only miss a certain number of days, and I was always at that limit,” Lim says.

In his junior year of high school, a Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS) caseworker went to the high school to ask some of the teachers if they knew of an emergency place for Lim to stay.

Art teacher Jim Watts overheard the plea. “I've known Meng since he was in grade school, and I taught him art in the ninth grade. He was just an outstanding student. Any goal he set, he always made it,” Watts says. “I knew the caseworker, so I approached her and said if Meng needed a place to stay, we'd be able to take him.”

The next day the DFCS worker called Watts back to ask if he was serious about
but that I had to find something I wanted to do.”

Lim was particularly close to his foster mother, Becky, who died in 2013. “She was just very encouraging and understanding,” he says. In a stable environment, Lim was able to concentrate on his work and extracurricular activities, starring on the wrestling team and becoming president of several clubs.

Although the Wattses became his guardians, Lim visited his parents often. His mother was happy he was getting the support he needed, but his father refused to speak to him for more than a year. In time Lim’s father realized his son was in an environment where he could succeed, and his attitude softened.

By Lim’s senior year, the two families shared their pride and support of their son.

When it came time to apply to colleges, Watts asked Lim which schools he was considering.

“He told me he had only applied to Emory because that’s the only one he wanted to go to,” Watts says. “As you know, he ended up there.”

Valedictorian of his high school class, Lim chose Emory for its academic reputation. He applied only to Emory for practicality—he didn’t have the money to pay application fees to many different schools. He was accepted and received the Georgia Governor’s Scholarship, which is awarded to the state’s valedictorians, and other scholarship assistance.

At first, Lim felt lost at Emory.

“I’d graduated first in my class in high school, but it was really difficult for me. I had the pressure of going pretrained because that’s what my parents wanted—even though I don’t like hospitals and I don’t like to see blood,” he says.

Through the guidance of several key professors—including David Edwards, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Psychology; history professor Irwin Hyatt; and administrator Jody Usher—Lim switched his focus to prelaw, majoring in American history.

“Once I decided what I wanted to do, I could channel my energy again,” he says.

After Emory, Lim attended Mercer School of Law in Macon, with an interest in family and juvenile law, in part because of the struggles his own family has been through.

“I always enjoyed helping people because of my background, and I always liked the underdog,” Meng says, a characteristic smile lighting up his face.

When he finished law school, Lim returned to Haralson County as a clerk for the superior court he will now serve as a judge. Retired Superior Court Judge Marion Cummings was one of three superior court judges for the Tallasoo circuit when Lim took a clerkship with the office.

“It was fairly intensive work because he was working with three judges in three counties. We had many difficult cases, but he is a very bright and capable young man and did the job quite well,” Cummings says.

It was years later that Cummings learned of Lim’s childhood in Cambodia and his journey to US citizenship. As a personal favor to his former clerk and longtime friend, Cummings presided over Lim’s swearing in as superior court judge at the Polk County Courthouse on December 4 in front of a courtroom packed with family, friends, supporters, and colleagues.

With his parents, Watts, his sister, and his children gathered around him, Lim swore to “administer justice without respect to person and do equal rights to the poor and the rich.”

Lim’s decisive election and the enthusiastic turnout to celebrate his swearing in belie the concern Cummings felt for his protégé when he began his law career.

“When he first left the clerkship and started practicing law, I wondered how he would be received in a rural setting,” Cummings says. “For him it was never a problem. He truly has lived the American dream.”

Lim credits his time with the court as one of the most important experiences in his career.

“I recognized, in addition to being the inevitable umpire for two battling lawyers, a good judge must possess a talented administrative ability to deal with the inherently huge caseload that overwhelms our courts,” Lim says. “It is not comforting for someone to wait in court all day only to be told to go home without having an opportunity to address his or her concerns.”

Upon completing his clerkship, Lim shared space with another attorney for a short time before opening his first solo law office in Buchanan, answering his own phones and doing his own administrative work until he could build his practice.

“I was so nervous about opening my own practice, I was working all the time,” says Lim.

An undercurrent in many of Lim’s stories is an insecurity that makes Lim seem both older and younger than his forty-two years. He says he has learned resilience and resolve from his mother, but his determination often seems to have been troubled by doubt.

“When my parents came over, they were so dependent on me to translate and understand
The hit-and-run driver remained at large for two years after Lymeng Lim’s accident—theimpetus for Lim’s political run. “I realized this might be the only opportunity I would ever have if I wanted to pursue a judgeship,” Lim says. “If I found in a friend, and he said, ‘If you don’t try, you’ll never know.’”

Although he knew many people in his home county, Lim rented billboards “to get my face out there” in neighboring Polk County. He canvassed neighborhoods in both counties, taking time to listen to citizens’ concerns. “So many people came out to support me. They would remind me of things I had done for them,” says Lim, who is known in the community for performing pro bono work and for accepting nontraditional payment for legal work. He jokes that at one point his front yard began looking like a used car lot after he’d accepted the titles of several used vehicles as payment. Many of those vehicles he, in turn, gave to people who were down on their luck. “I was taking cases just to help people out because people helped my family before. When my sister got married, people donated suits and dresses; when I was in school and I went on field trips, people would donate money.”

Defendants Nuon Chea, eighty-eight, and Khieu Samphan, eighty-three, were sentenced to life in prison in August for masterminding the mass evacuations of Cambodians, the Lims among them, from their homes. Lim’s father has chosen not to follow the trials, but his mother is interested in the outcome. At seventy-nine, Anh Lim still lives on her own in a modest frame home in Bremen. On a recent afternoon, she was preparing for the change of seasons, sweeping between a jumble of potted plants ringing the carport of her home. She smiles warmly in welcome of her son and his guest, pulling out folding chairs and offering seats. When a question in English escapes her grasp, her son translates into Cantonese, and she answers quickly, recalling the decision to leave Cambodia for a new life in the US. “It was her only hope that I would have the chance to go to school and study hard,” Meng Lim translates.

In heavily accented English, she expresses gratitude that her family’s sacrifices have paid off for her son. “My son has worked very hard. We are very happy and proud,” Anh Lim beams.

After winning the runoff election in July, Lim celebrated with friends, family, and supporters at a local restaurant in Haralson county seat of Buchanan until late into the night, then drove to his father’s home in Tucker to share the news of his victory. “When I got there, it was so late he had gone to sleep already, so I just waited,” says Lim, who stayed awake through the night thinking back on his life and the new challenges ahead. “I was going to wait until he woke up, but couldn’t wait any more, so early in the morning I woke him up and told him. He was really happy, and he gave me a hug. I don’t remember getting a hug from him. Ever. It was a long, big hug. That was really special.”

Father and son talked for a while; then Lim returned to Haralson County, where he immediately began pulling up his campaign signs. “I didn’t want to litter,” he explains simply.

**The weekend after the May primary—two years after Lymeng Lim’s accident—the suspect in his vehicular homicide was arrested in Gwinnett County after allegedly causing a second fatal accident. She is now awaiting trial on vehicular homicide charges in both DeKalb and Gwinnett Counties. Lim’s family is hopeful that justice might finally be served.**

Justice on a much grander scale, but which still impacts the Lim family in a very personal way, also is taking place in Phnom Penh, where leaders of the Khmer Rouge are facing genocide charges for the bloody years they controlled Cambodia. Hearings began in October on far-reaching charges against the surviving senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge who were responsible for the deaths of 1.7 million people. Defendants Nuon Chea, eighty-eight, and Khieu Samphan, eighty-three, were sentenced to life in prison in August for masterminding the mass evacuations of Cambodians, the Lims among them, from their homes.

These people were really passionate about me, and their attitudes and their willingness to support me wholeheartedly helped me win.”

University’s Keller School of Management in Atlanta, working toward an MBA, when tragedy struck a family that had already borne more than its fair share.

On the morning of February 15, 2012, Lymeng was on his way to pick up his father in Tucker when an out-of-control driver slammed into Lymeng’s vehicle, killing him instantly. The hit-and-run driver remained at large for more than two years.

The grief and shock took their toll on Lim’s family and his marriage, and Lim and Tivitmahaisoon divorced later that year. The couple’s second child, Nicholas James—whom he met when an out-of-control driver slammed into Lymeng’s vehicle, killing him instantly—was born two years later.

Lymeng had joined the military at age thirty-seven after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, out of a desire to give back to his adopted country. He was enrolled at DeVry University’s Keller School of Management very early on. I had to take care of myself and my family and his marriage, and Lim and Tivitmahaisoon divorced later that year. The couple’s second child, Nicholas James—whom he met when an out-of-control driver slammed into Lymeng’s vehicle, killing him instantly—was born two years later. They would remind me of things I had done for them,” says Lim, who is known in the community for performing pro bono work and for accepting nontraditional payment for legal work. He jokes that at one point his front yard began looking like a used car lot after he’d accepted the titles of several used vehicles as payment. Many of those vehicles he, in turn, gave to people who were down on their luck. “I was taking cases just to help people out because people helped my family before. When my sister got married, people donated suits and dresses; when I was in school and I went on field trips, people would donate money.”

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MILAN, 1490. An expert painter, sculptor, and engineer completes his rendering of the human body. Known as the Vitruvian Man, this drawing blends art with science and illustrates Renaissance theories of proportion and symmetry in the body previously described by the Roman architect Vitruvius in his treatise, De Architectura. The artist is Leonardo da Vinci, and the masterpiece that combined his own observation of human bodies with theories from the ancient text would become a critical teaching tool and anatomical guide for centuries to come.

ATLANTA, 2014. More than five hundred years later, Michael Konomos (at left) sits in his office on Emory University’s campus. He draws directly on the screen of his computer monitor with a digital pen to refine a 3-D image of the human brain. As the lead medical illustrator for Dean Christian Larsen’s office at the School of Medicine, Konomos has worked on a number of 3-D visualizations of various parts of the human body. He previously developed the Surgical Anatomy of the Liver app for iPad that is already being used in surgical education. In another skillful combination of science and art, 3-D visualizations of the brain created by Konomos help illustrate deep brain stimulation (DBS) research led by Emory professor and neurologist Helen Mayberg, Dorothy C. Fuqua Chair in Psychiatric Neuroimaging and Therapeutics.
Mayberg heads a multidisciplinary program at Emory dedicated to studying depression and the effects of antidepressant treatments, including DBS. She and her research team have developed reconstructions of the human brain—computer models based on imaging data gathered from actual patients—to personalize the selection of a best treatment, be it cognitive behavior therapy, medication, or DBS, based on brain scan patterns. The team’s most recent imaging studies also are being used to refine and optimize the surgical targeting for patients undergoing DBS.

Mayberg pioneered the use of DBS in a region of the brain known as Area 25 more than ten years ago. Her team is testing to determine if these new computer reconstructions can improve the targeting of Area 25 and adjacent white matter bundles critical to achieving antidepressant effects. People with severe depression that does not respond to talk therapy, drugs, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), or a combination of these treatments participate in Mayberg’s research. Some participants have struggled with depression for most of their lives.

**PICTURING DEPRESSION**

Patients diagnosed with treatment-resistant depression—occurring in approximately 1 percent of Americans—describe living in a perpetual cloud of darkness. “All I could do was get out of bed and go to the kitchen. It didn’t matter what I would eat because it all tasted the same,” said one young man who wishes to remain anonymous. “I only ate so I wouldn’t end up in the hospital.”

Before coming to Emory, candidates for DBS therapy in Mayberg’s most recent study had tried an average of more than twenty medications or combinations of medications. Of the thirty subjects in the study, twenty-nine had received ECT. None of these treatments worked for this highly resistant group.

With hope for a better outcome, they elected to receive DBS, in which a battery-powered device is surgically implanted into the chest and connected to two wires inserted directly into the brain. Patients remain awake during the procedure to report their feelings as physicians remotely activate four electrical contacts within Area 25, a part of the brain that regulates mood. It can be a frightening prospect for patients, but using improved 3-D brain images to help guide surgeons may make the treatment more efficient and effective.

Traditionally, anatomical landmarks and MRI scans of the patient’s brain taken prior to surgery...
determined the placement of contact points within the brain. Through her research, Mayberg identified three crucial tracts, or pathways, within Area 25 that produce the best results when stimulated. But because routine anatomical MRI scans cannot visualize the needed details of the white matter tracts and each patient’s brain connections are slightly different, implanting the contacts in precisely the right place is difficult. Even missing this target by a millimeter can mean the difference between the treatment’s success and failure.

**BETTER BRAIN IMAGES CAN HELP TARGET TREATMENT**

A team of undergraduates, data analysts, post-doctoral fellows, and physicians in Mayberg’s lab and across departments process raw MRI data, along with CT scans, from patients to create a more comprehensive image of the brain. Working together, they have developed a 3-D tractography model that displays pathways in the brain from the implant site to other areas in the brain affected directly by DBS. The next phase of research for Mayberg’s team will explore whether the use of new imaging methods could provide a more accurate representation of the target area for surgeons to view before a patient enters the operating room.

The next phase of research for Mayberg’s team will explore whether the use of new imaging methods could provide a more accurate representation of the target area for surgeons to view before a patient enters the operating room. From a practical point of view, these results may help us to choose the optimal contact for stimulation and eventually to better plan the surgical placement of the DBS electrodes,” says Mayberg.

**FURTHER EXPLORATION REQUIRED**

In the lab’s most recent study, changing the electrode being stimulated improved clinical outcomes even after six months of ongoing DBS, with 73 percent of patients showing significant clinical improvement once they receive DBS in the optimal location. As DBS for depression remains an experimental procedure, the team continues to monitor the long-term progress of patients who receive ongoing DBS. “This is not a cure-all treatment,” says Patricio Riva Posse, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Emory. “Because they have experienced depression for a significant part of their lives, they will need a combination of sound psychiatric and psychotherapeutic support to manage reintegration back into their day-to-day lives.”

Many patients with treatment-resistant depression need help dealing with emotions that have been repressed for so long, while others have careers, family, and finances that have been devastated as a result of the disease. “Recovery from depression is a long trajectory, and there may be bumps in the road,” says Riva Posse, lead psychiatrist on Mayberg’s team.

Optimizing the brain’s response network with the help of tractography models could significantly influence clinical outcomes, but additional testing is needed at Emory and by other teams exploring the use of this experimental treatment. In addition, improving anatomical precision alone doesn’t account for all patients who do not respond to treatment. This will be an important next focus for Mayberg, who recently received the Gold Medal Award from the Society of Biological Psychiatry to honor her significant contributions to the field.

Unlike many conventional clinical trials where new treatments are tested for a relatively short period of time, DBS research patients are followed long-term, many for more than six years, as they require ongoing DBS to remain well. They therefore require ongoing device and clinical monitoring. Such long-term follow-up provides a unique opportunity for additional research studies, particularly those that might elucidate how DBS exerts its antidepressant effects. Given the long timeline of these complex studies, creative and sustained sources of research funding are particularly critical. “The DBS work has been harder to fund through conventional sources than many of our other studies,” says Mayberg. “But the opportunity is unparalleled to learn about severe depression in a new way, and it has reached a stage where the work is so interesting I would work on it full time if I had the resources.”

Back in his office, medical illustrator Michael Konomos prepares his 3-D reconstruction of the brain for use in educational publications. Because the model was developed from research pioneered by Mayberg and other clinician scientists at Emory, it is an accurate artist’s representation based on real human data that can be modified to illustrate a variety of brain functions and treatments.

Using this digital brain model, Konomos can render different images of depression, epilepsy, or Alzheimer’s disease. With training that includes both traditional art and digital techniques, Konomos describes creating 3-D computer models as “working with digital clay.” Although these modern masterpieces probably will never hang in a museum, they are invaluable for helping unlock the mysteries of depression and many other disorders.

Medical advances have come a long way since da Vinci’s day, but some still require a skillful blend of art and science. Doctors know more about brain imaging than ever before, and with access to modern tools, they hope to help patients experience better quality of life—whether through art, technology, science, or a combination of advances that will shape the future of medicine.
windows
OF OPPORTUNITY

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.

During his forty-year career at Oxford College, Bill Murdy shared his love for teaching, learning, and science with hundreds of students. Motivated by their belief in the power of education to transform lives, Murdy and his wife, Nancy Murdy, established the Bill and Nancy Murdy Scholarship in 1993. You can support their scholarship—or any scholarship fund at Oxford. To learn more, please contact Adrienne Vinson at 770.784.8447 or adrienne.vinson@emory.edu.

Helen Mayberg leads a multidisciplinary program at Emory dedicated to the study of depression and the effects of antidepressant treatments. For patients with treatment-resistant depression, new 3-D tractography models from her lab may hold the key to improving outcomes. For more information or to invest in Mayberg’s research, contact Phyllis Rosen at 404.727.8254 or prosen@emory.edu.
EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Rollins School of Public Health students learn to respond when disasters strike around the world, and philanthropy helps them prepare. The Center for Humanitarian Emergencies trains master of public health students through field research in countries such as Haiti and Syria that have experienced conflict or natural disasters. To support this program, contact Julie C. Smith at 404.712.8687 or julie.c.smith@emory.edu.

MAKING IT MATTER

Emory Medalists are chosen for distinguished service to the university, their communities, and their professions; often they are philanthropists as well. This year’s medalists—Judge William O’Kelley 51C 53L and John W. Stephenson 70C—support the areas of Emory’s work that are closest to their hearts. O’Kelley invests in programs at Emory Law, including a scholarship established in his honor. Stephenson and his foundation, the J. Bulow Campbell Foundation, strengthen programs across the university. Find the giving opportunities that matter most to you. Visit giving.emory.edu.

ADVOCATES AT WORK

It’s no surprise that the Campus Kitchens Project is a popular student volunteer opportunity at Emory. Our students are known for their enthusiastic community service, and the university is home to one of the nation’s largest student volunteer organizations. You can lend your support with a gift to the Campus Life Fund for Excellence. Find out more from Jessi Arnidis at 404.712.4682 or jessi.arnidis@emory.edu.

REINFORCING FRAGILE PROGRESS

The Department of Human Genetics at Emory has one of the longest-standing interdisciplinary research programs on fragile X-associated disorders in the world. The gene for fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited form of intellectual disability, was discovered by Emory genetics researchers Stephen T. Warren (above), Ben Oostra, and David Nelson in 1991. To advance understanding of fragile X syndrome and other genetic disorders with a gift to Emory research, contact Gabrielle Stearns at 404.727.2512 or gabrielle.stearns@emory.edu.
Vision, Principles, and Ebola

Since late July, when Emory University was asked to receive and care for two medical missionaries who had contracted the Ebola virus in Liberia, I have been asked often what role the Emory trustees or I played in deciding that we should accept these patients at our hospital. After all, this was wholly unfamiliar territory we were being invited to enter: there had never been a known Ebola patient in the Western Hemisphere. Beyond the extreme caution and strict protocols required to care for the patients and ensure the safety of our health care workers and the community, there was the possibility of negative public reaction and understandable fear about possible risks. How was the leadership of Emory weighing these issues?

My consistent reply, probably disappointing to many, is that I’m proud to say that the leadership of the university played virtually no immediate role in saying yes to the request. Naturally the leadership of Emory Healthcare, our university-owned system of hospitals and clinics, was fully engaged, and faculty—physicians as well as nursing administrators—were involved in preparations. But when the mission, guiding principles, and ethical standards of a university are widely understood and adopted throughout the institution, presidents and trustees do not need to weigh in on every matter of importance.

Emory’s mission is to create, preserve, teach, and apply knowledge in the service of humanity. Fulfilling that mission happens most effectively when everyone, from the chair of the board to the assistant professor, and from the staff nurse to the department secretary, understands that all of us are working together with these aims in mind. In that sense, the teams making decisions about these two special patients were one Emory, acting on a deeply held and broadly understood commitment to Emory’s mission.

Of course we had to keep trustees informed of developments along the way. Our first rule in trustee communication is, “No surprises.” Trustees should learn the news about their university from the university, not from the media or elsewhere. In this case, we could anticipate some of the questions our trustees might hear from friends and colleagues, and we could answer them ahead of time to help in those conversations. What are the risks for the caregivers and for the surrounding population? What are the foreseeable outcomes for the patients? How many more patients are likely to need our care? What are the financial costs to the university, and what are the reputational liabilities if something disastrous occurs? During the weeks following the admission of those first two patients, we maintained regular updates to our board to supplement the massive wave of news reports and social media generated by the patients’ treatment and progress.

None of this is to say that our trustees were merely passive spectators who had no role in rising to the challenge presented to us. I would argue that, in fact, Emory could not have met this challenge without the vision, foresight, and aspiration of generations of trustees past. As an example, I could simply point to the presence of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) adjacent to Emory’s main campus. It was the vision of Emory trustees and others some sixty years ago that made it possible for the university to convey the land for that federal agency, keeping it in Atlanta and bringing it close enough to the university for significant partnerships to bloom.

Owing to the CDC’s presence, we have had in place for more than a decade a special isolation unit in Emory University Hospital, just in the event that CDC workers might contract highly infectious diseases. This isolation unit is the scene of frequent drills to prepare for a host of emergencies—such as the need to care for Ebola patients. Rarely needed for actual use, the unit is an unprofitable enterprise in terms of a bottom line. The trustees understand this to be part of our mission to discover new ways of treatment, teach new methods of care, and apply that knowledge in the service of humanity.

In more general terms, the board’s fiduciary role in guiding a university requires that trustees insist on a vision for the institution and hold the members of the university community—including themselves—accountable for achieving it. As a community of privileged people, a university bears a burden of responsibility. The events of this summer that thrust Emory into the spotlight and under the global media microscope, to my thinking, an example of shouldering that burden. We could have chosen not to assume the responsibility for these patients. Instead, while exercising appropriate caution, we chose to try to rise to the vision that the Emory community had adopted.

In the end, our physicians, nurses, staff, and communications professionals not only earned the gratitude of the patients and their families. They also demonstrated the power for positive transformation that is inherent in research universities, transformation that we trust, in this case, will help lead to the control of this dreadful disease.

This text originally appeared in the November/December 2014 issue of Trusteeship magazine.
The gift of land is a rare opportunity for most colleges, and when such a windfall does occur, it calls for careful consideration of what the best uses of the land are. In 2011 Oxford College was presented with eleven acres of pasture and woods with a 1950 ranch house only seven hundred feet from the campus, and after weighing several alternatives, the conclusion was that the best use was as an organic farm. Although its development began only a year ago, the Oxford Organic Farm is already making significant impact on the curriculum, the students, and the community.

The most visible impact is on the look of 406 Emory Street, where the farm is located. What once was a large, open pasture now is the site of quarter-acre vegetable plots. What once was a quiet homestead where nothing visible had gone on for many years now is a working farm, bustling with the energy of dozens of students.

Behind all of this are years of planning and an Emory pedigree. The property was bought in 1948 by Marshall and Fran Elizer, beloved figures at Oxford College. Marshall served in various teaching and administrative roles from 1946 to 1978, and Fran served as library assistant. When the two needed to move to assisted living about ten years ago, the move was made possible by Trulock Dickson 72OX 74C, who purchased the property from them but assured them they could return at any time. Marshall died in 2009; after Fran’s death in 2011, Dickson decided to donate the property to Oxford.

Dean Stephen Bowen says of the decision to open the farm, “As expectations for what students accomplish in the classroom have increased over the past three decades, the average student’s contact with the natural world has decreased. Many students are eager to get their hands dirty, smell freshly cultivated soil, and get a better understanding of where their food comes from.”

One of the first steps toward opening the farm was finding the right farmer/educator to lead. A national search found Daniel Parson, who brought fifteen years of experience to the role. He earned both a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences and a master’s degree in plant and environmental science from Clemson University. His accomplishments have been recognized with both the Georgia Organics Land Steward of the Year Award and...
Faculty Broaden Teaching through Sabbaticals

You may have heard someone say, “I need a sabbatical,” when they were feeling overworked and were dreaming of having time just to lie on the beach. But that’s not what a sabbatical is—at least not in higher education, where the practice originated in the nineteenth century. Typically, faculty members on sabbatical leave are granted a semester with salary, sometimes a year, away from the classroom to conduct research.

At Oxford, which gives greater emphasis to excellence in teaching rather than research activity in selecting its faculty, sabbaticals are slightly different. Ken Anderson 89G 91PhD, dean of academic affairs and chief academic officer, says, “Sabbatical leave has been offered to Oxford’s tenured faculty since the late 1980s, not simply as time off from teaching, but as an opportunity to give them time to do something that energizes their teaching. Many choose to conduct research, while others, freed from the demands of class and committee work, choose to pursue a new subject or skill that interests them and that enhances their approach to their own discipline.”

Florian Pohl, associate professor of religion, is on sabbatical for the 2014–2015 academic year. As the recipient of a US Fulbright Scholar grant, he is spending the year in Semarang, Indonesia, on the northern coast of Java, at the IAIN Walisongo, a state institute for Islamic studies. Pohl teaches comparative religion, Arabic, and introduction to Islam at Oxford. He has a long association with Indonesia. His dissertation for a PhD from Temple University examined the ways in which Islam is incorporated into Indonesian public education, and in the decade since then, he has returned several times to study or teach.

“I am teaching in my field, comparative religion,” says Pohl. “I bring my years of experience and my knowledge of the intersection of religion and the public sector in Indonesia to the role, but I am learning as well. Not all the students at IAIN Walisongo study Islamic subjects. I am also interested in observing what role comparative religion plays in the education of the students who study other disciplines, such as medicine or the social sciences.”

Florian Pohl, associate professor of religion

Sabbaticals often bring new perspectives to faculty members’ teaching. Adds Pohl, “To experience actively the role my discipline plays in the educational mission of an Islamic university will broaden my perspective and allow me further to refine my teaching and scholarship at home. And I hope that the perspective I have to offer my Indonesian students and colleagues can do something similar for them.”

A SAMPLE OF OTHER RECENT OXFORD FACULTY SABBATICALS:

Susan Ashmore, associate professor of history, on sabbatical in 2013–2014 conducted archival research for her book about the federal case Wyatt v. Stickney (1972), which resulted in a ruling that mental patients have the civil right to receive treatment and not be warehoused.

Henry Bayerle, associate professor of classics, received the prestigious President’s Fellowship in the Humanities at Emory’s Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry for the 2014–2015 year. He is at work on a Latin edition and English translation of the Chronicon Novaliciense, an eleventh-century chronicle composed at the Piedmontese abbey of Novalesa.


Frank Maddox, associate professor of economics, spent fall semester 2014 in China, focusing on Chinese business culture and central banking as well as intensively studying Chinese language.

Effrosyni Seitaridou, associate professor of physics, is on sabbatical in spring 2015. She is conducting a literature search and further laboratory work on biofilms, her primary research focus, while also exploring the use of simulations in the teaching of introductory physics.
Organic Farm continued

inclusion on the Mother Nature Network’s 40 Farmers Under 40.

In twelve short months, Parson has accomplished the property’s transformation into a going concern. Cover crops have been planted to develop the soil. A well has been drilled and an irrigation system installed. A barn has been designed and built to serve as a hub for operations, housing field equipment as well as the washing fixtures, walk-in cooler, and packing areas where the farm’s produce can be prepared, packed, and distributed. The barn includes an area that can be used for teaching classes. Each week, hundreds of pounds of produce are harvested.

Much of the labor of growing and harvesting comes from Oxford students. More than 150 of them work on the farm in some capacity. Twelve students are work-study participants, logging approximately ten hours per week. The remainder are there as part of the requirements for one of their courses.

Six Oxford faculty members have incorporated the farm into their course curricula. These include classes in economics, philosophy, environmental science, sociology, and Spanish.

The farm is the actual classroom for the Sociology of Food, a class developed and taught by Deric Shannon, assistant professor of sociology. Says Shannon, “As an experiential form of teaching and learning, the farm provides fertile soil for growing both crops and engaged learners. While we discuss sociological inquiry around food, students actually help produce crops, diminishing the often wide knowledge gap between what is grown on our farms and what appears—as if by magic—on our dinner tables.”

Lindita Camaj 15OX from Bronx, New York, is a work-study student on the farm. In high school she volunteered at the New York Botanical Garden, but otherwise had no experience in growing things. She says, “I’ve learned how to plant and how to hoe. I’ve learned how much energy goes into the smallest details. I will never see carrots the same way again.”

The farm’s produce is enjoyed weekly by the thirty families who are Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) subscribers. In addition to sales through the CSA, Parson sells produce each week at the Emory Farmers Market. Sodexo, Emory’s food-service provider, purchases a significant amount of produce from the farm, and it winds up regularly on the plates of those eating in Oxford’s dining hall.

The property that was tended for more than fifty years by the Elizers is still in the hands of those who value the land and education, and the benefits already being reaped will continue for years to come. In short order, the Oxford Organic Farm has become what Bowen describes as, “an invaluable enhancement to an Oxford education.”

Grass Scholarship Helps Students Make Their Footprints on the World

When Adrian Grass 49OX was a student at Oxford, he knew the “folks at Oxford cared” for him. He is returning the sentiment.

Generous donors for decades, he and his wife, Carolyn Grass, gave $1 million to the endowed Adrian Grass Scholarship this year, adding to the ways students are cared for at Oxford.

When you realize how much Grass loves Oxford, it’s surprising to learn that he almost didn’t get here.

Grass grew up in Gastonia, North Carolina. After he finished high school, he served in the US Navy in World War II, and then was accepted to a university to study engineering. Although he planned to attend, near the end of the summer before his freshman year he had a change of heart. He decided on a different path, a career in medicine, with, with the help of the G.I. Bill, he enrolled at Oxford, and he’s glad he did.

Grass did well academically at Oxford, where he says, “the great interaction of the students with the faculty is a big plus,” and he was accepted to medical school at Wake Forest University after three years of college. “Emory at Oxford gave me the chance to study hard to reach my goal,” he says. “At Oxford there were few external distractions and there was plenty of time to study, and that was why I was there.”

A successful career as an orthopedic surgeon followed in El Paso, Texas, and near the end of his career, he was listed in America’s Best Doctors. When he retired, he and Carolyn bought a small motor home, one of three they would eventually own, and they spent nineteen summers in Alaska, salmon fishing on the Klatina River.

His reasons for endowing the scholarship are simple. “When I was fairly young I never thought that I would ever be able to go to college because we had no means,” he says. “The reason for the scholarship was twofold. One was to help other needy students. The other was simply to try to leave some type of footprint on this old world.”

And he already has. Brooke Keener 15OX from York, Pennsylvania, is a Grass Scholar, and she credits the Grasses with making her time at Oxford possible.”The Grass Scholarship has provided me every opportunity; without the generosity of the Grass family, I would most likely not be able to afford Oxford,” she says.

Keener plans to major in English and creative writing at Emory, and she’s interested in working in the publishing industry after graduation. “The Grass family’s contribution opened new doors for me, allowing me to be able to follow my dreams and get the education I have always dreamed of.”
CHL Expands Athletic Scope

Created in fall 2012, the Center for Healthful Living (CHL) oversees Oxford athletics and recreation, health education, and credit-bearing courses in physical education. With popular programs such as Play Oxford and the Healthy Eagles peer-educators group already making an impact on campus, CHL staff and leadership continue to look for ways to expand and build on their successful first two years.

Golf clubs, running shoes, soccer balls, and active students have been a common sight on campus this year. An expansion in Oxford College athletics saw the number of competing teams increase from four to nine, and both men's and women's golf and cross-country have been added as club sports.

Men's soccer returned as a varsity sport for the first time since 1987 and finished 7-7-1 under head coach Gregory Moss-Brown. “I attribute the team's success this year to leadership,” says Moss-Brown. “My assistants—Lee Duggan and Andy Spruell—have both done a tremendous job.”

“The expansion allows the CHL to serve the needs of our students better,” explains CHL Director Amanda Yu. “The CHL strategic plan developed in 2013 included the expansion of the athletic departments, which in turn strengthens our academic component. By expanding our program we are able to offer students a wider range of activities that allow them to balance their lives.”

New courses for academic credit are available as a direct result of the CHL expansion in the fall—flag football, fitness walking, fitness running, and circuit and plyometric training. Spring semester 2015 will see two more additional courses added to the course catalog—street hockey/lacrosse and Total Wellness, which focuses on improving the mind, body, and spirit of the student.

Four new coaches joined the CHL staff in 2014: Pernilla Hardin, head men's and women's tennis; Dave Morris, head women's soccer; Ella O'Kelley, head men's and women's cross-country; Brian Schiffbauer, head men's and women's golf. The CHL's method is hybrid coaching and instruction, with all coaches teaching classes.

Recent facilities improvements and updates have been instrumental to the CHL expansion. The classrooms in Williams Hall were renovated to add technology for instruction and the two rooms are now connected with a glass door. Yu says this multipurpose area serves as a drop-down space for student athletes, meeting space for students and staff, and instructional space for CHL courses, and it is also used for recruiting. The staff office suite was modified to accommodate the new staff members and features a new brick patio that is used for athletic events, cookouts, and receptions.

The CHL plan is for cross-country and golf to transition from club sports to varsity sports in the near future. Of course, new athletic teams and an expanded recreation program mean Oxford will need to assess current athletic facilities to determine what changes or additions will be needed. An upcoming feasibility study will address these growing pains and help create a strategy for future improvements.

Local community members participate in Center for Healthful Living activities on campus throughout the year. The annual chili cook-off, 5K race, Bike Ride for Leadership, and Fowler Memorial Tennis Tournament are all open to local residents and showcase Oxford's beautiful campus, buildings, facilities, and active students to the community.

—Ansley Holder

Brief News

Adrienne Vinson ’09OX ’11C (below) has joined the Office of Development and Alumni Relations as associate director of development. In this role she serves as primary liaison to the Board of Counselors in addition to other development efforts. Prior to joining Oxford, she served as a district executive with the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Sheilah Conner, executive assistant to Dean Stephen Bowen, was recently honored for her fifty years of service to Oxford College.

The second edition of An Uncommon Place, the history of Oxford College by Dean for Campus Life Joe Moon, has just been published. It is available for purchase at the Oxford College Bookstore.

The Oxford women's tennis team placed second in the NJCAA Division III tournament, held in Flushing, New York, in October.

Reta Cobb, administrative assistant to Joe Moon, dean for campus life; and Ann Cargile, manager of records and administration, recently retired. Each had served Oxford for thirty-three years.

CALENDAR

Alumni Reunion Weekend, April 24–25
Golden Eagles Reunion, April 25
Leadership Oxford and ExCEl Reunions, April 25
Class of 1965 50th Reunion, May 8–10
Oxford Commencement, May 9
Emory Cares 2014

Shannon Melton 10B (above left) and Alicia Clark 00OX 02C volunteer their time at the Los Angeles Foundation for Second Chances Reading Wheels Program during the 2014 Emory Cares International Service Day. Photo courtesy of the Emory Alumni Los Angeles chapter.
Emory Everywhere

PADDLING AND PROGRAMS: Stephanie Yoder 07C and her husband, Mike Tieso (above left), kayak during an outing with the Seattle Alumni Chapter. Yoder writes a popular travel blog, Twenty-Something Travel. Also: Farae Strickland 98C and Carlton Mackey 05T (above right, from left) pause for a smile during the Emory Alumni Association Back to Class: San Francisco event held in November.

HOUSTON, WE HAVE NO PROBLEM: Houston alumni (above) were treated to a behind-the-scenes tour of NASA’s Johnson Space Center coordinated by Smith Johnston 76C 81M P17 and Nina Johnston 80C P17. Pictured (from left) are Randy Ruch, Bill Pickard 76OX 78B, Linda Wittig 77C P14, Drew Karklin, Lindsey Putterman 09C, Elisabeth Hootman 10N, Dan Hootman 08B 12PH, and Julie Harab 10N. Also: Brian Sperber 07C, Cassandra Labbee, Zack Richards 07L, Matthew Kerrigan 09R, and Albert Hsu 06MR 09B (at left, from left) at a happy hour hosted by the Emory Chapter of Gay and Lesbian Alumni at Boxers HK in New York’s Hell’s Kitchen.

GREETINGS!

As we welcome the new year, we also reflect on our good fortune at Emory. We are honored to nurture lifelong learning on a campus that encourages critical thinking and free expression, and we are privileged to benefit from the diversity of talent in our global university community.

Emory celebrates the unique makeup of our student body and alumni population. This cultural and intellectual strength is widely known, and cross-cultural scholars join forces at Emory to work on solving some of the world’s greatest issues. Recently, we’ve witnessed this kind of outstanding collaboration in the exceptional care provided by Emory’s teams to individuals affected by Ebola virus disease.

Throughout our university’s history, Emory has embraced the notion of asking difficult questions, sharing and discussing responses, and collectively creating solutions to make our world a better, healthier place.

This spring marks a special occasion: the one-hundredth anniversary of Emory University in Atlanta. With special campus activities and publications, we will pay tribute to the thinkers and doers who have come before us, recognize those in our midst, and anticipate those yet to come.

Please take a moment to reflect on your own Emory experience and ask yourself how you can continue to help shape Emory’s future.

Sincerely,

Sarah Cook

Sarah Craven Cook 95C, Senior Associate Vice President for Alumni Affairs

Upcoming Alumni Events

Emory in Your City: Orlando—February 26
Honoring the late Kenneth Murrah 55C 58L
Atlanta: March 19—J. Pollard Turman Alumni Service Award ceremony
Virtual: April 17—All-alumni virtual networking
For more, visit alumni.emory.edu/events.
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The Emory Alumni Association provides a worldwide network of more than 60 chapters and affinity groups. With alumni in all 50 states and 155 countries, **Emory is always near.**
When asked what she does, Laurie Oliver 88OX 90C says the simplest reply is, “I own a wellness center.” Life Dance Wellness Center in Covington, Georgia, brings together her twin passions: working with her hands and helping people. After earning a degree in English at Emory, she worked in child care and later taught English in Korea. She observed that acupressure is an important part of Korean health care and felt called. After returning to the US, Oliver studied clinical massage therapy and founded Life Dance in 1997, offering a variety of integrative therapies. In short, she says, “I facilitate positive change.”

Josue Santana-Lopez 09MBA, a director of finance at Microsoft, is constantly looking for ways to bridge information, human capital, and opportunities. As controller of the software giant’s $4 billion US Public Sector unit, he is helping the company navigate “fundamental—and invigorating—changes toward a mobile-first and cloud-first world.” Originally from San Juan, Puerto Rico, Santana-Lopez maintains close ties to his hometown, where he sits on the boards of several start-ups in retail, food, services, and technology. “I am passionate about the growth potential in the island and the human talent there,” he says.

Jim Bankoff 91C is CEO of Vox Media, one of the world’s fastest growing media companies and publisher of seven of today’s most notable digital brands: SBNation, the Verge, Polygon, Curbed, Eater, Racked, and Vox.com. Under his guidance, Vox Media’s network of sites has garnered an audience of more than 150 million worldwide. Bankoff often speaks on international industry panels about the rapidly changing media industry and how companies find success in the digital age. Bankoff, who earned a bachelor’s degree in international studies at Emory, has an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Yamini Atmavilas 08G is a program officer of measurement, learning, and evaluation in the New Delhi, India, office of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She supports the evaluative work for a range of the foundation’s health systems interventions. Previously she was chair of gender studies at Administrative Staff College of India, leading several assignments that evaluated government programs for adolescent girls, maternal health, and social protection programs. She has been a visiting fellow at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris and the Managing Global Governance Program at the German Development Institute in Bonn.

Rebecca Stump 11B is the brand partnership manager at MindBodyGreen, a digital wellness platform whose mission is to revitalize the way people eat, move, and live through compelling content, educational videos, interactive events, and a strong community. She is responsible for creating real relationships between MindBodyGreen’s more than fifteen million unique readers and wellness brands. Through close contact with MindBodyGreen’s sales team, direct clients, and advertising agencies, Stump helps create positive experiences and individualized content for each client.

Last summer, Tim Moore 12T assumed the role of executive director/community leader of L’Arche Atlanta. L’Arche brings together people with and without intellectual disabilities to live in faith community and share life like a family. As community leader, Moore draws on the spiritual energies of shepherding a faith community and the activist energies of seeking social change. L’Arche envisions a world where people of all abilities have a rightful place in society, a place of belonging that enables them to flourish so that together they can contribute to bringing wholeness to the human family. Learn more at www.larcheatlanta.org.
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Definitive Mencken

Marion Elizabeth Rodgers 84G, biographer of American satirist H. L. Mencken and editor of numerous books about his work, has edited *Mencken: The Days Trilogy*, which includes *Days Revisited*, an addendum to Mencken’s beloved trilogy of *Happy Days* (1940), *Newspaper Days* (1941), and *Heathen Days* (1943). Published in 2014, *Trilogy* completes the story told in Mencken’s books and includes more than two hundred pages of extensive notes about the published books, produced by Mencken in the 1940s, commenting on what he had written and adding new material. However, Mencken stipulated that these writings were not to be made public until twenty-five years after his death. *Days Revisited* presents much of this material for the first time and is illustrated with photographs from Mencken’s archives, many taken by Mencken himself. Rodgers also is the author of *Mencken: The American Iconoclast* and editor of *Mencken and Sara: A Life in Letters* and *The Impossible H. L. Mencken*, and she edited the Library of America edition of Mencken’s *Prejudices*.

**INSIDER TRADING:** In *Majority Rules*, an eager young man working for a member of Congress falls wildly in love with a staffer from the opposing party and discovers an illegal human smuggling cartel along the Mexican border that is under the protection of major players on Capitol Hill. Set in 1985, the new novel by Roger Fleming 78C is a fictional storyline that a review in the *Washington Times* says is “tethered to reality by dozens of endnotes” from an insider author who is an attorney and a former counsel on the congressional judiciary committee who was an appointee in the George H. W. Bush administration. In private practice since 1997 representing primarily communications and technology companies to Congress and to the Federal Communications Commission, Fleming weaves fiction with actual legislation considered by Congress, including the pivotal issue of immigration, creating a compelling and timely narrative that has captured national media attention and garnered a five-star rating from reader reviews on Amazon.com.

**CULTURE OF TECHNOLOGY:** For seven decades, the General Electric Company (GE) maintained its manufacturing and administrative headquarters in Schenectady, New York. At its core, GE culture posited that engineers, scientists, and craftsmen engaged in a team effort to produce technologically advanced material goods that served society and led to corporate profits. Scientists were discoverers, engineers were designers and problem solvers, and craftsmen were artists. In *Electric City: General Electric in Schenectady*, historian Julia Kirk Blackwelder 69G 72PhD has drawn on company records, archival and secondary sources, and personal interviews to produce an engaging and multilayered history of General Electric’s workplace culture and its planned—and actual—effects on community life in Schenectady from the company’s creation in 1892 to the present.

**FREEDOM BY LAW:** In her new book *Tyrranny: Forging an American Law of Slavery in Revolutionary South Carolina and Massachusetts*, author Emily Blanck 03PhD uncovers the all-but-forgotten legal battle over escaped slaves who were transported from South Carolina to Massachusetts on a British ship during the American Revolution. The book examines how enslaved Americans sought freedom and how white Americans in both states responded to this quest for freedom by writing diverging slave laws that began to solidify the division of America between free and slave states. Blanck is associate professor of history at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey.

**SANDY SLEUTH:** Set in a sun-kissed Caribbean paradise, *The Sea Grape Tree* explores a love triangle gone wrong—and how class divisions create a perfect storm of trouble. It is the third book in the Shadrack “Shad” Meyers detective series, following *The Goat Woman of Largo Bay* and *The Man Who Turned Both Cheeks* by author Gillian Royes 79PhD, a writer and journalism professor at the University of the Virgin Islands in St. Croix. All three novels are set in the small Jamaican fishing village of Largo Bay, whose problems are intensified with the arrival of someone from the outside. The central character is Shad Myers, a Jamaican bartender and a sharp observer of culture and human nature, who uses his wisdom and connections to solve crimes.

**THE MYTH OF PEACEFUL COLONIZATION:** Challenging the concepts of peaceful colonization in Canada and Manifest Destiny in the United States, *Colonial Genocide in Indigenous North America* is an important collection of essays that expands the geographic, demographic, and analytic scope of the term *genocide* to encompass the effects of colonialism and settler colonialism in North America. Coedited by Alexander Laban Hinton 92G 97PhD, director of the Center for the Study of Genocide and Human Rights, professor of anthropology and global affairs, and the UNESCO Chair on Genocide Prevention at Rutgers University, the volume assesses the record of attempts to destroy indigenous peoples as groups during the colonization of North America, including massacres, land appropriation, the spread of disease, the near extinction of the buffalo, assimilation, and forced political restructuring of indigenous communities.

**SLIPPERY POLITICS:** Does oil make countries autocratic? Can foreign aid make countries democratic? Does taxation lead to representation? In his book *Nontaxation and Representation: The Fiscal Foundations of Political Stability* (Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics) Kevin M. Morrison 95C develops a novel argument about how government revenues of all kinds affect political regimes and their leaders. Contrary to conventional wisdom, Morrison illustrates that taxation leads to instability, not representation. With this insight, he extends his award-winning work on nontax revenues to encompass foreign aid, oil revenue, and intergovernmental grants and shows that they lead to decreased taxation, increased government spending, and increased political stability.—M.M.L.
2014 Emory Medalists

Honorees inspired to serve communities through justice, philanthropy

JUDGE WILLIAM C. O’KELLEY 51C 53L and philanthropist JOHN W. STEPHENSON 70C received the 2014 Emory Medal in an October ceremony held at the Miller-Ward Alumni House.

Throughout their careers, the recipients shaped the futures of countless individuals by working on many vital initiatives, including DeKalb County Schools desegregation and the Woodruff gift that launched Emory as a world-class research institution.

The Emory Medal is awarded to recipients based on their distinguished service to Emory and their community or their achievements in business, the arts, the professions, government, or education. O’Kelley and Stephenson have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to excellence in their professional and philanthropic ventures and to nurturing this same characteristic in others.

“Judge William O’Kelley’s life is the embodiment of service to his country, community, alma mater, and the law,” says CRYSTAL EDMONSON 95C, past president of the Emory Alumni Board, in a multimedia presentation highlighting the honorees’ accomplishments. “He was an Eagle Scout, attorney in the United States Air Force, litigator in private practice, federal prosecutor, and—for the past forty-four years—has served as a US district judge for the northern district of Georgia. He managed the court for seven years as chief judge. And now, at eighty-four years old, William O’Kelley sits as senior judge.”

O’Kelley is a scholar and teacher as well as the recipient of both the Emory Law School’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and the Significant Sig Award from the national Sigma Chi Fraternity. The Judge William C. O’Kelley Endowed Scholarship Fund was created in his honor, spearheaded by Emory alumni who served as his law clerks. He has supported his alma mater as a mentor to students, and through service on the Law Advisory Board, the Emory Board of Trustees, and its finance, campus life, and executive committees. In the Atlanta community and beyond, O’Kelley serves leadership roles in many organizations and charitable foundations.

“I’ve always been very devoted to public service, doing something for others,” he says. To O’Kelley, adjudicating with fairness and objectivity is crucial. Nominated by President Richard Nixon to the bench in 1970 as one of the youngest federally appointed judges, O’Kelley has heard his share of pivotal trials, including the kidnapping trial of Atlanta Journal-Constitution editor Reg Murphy, the DeKalb County Schools desegregation case, and the copyright case involving Martin Luther King’s famed “I Have a Dream” speech.

“The Court of Appeals disagreed with me,” he recalls. “I said that the speech was, in effect, dedicated to the public in ‘I Have a Dream.’ They saw it a little differently and protected the copyright for the family.”

O’Kelley has presided over numerous political reapportionment trials and civil rights cases. “We made a lot of difficult decisions and created a lot of turmoil. Society wasn’t quite ready for something like that,” he says.

As an appointee to the US Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, O’Kelley presided over cases involving foreign nationals.

“Everything in it originated at the top level of the government, either through the secretary of state or the attorney general. The president was quite actively involved,” he says. “I was on that court for seven years and during the Tehran hostage situation. I also was appointed in 1996 by Chief Justice William Rehnquist to the Alien Terrorist Removal Court and have continuously served on that court to the present.”

For fellow Emory Medalist Stephenson, giving back to students and colleagues is his way of repaying the kindness of his own mentors—including former vice president for finance and treasurer Hugh Hilliard and former vice president, dean of faculties, and dean of alumni JUDSON C. “JAKE” WARD 33C 36G. Following their example, Stephenson strives to do the same by guiding the D.V.S. Senior Honor Society, of which he was a member. He now advises students on campus and at the national level.

As executive director of the J. Bulow Campbell Foundation, Stephenson has shepherded the vision of the foundation, which is dedicated to supporting large capital projects
in the areas of education, youth development, human services, public spaces and cultural institutions, and Christian-based organizations.

“Over his thirty-year tenure at the foundation, there have been several instances where the foundation found opportunities to support projects at Emory, and John has welcomed those opportunities on behalf of his alma mater,” says Edmonson. “He is thought of as a careful steward of Mr. Campbell’s legacy, his university’s heritage, and community interests throughout Georgia and beyond.”

Named one of Emory’s 175 Makers of History, Stephenson has spent his entire career in education administration and philanthropy. His associations with Emory—student, alumnus, administrator, and unswerving advocate—have, in his words, “provided a lifelong source of pride and profound sense of appreciation for Emory’s influence on my life.”

Stephenson has counseled Emory students on their career aspirations, guided Emory officials in the course of his duties at the foundation, and taken every opportunity to reveal to others Emory’s strengths and values.

Before joining the foundation in 1985, Stephenson served Emory presidents Sandy Atwood and Jim Laney for twelve years as administrator, and vice president. “When Laney was appointed president, he had high aspirations for the university, and he had a vision for where Emory could go if it had the resources,” Stephenson says. “He began to frame that into the Campaign for Emory.”

What followed was tremendous growth in student services including the Woodruff PE Center, dormitories, and expansion of the student center. “During all of my years at Emory, the focus was on student life, to bring Emory into a competitive position with our peer institutions,” Stephenson says.

In the aftermath of Robert Woodruff’s $105 million gift to Emory, Stephenson enjoyed the excitement around establishing The Carter Center near the university. “My meetings with [Jimmy Carter] were direct,” he says. “The Carter Center was going to have to raise a lot of money, and they were going to use the Emory machinery to help with that.”

Stephenson also assisted in the growth of the Emory Federal Credit Union, for which he served as treasurer and president.

On receiving the Emory Medal, Stephenson says it is “not so much about recognizing what I’ve done for Emory. I’d like to turn that around and take the occasion to say how much Emory has done for me.”—Michelle Valigursky

D. Scott Bennett 06L is a partner at Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York. His practice focuses primarily on representing issuers and investment banking firms in connection with public and private offerings of securities as well as representing corporate clients in mergers and acquisitions. Bennett was recognized for his capital markets work by The Legal 500. He received a bachelor’s degree in economics from Duke University before graduating with high honors from Emory School of Law, where he served as a notes and comments editor of the Emory Law Journal and was elected to the Order of the Coif.

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

Terri McFadden-Garden 91MR is a new member of the Emory School of Medicine Alumni Board. An associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Emory, she has served as director of primary care at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Hughes Spalding since 2006 and also is director of primary care for the Department of Pediatrics Urban Health Program. A fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the executive committee for its Council on Early Childhood, McFadden-Garden is medical director and cofounder of the Reach Out and Read childhood literacy program at Hughes Spalding, medical director for the Reach Out and Read Georgia Coalition, and medical director of the Injury Free Coalition for Kids–Atlanta.

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Marilyn Margolis 89MN was named CEO of Emory Johns Creek Hospital, a 110-bed acute care facility in north metro Atlanta. Margolis has been a nursing leader at Emory for more than 30 years. Among her accomplishments: improving patient satisfaction, patient care quality, and nurse retention rates in emergency services at Emory University Hospital (EUH) and Emory University Hospital Midtown and helping lead the $216 redevelopment of the emergency department at EUH Midtown. She also served as director of nursing for neurosciences at EUH while overseeing emergency services at both hospitals. In 2007, she was named director of nursing operations at EUH, a position he held until 2011, when she joined Emory Johns Creek as vice president of patient services and operations and chief nursing officer. Margolis received the Georgia Hospital Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013.

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

Daniel Brencic 12MPH is a health scientist with the International Emergency Preparedness Team at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In the fall, he was deployed to Conakry, Guinea, where he worked with the Guinean government to establish its national Emergency Operations Center. This included developing a facility that will serve as the main coordination center for the Ebola response, developing the organizational structure and supporting the Ebola public health hotline. Brencic returned to Atlanta after a four-week stint, then returned to Guinea in December to continue his work.

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Dedicated Alumnus and Philanthropist

KENNETH MURRAH

FROM A YOUNG AGE, Kenneth Murrah 55C 58L wanted to help others, an aspiration that led to a career in law and a long register of people and organizations that benefited from his patronage, mentorship, and generosity.

Murrah, eighty-one, died December 5 from metastatic prostate cancer in Winter Park, Fla. A native of Pine Mountain, Murrah moved to Winter Park with his family at age twelve.

Valedictorian of the Winter Park High School class of 1951, he attended Emory College and Emory School of Law as a scholarship student. Grateful for that support, he contributed each year to scholarship funds for others to have that opportunity at Emory. His volunteer service to Emory was recognized both with the law school’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and the J. Pollard Turman Award for exceptional alumni service.

“Kenneth Murrah was one of the most energetic and engaging people I have ever met. In all of his communities, he sought to connect people, to make them feel welcome, to encourage them to learn from each other, and to enjoy each other’s company,” says Robert Schapiro, dean and Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law at Emory School of Law. “He dedicated his life to service, to serving his clients, his community, and Emory. Whether he was speaking to senior leaders in the arts or politics or to the newest freshmen at Emory, he radiated a genuine warmth and respect that made everyone feel welcome and at ease. He was a true Southern gentleman.”

Campus leadership positions as an undergraduate included serving as president of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and student body president. In recent years he became known as “Mr. Emory” in Central Florida, where he organized annual alumni gatherings featuring speakers from the university.

“What I will remember most about Kenneth is his wonderful Southern charm, his lovely smile, the spark in his eye, his generous spirit, and his kindness,” says Leslie Wingate, senior director of external relations at the Emory Alumni Association. “Kenneth’s energy, his zest for life, his enthusiasm, and his fervent desire to help others have been truly inspirational to me.”

Murrah’s ATO fraternity experience provided not only lifetime friends but also excellent leadership training, and he showed his appreciation throughout his adult life by endowing funds for both college scholarships and LeaderShape training for ATO members at Emory and at chapters in Florida. While serving as an officer of the national fraternity, he assisted in founding the University of Central Florida chapter. He was also a board member of the ATO National Foundation.

ATO chapter adviser Paul McLarty 61C 66L says Murrah’s backing of the chapter throughout the years has led to its current success.

“Kenneth’s greatest strength was that he never gave up on things he believed in even if they may not have been going in exactly the way everyone was happy with,” McLarty says, referring to troubles the fraternity experienced in the late 1980s and early 1990s. “He is the kind of guy who stays behind something and finds a way to make it work.”

A post from the Emory ATO Alpha Theta chapter’s Facebook page numbered Murrah’s many contributions to the chapter:

“A great and very charitable man passed away recently. Kenneth F. Murrah, a man who has given so much to this chapter, left us, but his memory and legacy lives on. The Alpha Theta chapter cannot thank him enough for all he’s given us, from influencing LeaderShape training to showing how to work hard and still be modest,” the post reads. “A special ruhrah to Kenneth F. Murrah, the leader, the president, the brother, the friend. Thank you.”

Founding partner of the law firm Murrah Doyle Wigle & Torre, Murrah specialized in estate planning and administration of estates and trusts. In his adopted hometown of Winter Park, Murrah served in many roles as a civic and cultural leader, from advocacy on the city commission and the parks and recreation board, to personal donations for a tree preservation fund and patronage of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. He served on task forces on civil rights, charter review, and commuter rail, as well as serving on committees to raise funds to furnish the city’s civic center, later named the Rachel D. Murrah Civic Center in honor of his late wife, Rachel Durrett Murrah, a longtime city commissioner in Winter Park.

In addition to his second wife, Ann Hicks Murrah, Murrah is survived by a son, Kenneth Murrah Jr., and three grandchildren. —M.M.L.
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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.
Oxford Icon

WILLIAM H. "BILL" MURDY

WILLIAM H. "BILL" MURDY WAS KEENLY interested in the adaptation and growth of plants in their natural habitat and also in his own garden, and that attunement to cultivation is an apt symbol of his life, one that leaves a legacy of service across Emory University and beyond. Murdy—dean of Oxford College emeritus and Charles Howard Candler Professor of Biology emeritus—died March 19, 2014, at his home in Oxford; he was eighty-five.

Murdy joined the Emory faculty in 1959 as an instructor in biology. He chaired the Department of Biology twice, from 1971 to 1974 and from 1983 to 1987. In 1987 he was named Charles Howard Candler Professor of Biology; the same year he was appointed dean of Oxford by then—Emory President James T. Laney. In 1990 Murdy received the Thomas Jefferson Award for his service to Emory.

Tenure as Oxford’s dean

IN HIS BOOK AN UNCOMMON PLACE: OXFORD College 1914–2000 Oxford Dean for Campus Life Joe Moon writes that when Murdy arrived at Oxford in 1987, he immediately sought to address facility maintenance, faculty salaries, and higher-than-acceptable student attrition. When he retired in 1999, says Moon, he left “an impressive legacy of plant improvement and expansion, record student enrollment, improved faculty and staff salaries, and better administrative linkage with the Atlanta campus.”

Under Murdy’s leadership, Oxford’s visibility as one of “two doors” to Emory was raised and, by 1999, total applications to Oxford had doubled and entering students’ academic credentials had dramatically increased. Ties to the university were strengthened with Murdy’s initiative to establish a daily shuttle connecting the Atlanta and Oxford campuses.

Murdy also reinstated varsity sports at Oxford, boosted student leadership programs, and led key property acquisitions, including what is now the Oxhouse Science Center, and extensive improvements to residence halls and the physical plant in general. The campus landscape received greater attention, especially the venerable trees on Oxford’s Quad.

Influence on environmental efforts

THOSE ON THE QUAD WERE NOT THE ONLY trees whose preservation was ensured by Murdy’s attention and care. In 1986, he and Eloise Carter, Oxford professor of biology, published “A Report on the Status of Forested Land of Emory University.” Known more widely now as the Murdy-Carter report, the landmark treatise assessed the location and status of Emory’s natural forests, cautioning that the university’s holdings included “unique, near-pristine hardwood forests with rare and diverse species” that should be preserved undisturbed. This report, said a writer in a 2004 Emory Report article, “continues to be a guiding force in Emory’s land use and discussions.”

Murdy served as president of the University Senate from 1986 to 1987. Following recommendations made during that time, the senate instituted its Committee on the Environment in 1990, and Murdy served on the ad hoc committee that prepared the committee’s charge.

Fourteen years after the Murdy-Carter report, he and Carter teamed up again to bring attention to local flora, publishing Guide to the Plants of Granite Outcrops, which chronicles the plants of locations such as Stone Mountain and Arabia Mountain—rock habitats that contain many species found in no other environment. The book remains a primary resource for understanding and preserving these unique plants.

Civic contributions

WHEN MURDY BECAME DEAN, HE AND HIS wife, Nancy, moved to Oxford and lived in the President’s House, the historic home on Wesley Street just north of the Oxford campus that has served both Emory College presidents and Oxford College deans. Upon retirement, the Murdys bought another historic home on Wesley Street, Hopkins House, and remained in Oxford. He was a longtime member of the Oxford City Council and served the city as mayor from 2005 to 2007.

He was a life member of the board of trustees of the Atlanta Botanical Garden, a trustee of the Nature Conservancy of Georgia, and a member of the Oxford College Board of Counselors and the Covington Kiwanis Club.

A native of Fairhaven, Mass., who never lost his distinctive New England accent, Murdy received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Massachusetts and a PhD from Washington University.

John Wegner, Emory senior lecturer in environmental sciences, knew Murdy and worked with him on the Campus Land Use Plan in 2005. Wegner says, “Bill was an important mentor to me and one of the most gentle men I have ever come across.”

Bill McKibben, Oxford professor of mathematics emeritus, served as Murdy’s first dean of academic affairs.

“During [my service as academic dean] I came to marvel at his many fine qualities: personal, moral, and intellectual. . . . His character and judgment were beyond compare. The patience, integrity, and equanimity he showed in working with faculty and staff stand out in my memory as a hallmark of his administration,” McKibben says. “He was an optimist of the first order, and he was inspiring in his own characteristic, unassuming way. I am grateful to have worked with a man of such great heart and mind.”—CATHY WOOTEN
When the manuscript, archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) received Flannery O’Connor’s archives in October, the news emanating from Georgia spread quickly around the world. O’Connor has always stirred up a sense of mystery among readers, so I have been frequently asked what kinds of revelations will be forthcoming from this collection.

While the vast array of unpublished materials will surely yield new understandings of O’Connor’s life and fiction, the most meaningful discovery for me has been through an unfolding personal journey. My own path has converged with Flannery O’Connor’s work at important moments. She spent her early years in Savannah and attended the same Catholic schools in the same era as my mother and aunt. When I first encountered her fiction in high school, I found her strange characters recognizable, yet alarming. The Misfit mystified me.

In graduate school at Emory, I rediscovered O’Connor while studying literature and religion in the Graduate Institute of the Liberal Arts (ILA). There, in the late 1970s, she spoke to me through her fiction and essays in Floyd Watkins’s American literature course, in Bill Mallard’s literature and theology course, and in discussions with then–ILA assistant director Bill Fox and my fellow graduate students. In fact, she spoke to all of us with a language that was direct—and enigmatic—about the sacred embedded in the profane.

When O’Connor’s collected letters were published in The Habit of Being in 1979, my fellow graduate students and I invited editor Sally Fitzgerald to Emory for a talk that turned into a symposium under the guidance of Robert Detweiler. We further surprised ourselves by obtaining funding from the Georgia Council for the Humanities. Adding miracles to mysteries, Sally Fitzgerald agreed to come and spend a week with us.

Thanks to the symposium, I had the opportunity to edit the volume Conversations with Flannery O’Connor (University of Mississippi Press, 1987), a slim book that collected her interviews and kept me close to the world of O’Connor scholarship while my own academic path moved into administrative roles across the university. The symposium also helped to establish the means for Sally Fitzgerald to return to campus regularly for almost two decades as a visiting research scholar, which gave the two of us the chance to form a lasting relationship.

Proximity again led to possibility: Sally Fitzgerald’s presence at Emory prepared the way for the papers of Betty Hester, one of O’Connor’s most avid correspondents, to come here in 1987 (the papers were made public in 2007). Following her death, Sally’s own papers arrived in MARBL in 2008; recently, her daughters augmented those with related materials and correspondence.

The mysteries of connectivity continued to unfold. I had the pleasure, for example, of making a pilgrimage to Andalusia with Salman Rushdie, a trip that suggested uncanny resonances between the kinds of displacement (historical, geographical, and theological) both O’Connor and Rushdie reveal in their fiction. On our way back to Atlanta we stopped down the road in Eatonton, home to both Joel Chandler Harris and Alice Walker, whose papers are held by MARBL. The artist Benny Andrews also lived nearby. In his afterword to the illustrated edition of the O’Connor story “Everything That Rises Must Converge,” Andrews, the son of a sharecropper, notes the discontinuities between their two worlds; but he states unequivocally about O’Connor, “She confronts the leaping flames and churning waters. I have looked into her works and I have found revelations.”

Once I became the director of MARBL, I wished to bring these literary links full circle, building on the foundation of prior MARBL directors and archivists. In this endeavor I had the good fortune of acting in concert with Louise Florencourt, first cousin of Flannery O’Connor and cotrustee of the Mary Flannery O’Connor Charitable Trust. Together we sought to provide a home for the archive, a place where students and scholars could make their own literary and spiritual discoveries.

Flannery O’Connor sought to alarm us through her writing—not purely for the shock effect, but to reveal fundamental truths. Deeply religious, she put forward her conviction that grace is possible in this fierce world, but only if we come to terms with our own displacement in it: ultimately we are all misfits. Yet we may also stumble upon glimmers of self-knowledge and transcendence. In the short story “Revelation,” Mary Grace assaults Mrs. Turpin with her words and book, Human Development, in the waiting room of a doctor’s office.

“What have you got to say to me?” Mrs. Turpin beseeches Mary Grace.

And that is the question posed by this archive to us. Ultimately, the answer will be disclosed each time scholars contemplate the materials. As my own path suggests, each generation will bring to light fresh revelations from the primary evidence of O’Connor’s life and work. In this way, literature becomes embedded in our university, rooted in our culture, and deepened in our consciousness as a living, breathing, almost organic being.
Laurie Vinson and Art Vinson
66OX 68C

“This FROM THE EXPERIENCES of our five children, we have seen how Oxford College transforms lives. It provides a liberal arts education with the personal guidance of faculty in a highly supportive community. Our legacy begins with the contributions that our children will make because of their Oxford experience. It continues with our regular giving to ongoing projects and endowments and has its capstone in our final bequests.”

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VANTAGE POINT: Women farmers in Odisha, India, discuss women’s empowerment in a focus group for the CARE Pathways to Secure Livelihoods program. The photo by Hannah Cox 15G was a first-place winner in the Laney Graduate School Master’s in Development Practice Program photo contest, which highlights students’ work with global communities.

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