Vanaye Kelley and other students from Milwaukee, Wis., prepare for an upcoming debate at the Emory National Debate Institute, a two-week summer intensive program run by the Barkley Forum that brings more than 360 students from across the country to Emory. Milwaukee is the site of the 20th Urban Debate League, a national urban education reform movement founded at Emory in 1985.

**ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION**

**N. DeKalb Mall Park-n-Ride shuttle kicks off**

**BY DAVID PAYNE**

Emory has taken a bold step forward to expand its alternative transit options for commuters who currently drive to campus. On Monday, June 19, the University opened the first of several future Park-n-Ride lots at North DeKalb Mall and began shuttle service directly from the mall to campus.

Both the Park-n-Ride lot and shuttle service are free and available to anyone who wants to use them.

"This first Park-n-Ride lot is located strategically for many Emory commuters and will be particularly useful for commuters who currently use Lawrenceville Highway and the Stone Mountain Freeway as they approach Emory," said Laura Ray, associate vice president for transportation and parking.

Ray said she is encouraged by the early interest in the new Park-n-Ride shuttle service.

"Not only is this going to ease the hassle of commuting for a few hundred Emory employees, but it also is another step toward reducing traffic along the Clifton Corridor and improving the quality of life for Emory and the community at large. It begins a new era in the transportation Emory will provide," she said.

Park-n-Ride shuttle buses will run approximately every 20 minutes from 6:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. (except midday between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., when they will run every 40 minutes). If an employee works late unexpectedly after 7 p.m., an escort service is available to bring commuters from Emory directly to their cars.

For a complete shuttle schedule, visit [www.epcs.emory.edu/alttransp/routes_PMNRDeKalb.htm](http://www.epcs.emory.edu/alttransp/routes_PMNRDeKalb.htm).

The 200 parking spaces reserved for commuters at North DeKalb Mall are identified with Emory Park-n-Ride signage and located in the northeast corner of the mall parking lot bordered by Lawrenceville Highway and North Druid Hills Road, near Macy’s. Commuters can also access these spaces from Stone Mountain Freeway/U.S. Highway 78 as they pass North DeKalb Mall.

This lot is monitored by mall security as well as Emory parking security services.

Shuttle service takes commuters nonstop from the Park-n-Ride lot to Woodruff Circle, in front of Emory Hospital. Woodruff Circle is envisioned as an expanding primary nexus or hub for shuttles on campus.

The new shuttle routes are expected to be particularly useful for commuters who can walk to their jobs from Woodruff Circle. Other existing shuttle service from Woodruff Circle is available for those who work along the Clifton Corridor, such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and the American Cancer Society.

"There will be a cumulative positive effect on the overall traffic along the Clifton Corridor with these new transit options," said Ray. "When fully utilized, this Park-n-Ride will eliminate 200 vehicles from campus. That’s the equivalent of removing double the number of cars in the University’s Boisfeuillet Jones parking lot from campus."

Prior to the increase in parking rates scheduled for Feb. 1, 2007, the expanded shuttle fleet represents a cost-free commuting option for employees that will encourage them to leave the driving to Emory.

The North DeKalb Mall lot is the first of several to open. Additional Park-n-Ride shuttle service will be offered to Northlake Mall and South DeKalb Mall. Both locations

See [PARK-N-RAIDE](http://www.emory.edu/EmoryReport/) on page 5

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**BARKLEY FORUM**

**National debate camp means more than words**

**BY BEVERLY CLARK**

Vanaye Kelley likes to talk—a lot. The rising 11th grader from Milwaukee, Wis., found the perfect outlet for her energy during the past two weeks at the Emory National Debate Institute (ENDI), an annual program that has spread the gospel of debate as a teaching and learning tool to school systems nationwide for 39 years.

"My friends told me it would be boring, but they’re wrong. They said I’d be missing out on a lot of fun, but education is going to get you more places in life than spending time on the street," said Kelley, whose competitive energy was evident behind her raw skills last week in one of her first debates.

The institute is a centerpiece of Emory’s debate program, known as the Barkley Forum, and attracts both private and public school students who come to hone their debate skills.

More than half of the ENDI students are from Urban Debate Leagues (UDL), a national urban education reform movement founded in 1985 as a partnership between the Barkley Forum and the Atlanta Public Schools that has spread to cities across the country. Kelley was part of a contingent of 135 students and teachers from the recently formed Milwaukee UDL—the 20th city to join the movement.

More than 360 middle and high school students and teachers from 17 states participated in ENDI. This year’s institute included a residential program on the Emory campus, day programs for middle schoolers at Pace Academy and another at Benjamin S. Carson Honors Preparatory School for

See [BARKLEY FORUM](http://www.emory.edu/EmoryReport/) on page 4

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**CAMPUS PLAN**

**Clifton Road project begins next summer**

**BY RON SAUNDER**

The longest journey begins with a single step.

The 10-year march toward Emory’s capital projects underpin the strategic plan, including up to 10 new undergraduate residence halls, several science buildings, a new theology complex, a new Emory Clinic and a new Emory University Hospital, has begun.

The first element of the new healthcare complex will begin in the summer of 2007, with the demolition of the Turman Residential Center at 1770 Haygood Drive. The 1964- and 1982-vintage buildings have not aged well and need either massive renovation or replacement, says Vice President for Campus Services Bob Hascal. The decision to remove them sets the table for many ensuing changes, all of which are designed to support Emory’s vision while keeping the clinic and hospital operations running like clockwork for faculty, staff and patients during the period of major construction.

“This is an exceedingly interesting project for the University and Emory Healthcare, both because of the project’s scale and because of the intricate staging.

See [CLIFTON PROJECT](http://www.emory.edu/EmoryReport/) on page 4

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AROUND CAMPUS
Ideas on improving Clifton Corridor? The Clifton Community Partnership (CCP) has launched a new, interactive Web site to generate dialogue, share ideas and coordinate events, and post notices of upcoming events and projects.

The goal of the CCP is to encourage vitality and vibrancy throughout the Clifton Corridor by focusing on active centers (entertainment, shops, restaurants); transportation choices that provide alternatives to single occupancy vehicles; pedestrian-friendly streetscapes; and housing options that allow people to live closer to campus.

The ceremony, at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 28, in the School of Public Health Rita Rolins Hall, will feature talks by the recipients specific to the scientific contributions for which they are being awarded.

Chimowitz will speak on “Advancing the Treatment of Intracranial Arterial Stenosis,” and Kelly will speak on “Mechanisms of Germ Cell Repression in C. Elegans.”

FIRSTPERSON MARY LOFTUS

Of hybrids and hydrangeas

T he President drives a hybrid, just like me. No, not George W. Bush—James W. Wagner. I know this because people have seen him wheeling down N. Decatur in his spiffy silver Toyota Prius, parking in his reserved space at the Administration Building, and hopping back in to drive home to Lilburn.

Senior Vice President and General Counsel Kent Alexander also drives a Prius although his is more of a champaigne color, according to my sources.

I don’t have a reserved parking space, but I do have a hybrid—a metallic blue 2006 Toyota Highlander Hybrid that averages 30 miles to the gallon. Not bad for a car that can carry a whole Brownie troop.

Even better than its efficiency and utility is the fact that, for the first time in my motoring life (which historically has found me behind the wheel of a second-hand Toyota hatch-back, a stripped-down Altima, and a couple of minivans), I am driving a cool car.

I know this because people point to it in parking lots. A co-worker asked to test-drive it over lunch. A parent at my daughter’s school genuflected while I interviewed his wife.

Hybrid sport utility vehicles are the Lamborghini of the suburban set, the wagon of the sustainability brigade, the minivans of the Gaia millennium. I wish that, like VW bugs, they came with built-in bud vases where I could place fresh daisies and hydrangeas.

Hybrids are the way SUV-driving suburbanites say, “Yes, I’ve read all of those alarming articles on global warming, and I’ve seen that lonely polar bear on the one ice flue left in Antarctica, and I’ve thought longitudinally about the seven-enth-generation principle, and I’ve switched to energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs in my home just like Laurie (Mrs. Larry) David asked me to.”

And since my Highlander seats seven, counting the little pop-up row in the rear, I can look conscientious without actually sacrificing any convenience.

Extra seats and lower emissions to boot! Gas-electric hybrids are all about compromises—they say gasoline because they have smaller engines that operate on both gas and electric stored in a battery, but they don’t need to be plugged in because the motor doubles as a generator.

The superior environmental choice, of course, would be electric cars that operate solely on battery power. But they still need to be plugged in frequently because batteries pack a lot less power per pound than gas; it would take a thousand pounds of battery store to as much energy as one gallon of gas.

Hybrids, like the perfect relationship partner, even anticipate their own needs—they draw energy from the battery to accelerate the car, or slow the car down and return energy to the battery. In effect, my hybrid redresses itself every time I brake or even take my foot off the gas.

The truth is that the Highlander Hybrid is rated as a Super Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle, releasing 80 percent fewer smog-forming emissions into the environment than conventional SUVs.

And for the ugly truth: Lower emissions are important because I commute nearly 40 miles roundtrip to work every day. I’m not proud. I’ve seen the bumper stickers that say, “Commuters Go Home.” I’ve experienced Highway 78 during a rainstorm behind a three- car pileup. I’ve experienced my free cell-phone minutes chatting during traffic jams.

It’s not that I don’t want my job and my home to be in close proximity to one another. My ideal would be a quaint bungalow in Decatur where I could walk my Border Collie over lunch, hang out at the Brickstore Pub, and have urban backyard chickens, like my friend Allison Adams of the Academic Exchange—whom I hike to work on days.

I get a hybrid!” I announced to him on the phone a few weeks ago.

“Nope. Too little, too late.” I said.

“Just a car. OK, well, that might help. But only if that happened.”

Still, I love my hybrid.

The way it turns off at stop signs and traffic lights then glides forward with that smooth electric golf cart sound. The nifty little diagram on my dash that shows when energy is flowing from the battery to the engine, or from the engine to the battery. The less frequent trips to the gas station, since I only have to fill up once a week instead of twice. The more frequent requests of, “Can we take your car?”

And I know that one day, I may switch paths with President Wagner on the Clifton Corridor or Vice President Alexander maneuvering out of a parking space for Everybody’s Pizza, we will nod in recognition, one hybrid driver to another.

Even if I am only leasing.

Hybrids, like the perfect relationship partner, even anticipate their own needs—they draw energy from the battery to accelerate the car, or slow the car down and return energy to the battery.
Nestled at the front of her desk among the clutter of one of Maureen Kelley’s third-floor offices in the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing is a roughly 8-inch-high block of etched glass attached to a wood base. Upon closer inspection, the etching in the glass reads Atlanta Business Chronicle 2006 Health-Care Hero. The award is angled so that its front points directly at Kelley’s door.

In Kelley’s unassuming world, this qualifies as boastful. “It was a great honor,” said Kelley, clinical associate professor in the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. “I was very surprised. It’s not something I even thought of.”

The awards are presented annually by the Atlanta Business Chronicle to recognize outstanding achievements in the field of medicine. Often, award recipients are the behind-the-scenes professionals who rarely make headlines. Kelley received the 2006 award for Allied Health Professional, which honors individuals in ancillary professions such as nursing or physical therapy.

While the Health-Care Hero award has spread Kelley’s name and work outside the Emory campus, her accomplishments have long been known in the nursing school. The Centering Pregnancy program, which she instituted while at Crawford Long, is a landmark program that provides a group-based approach to prenatal care by bringing together up to 10 women (and often their partners) for midwife-facilitated sessions where health assessment, education and support are stressed. And last year, Kelley was named to Independence Chair in Nursing, which is endowed by the Independence Foundation of Philadelphia to build the capacity of nursing to serve vulnerable populations and develop nursing practice and scholarship.

There are just two of the reasons Kelley was nominated for a Health-Care Hero award. The May 25 award ceremony is perhaps akin to the Academy Awards. Winners aren’t announced until the evening the awards are handed out. Before each award is presented, the nominees’ photos are beamed onto a large screen and their bio is read. When all that’s done, an envelope is opened, the recipient named, then said recipient weaves through the crowd, stands on stage and collects her or his award.

Aside from the dramatic presentation, winning one of the prestigious awards is enough to swell the head of even the most deferential person, but Kelley keeps things in perspective. “Everyone who is nominated does amazing work—every single person they named in every single category,” said Kelley, who earned her BSN from Creighton University, a master’s in maternal child nursing from the University of California, San Francisco, a midwifery certificate from the Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., and a Ph.D. from the Medical College of Georgia.

Perhaps, but this year it is Kelley’s turn to be recognized—not that her excellent work is anything new. After spending the first part of her career focused on her specialty of nurse midwifery, about six years ago she took an international trip that shifted her focus somewhat and has taken her to destinations ranging from Jamaica to Russia.

On that first trip—to Ethiopia, where Kelley helped train local midwives—she stretched herself in a lot of ways. And it’s that sort of experience she tries to instill in the Emory nursing students with whom she works. “It’s a transforming experience to put students in a situation with which they are unfamiliar and ask them to think about social justice and health care delivery issues in a different context,” Kelley said. “It’s just an amazingly enriching experience for everybody.”

Each spring, Kelley hosts an alternative spring break where she leads a group of 10 to 15 nursing students who work with a missionary center in Jamaica that cares for physically and mentally handicapped children and adults.

Although Kelley said the brothers run the center in such a “joyful” way that much of the place’s inherent depression (some children as old as 9 are confined to cribs) is softened, the difficult conditions can be challenging for the students.

Kelley has stacks of student journals illustrating this point, and her stories about former students are fascinating.

One student wrote that she was initially scared and uncomfortable, but by the end of the week she wrote that “through this experience, I learned about caring for people—in those moments when you are holding someone’s hand—those are the times that we truly make a difference.”

“My students love it. They feel enriched, enriched. They talk about how they can’t wait to go back,” Kelley said of the Balashikha Project, which takes students to the suburbs of Moscow as part of an international project to address significant health challenges in Russia. “Birth rates there are declining. Life expectancy for men is dropping. The population as a whole is aging.”

The students enjoy being exposed to this challenging situation in a foreign culture, and for many of them, it’s a life-changing experience.

Kelley said, is the family-centered care model focused on her specialty—caring for people—in those moments when you are holding someone’s hand—those are the times that we truly make a difference.”

As a recipient of one of the coveted Atlanta Business Chronicle Health-Care Hero awards Maureen Kelley isn’t necessarily the type of hero you would see on the cover of Life magazine, although some expecting mothers would disagree.

As a clinical associate professor in the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Kelley is an internationally recognized educator in nurse midwifery. One of many land-mark programs Kelley has instituted, The Centering Pregnancy program provides a group approach to prenatal care by bringing together up to 10 women for midwife-facilitated sessions where health assessment, education and support are stressed.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Emory School of Medicine and Future of Russia Foundation), the hospital at Balashikha has been transformed from a basic hospital to a perinatal center. Perinatal centers offer referrals and treatment for high-risk mothers and critically ill newborns, and Balashikha is quickly becoming an important destination for midwives and for women who may have difficult pregnancies.

While the technology available at Balashikha is state of the art, at least as important, Kelley said, is the family-centered care women now receive.

The approach at Balashikha is to treat childbirth as a natural event and that nurturing a woman properly—particularly a new mother—is a crucial part of their well-being.

“Women won’t be isolated in labor, they are free to be with them who cares about them,” Kelley said, listing some of Balashikha’s planned innovations—none of which are unfamiliar to mothers in the United States. “Prenatal education for couples has recently been initiated. Labor, delivery and recovery rooms are being built. The doctors and midwives are excited about offering this type of patient-centered care to pregnant women—particularly in our area.”

Kelley’s next international trip is a slightly more personal one. In mid-July, she will be taking a mission trip to Guatemala, where she will help staff a health clinic as well as meet with many of the area’s midwives.

“No one who knew me when I was 20 would think that I would be in Ethiopia [or Russia] when I was 50,” Kelley said. “But life presents you with opportunities, and this has been a wonderful one.”
Improved traffic lights trim time, stress

BY NANCY SIEDEMAN

Do n’t worry about speeding up to make that clinic appointment. Through a coordinated effort between Emory and DeKalb County, traveling on several roads around Emory will soon be easier. Beginning in April, you likely noticed a reduction in travel time within six major corridors in the Clifton community.

Working with the county, Emory engaged the consulting services of GCA, Inc. to develop and implement new timing plans for 33 signals within an area bounded by Lavista Road on the north, Clairmont Road on the east, North Decatur Road on the south and Briarcliff Road on the west.

The consultants conducted travel time studies on typical weekdays during three peak time periods (morning, noon and afternoon). Based on the findings, the consultants worked with the county to implement new signal plans and install equipment upgrades. As a result, a comparison study in April revealed significant overall improvements:
- 31 percent reduction in average travel time;
- 40 percent increase in average travel trip speed;
- 55 percent reduction in average delay time; and
- 55 percent reduction in average stops.

“For example, afternoon peak travel time eastbound between the intersection of North Decatur/Haygood and North Decatur/Webster was shaved by nearly five minutes—was travel time southbound on Clifton Road between Briarcliff and North Decatur.”

Emory officials have planned to continue working to monitor travel flow and make quick adjustments as needed.

“That will be step two,” said Fox. “First we get step one right.”

“We are building a world-class University, including facilities for transforming health and healing in the 21st century,” said Michael M.E. Johnson, CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center and chairman of Emory Healthcare.

“Emory is committed to providing the highest quality care for our patients, doctors, nurses and staff will be job one, and that’s where we are starting.”

With the Turman checkers removed from the board along Haygood Drive, space will be cleared for construction of a new 720-space parking deck. That deck, in turn, is expected to provide a quick, convenient and accessible transportation option for patients, doctors, nurses and staff. New parking decks will be located on the east side of Clifton Road.

The new spaces will be needed, as space is currently being lost, in the physicians and Scarborough parking decks and in one-third of the Lowerteir deck beginning in 2008, when site preparation is scheduled to begin for the new clinic.

BANKSY FORUM from page 1

Improvements will be noticeable immediately, said Fox. “We are building a world-class University, including facilities for transforming health and healing in the 21st century,” said Michael M.E. Johnson, CEO of the Woodruff Health Sciences Center and chairman of Emory Healthcare.

“If our health care system is going to be successful, it must be built around the most efficient and effective delivery system possible,” said Johnson. “This is a historic acquisition. Through the extraordinary generosity of Mrs. Michael C. Carlos, Emory has acquired the most complete version of the Capitoline Aphrodite in the United States and one of the loveliest of this type in the world. The statue is an Icon of Greek art—indeed of Western art in general.”

“Several years ago, we met with Dan Lauber, who is an expert in Greek and Roman sculpture and is a specialist in Greek and Roman art at Emory,” said Jasper Gaunt, curator of Greek and Roman art at the Carlos. The Aphrodite sculpture first appeared in a published art catalogue in 1836. At that time it still had its head, which subsequently became detached under unknown circumstances. It was in researching the statue that Sotheby’s specialists recognized that, by coincidence, the head had been sold in a 2002 auction. When contacted, the owner of the head agreed to sell it to the successful bidder so the statue again would be complete.

Upon arrival in Atlanta, Carlos conservator Renée Stein will examine the pieces to assess their structural and surface conditions, and clean them. A plan will then be devised for reunifying the head with the figure. The museum will announce a date when the complete sculpture will go on view in its galleries of Greek and Roman art.

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Emory Village renovation inches closer to new identity

The rendering of a proposed Emory Village facelift shows an inviting, pedestrian-friendly facade. The Alliance to Improve Emory Village hopes that plans like this and other renovations, such as a traffic roundabout and removal of diagonal parking on North Decatur Road, will begin soon.

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

From one perspective, the state agreements that will take happening soon in Emory Village are six, maybe seven years in the making. But for some people, the re-envisioning of the small commercial area has now come for much longer than that.

“I think the first attempted plan to improve Emory Village was made over 30 years ago, and they could never get it to work—they could never get everyone to agree to it,” said Stuart Meddin, owner of several commercial properties in the village and co-chair of the Alliance to Improve Emory Village (AIEV), founded in 1999. “A lot of people have lived in this community for that long or longer, and they’re thrilled. They’re saying, ‘It’s finally happening.’”

By now, what is in store for Emory Village is common knowledge: a traffic roundabout in the main intersection; improved sidewalks that are inviting to shoppers and pedestrians; removal of the diagonal parking along North Decatur Road; and, eventually, construction of mixed-use retail and residential space, along with off-street parking facilities, that together will breathe new life into an underperforming, potentially vibrant center.

Most crucially, the traffic roundabout was to be the first domino, as plans called for construction to begin this summer. But the approval process has taken longer than expected, and now the best guess is that work on the roundabout will not start next spring. Hector Morales, a former project manager at Silverman Construction (hired by DeKalb County as the lead contractor for village renovations), acknowledged that progress has not occurred at the pace AIEV and the University wanted, but he said there were hurdles that had to be cleared.

“There’s a development process that has to occur whenever you have federal monies,” said Morales, referring to a $2 million Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) grant through the National Commission for Local Environmental Initiatives, which he said was matched by $500,000 from the county. “We had to essentially prove that we’re not impacting the historical nature of Emory’s entrance, which is Downey Drive, and there was a lot of paperwork that had to be filled out and a lot of studies that had to be done.”

But what could happen sooner than the roundabout also will have a significant effect on aesthetics: burying the village’s utility lines underground, a development Meddin called “fabulous.”

“It’s being done because of Emory’s willingness,” Meddin said, explaining that the utility relocation’s costs cannot be paid for by the LCI grant; so Vice President for Campus Services Bob Hascall negotiated a deal with Georgia Power to complete the project.

Morales said the roundabout and schedule of the utility relocation is still being developed. It will necessitate some short-term pain as lanes occasionally will have to be closed along North Decatur and Oxford roads on both sides of the main intersection.

Indeed, once the jackhammers start going, life at Emory’s main gate will get more interesting, as the University also plans to completely rework the Downman Drive entrance in conjunction with the roundabout construction. Downman will be turned into a one-way, entrance-only road, paved over the existing street to match Emory’s other pedestrian-friendly thoroughfares. The road will be repaved once again upon the historic Haygood-Hopkins Gate, where a unique knoll in the landscape that marks the University’s front door. All parking along Downman up to South Kilgore will be removed.

“We’re going to enhance the pedestrian aspects and ap- plean of that area,” said University Architect Jen Fabrick. “The whole entrance to the University will be upgraded.”

Fabrick said the Downman Drive project likely will start before the roundabout construction.

Once the traffic and streetscapes improvements are done (or, at least, well under way), those who are interested may look to have a ‘zon- ing overlay’ placed all over Emory Village—circumscribed as the area along North Decatur from the bridge over Peavine Creek to the Bank of America, and along Oxford from the Georgia Power substation to 1463 South Oxford—to allow to be a be a handy mixed-use de- velopment it, and also to impose standards on storefronts and property uses.

Meddin acknowledges that the vacant properties (several of which belong to him) are an unfortunate blight on the current landscape, but he said Emory Village also will have a significant effect on the area as a whole, and by the fall, at any rate he is focusing on the village’s long-term future.

“People come up to me and ask, ‘Don’t you want [those empty properties] occupied?’ Of course I do,” Meddin said.

“But I’m more concerned that the appropriate mix of retailers and restaurant exists in Emory Village over the next five, 10, 15 years. We’re talking to people who will be a great mix of retailers and restaurant people, and they’re savvy enough to understand that yes, it’s going to be a hassle for six or 12 months while it’s under con- struction, but they really want to be there when it’s done.”

AIEV’s website (www.emorvillage.org) contains a downloadable report produced by Peter Drey & Co. that outlines the design standards and business recommendations that will be established for the village (right down to the species of trees, both small and large, to be planted along the streetscapes), but consultants and AIEV of- ficers at the May 24 meeting were quick to add that everything at this point is merely a draft. All plans must be publicly vetted before DeKalb County gives its seal of approval.

CAMPUSPLAN

Emory Village renovation inches closer to new identity

HUMANRESOURCES

Employees offered new way to save for retirement

Beginning July 1, 2006 the Roth 403(b), an after-tax retirement contribution plan, will be available to Emory employees. This new way to contribute allows employees to pay taxes on the money they set aside instead of at the time of withdrawal. An employee can withdraw contributions—plus any earnings—tax free after the account has been open a minimum of five years and the employee has reached age 59½.

Unlike the Roth IRA, there are no income restrictions on contributing to the Roth 403(b). As long as the contributions do not exceed the total IRS contribution limit for that year. (For 2006, the limit is $15,000 or $20,000 if the employee is 50 or older.) Roth 403(b) contributions are not from the employee’s gross income, but from income that is otherwise eliminated to lower income levels.

Starting July 1 Fidelity and Vanguard will offer the Roth 403(b). (TIAA-CREF will offer it later in the year.)

To assist employees in learning more about this option HR is hosting Roth 403(b) Information Sessions:

- **Fidelity:** Tuesday, June 27, 9–11 a.m. and Thursday, June 29, 4–6 p.m., Room 201, Nursing School
- **Vanguard:** Wednesday, June 28, Noon–2 p.m., Room 201, Nursing School
- **Emory:** June 26, 5–7 p.m., Room 201, Nursing School

- If you have any questions, contact the benefits office at 404-727-7613.

New employee orientation revised

Starting July 10 the new employee orientation program for staff will be revised. Orientations will now be held on Mondays instead of Tuesdays and will be located in the Rita Anne Rollins Auditorium at the Rollins School of Public Health. The change was made to accommodate schedules, provide more parking and to allow more participants to enroll in a timely manner.

Additionally, at the July 10 session there will be a new compo- nent to the program—a 30-minute shuttle tour of campus during which, a historical overview will be presented.

Orientation is 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m. For more information, contact hr at 404-727-7611.

Staff Faculty Assistance Program is moving

On July 1, the Faculty Staff Assistance Program is moving from its current location in the Well House to their newly renovated space at 1762 Clifton Road. Services will begin at the new location Tuesday, July 11.

To create awareness of the upcoming move FSA, recently had a contest to name their new location and develop a new tag line, and the results are in:

An overwhelming number of participants from both the Uni- versity and Healthcare submitted the same location name, so hands down the new location will be The Wellness Center.

The winners of the new location name are Nicholyn Hutchins, senior editor, Winship Cancer Institute, and Rindis Vando, medical technologist, Emory Healthcare. Due to the large number of responses with this particular recommendation each submitter was placed into a drawing and two winners were drawn from the pool of winners. Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all who submitted suggestions.

FSA is reviewing the recommendations for a new tag line as it is important to ensure that the right message is also presented. Please look for more information in the near future about this endeavor.

For a map to the FSA’s new location or for more information about the move, please visit www.emory.edu/fsa.

Katherine Hinson is director of communications for HR.

PARK-N-RIDE from page 1

are expected to be operational in August.

Ray added that Emory is exploring other opportunities for a park-n-ride service near Stone Mountain/Moun- tain Industrial Boulevard and near Executive Park on North Druid Hills Road near Emory helping to station.

Locations are selected based on the largest concentration of Emory employees and students. Locations for commuters who use the Park-n-Ride service will be announced. Flexcar offers special discounts for those who work at Emory to rent a ‘community vehicle’ by the hour and run errands or make trips off campus.

Ray added that Emory is looking for additional Park-n-Rides that can be provided on the Flexcar fleet, visit www. emcs.emory.edu/alttransp/flexcar.htm.

This summer is going to be busy as we begin offering Flexcar and the first one for Rollins students are pre- paring for several other shuttle routs in the near future. We will unveil an entirely new look for the shuttles with a new name and marketing campaign to increase the shuttle’s pro- file,” said Ray. “We want these shuttles to be top of mind for those who are not eligible for roth Ira, and for those who wish to leave FSA services will begin at the new location Tuesday, July 11.
Research suggests neurodegeneration cause in Huntington’s

BY HOLLY KORSCHUN

The severe neurodegeneration associated with Huntington’s disease may result from molecular mutations that block the transport of nutrients within cells. Findings from the Emory School of Medicine, however, indicate that the mutant huntingtin protein limits the efforts of the huntingtin-associated protein-1 (HAP1) to provide nutrients to growing neurons or neurites. Without those nutrients, neurites fail to develop and mature neurons degenerate.

Huntington’s disease was first identified more than 125 years ago, and often inhibits speech, movement, reasoning and memory. The result of an abnormal huntingtin gene, the hereditary disorder is estimated to affect one out of every 10,000 people. Though some current pharmacological treatments do address symptoms, scientists have been unable to stop the disease’s progression.

However, scientists at Emory are making headway in the search for a cure. The findings that appear in the May 31 issue of the Journal of Neuroscience are the latest of many that have shed light on Huntington’s disease-related discoveries led by Xiao-Jiang Li, professor of human genetics.

“This protein is very important,” said Li. “When an animal does not have HAP1 it dies after birth. Certainly, it’s essential for differentiation and survival of some neurons in the brain.”

In this latest paper, Li, Rong and their colleagues used cellular models to show that HAPI normally links to transport proteins, including the growth factor receptor tyrosine kinase (TrkA), in growing neurites. HAP1 protects TrkA from degrading, ensuring the neurites continue to develop.

This trafficking function is regulated by the addition of phosphate and oxygen to the HAPI1 protein, a process known as phosphorylation.

However, when mutant huntingtin is present, the researchers have found that this disease protein stops HAPI1 from reattaching to the TrkA trafficking function. HAPI1 cannot prevent the degradation of TrkA. The insulin-like growth factor also cannot maintain the normal function of nerve terminals.

Although the discovery that HAPI1 acts as a transporter and plays a crucial role in neuronal function was exhilarating, researchers are quick to point out that the disease is complex and requires further investigation. In addition, Li’s current experiments involve selective HAPI deletions from neurons in animal models, and his results are sure to offer relevant clues to the mechanisms behind Huntington’s disease.

“If we can find the pathogenesis for Huntington’s disease, or if we know how the mutant huntingtin affects the transporting inside cells, maybe then we can find some effective treatment to prevent this kind of defect,” said Li.

Research into other neurodegenerative disorders may also benefit from a thorough understanding of HAPI1. “This work also has implications for understanding the normal physiological processing for neuronal functioning,” Li said.

Summer research program SUREly impacts undergrads

BY BEVERLY CLARK

In a crowded lab deep within the Rollins Research Center, Emory College student Jim Zhong spends his summer surrounded by jars of fruit flies and larvae, doing the rudimentary work of breeding insects and preparing specimens for research. But he also has spent a lot of time at the microscope working with document certain gene markers in fruit fly embryos that may help explain why our genes sometimes fail at their jobs. It’s the type of exciting, hands-on research most young undergrads don’t experience.

“The research is fun—it’s new stuff, not just an experiment in a textbook,” said Zhong, a rising junior. “It’s been a good opportunity to get exposed to research and explore career opportunities.”

Zhong is one of 74 college students from across the country who are getting a taste of life in the lab through the University’s Summer Undergraduate Research Experience at Emory (SURE). For 10 weeks, rising seniors run experiments, document data and take advantage of the rare opportunity to work directly with leading researchers. From testing new antidepressant medication to studying the neuroscience of bird song, students are engaged in labs across campus.

Nearly 400 students applied for 74 slots in the annual program, which was established in 1990 through the support of Emory and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) grant. In addition to students from Emory and other major research universities, SURE actively recruits women and minorities and seeks to bring in students from smaller schools where research opportunities are not as comprehensive.

Zhong is working with Barry Yedvobnick, associate professor of biology, who uses fruit flies as a model system for higher organisms to study gene expression and function. Yedvobnick has mentored a dozen SURE students since 1991, many of whom have gone on to graduate or medical school to pursue science careers.

“One integral part of research is teaching the next generation of scientists,” Yedvobnick said. “SURE is a great opportunity to find out if you love science. My own undergraduate research led me to where I am today—it was the determination of this factor—and I feel it’s vital for undergrads to have such an experience so they can explore science research as a possible career path.”

Yedvobnick is one of several University faculty members who volunteer their time and resources every summer, said Pat Marsteller, director of the Center for Science Education, which oversees SURE.

“They are passionate about the program. Many love to have undergraduates in their labs, since it helps them to see their research through fresh eyes,” Marsteller said, adding that the dedication of SURE faculty has helped recruit hundreds of undergraduates into science fields.

Former SURE student Bryan Meltz, a senior at Georgia Tech in 2002, now spends his days studying messenger RNA transfer in yeast cells as part of Associate Professor Anita Corbett’s lab in the Biochemistry, Cell and Developmental Biology Program.

“SURE was a very positive experience. I really felt that I was part of the lab and was making an important contribution. I always knew I was interested in science but I wasn’t sure what direction to go in. The experience helped me make a decision to go on to graduate school,” said Meltz.

In addition to time on the bench, SURE students receive training in research methods and how to analyze their data and create written and oral presentations of their results. They participate in weekly ethics discussions that allow them to freely explore the ethical aspects of research careers and the questions that arise about authorship, funding, keeping, misappropriation and other issues.

At the end of the summer, each participant is a part in a formal research symposium during which awards for superior scientific expressions and scientific posters are presented. This year’s poster symposium takes place Thursday, Aug. 3 in the central lobby of the Center.

A new aspect of SURE this year is a mentoring workshop for graduate students and post-docs who are working with the undergrads. Demand for such training is strong (only 50 percent of those who applied were accepted), and the Center for Science Education plans to offer it more often, Marsteller said.

HHMI recently awarded Emory a five-year, $9.3 million grant that will provide continued support for SURE as well as the Center’s educational, research, mentoring and educational initiatives at the Center for Science Education (see sidebar on page 7). In tradition to HHMI, SURE is supported by the National Science Foundation, Graduate Division of Biological and Biomedical Sciences and individual contributions by research mentors.
Fast food waste makes for fuel-friendly campus shuttle

Howard Hughes Medical Institute 1.9M grant supports science education

Windows on the world: Technology and the teaching of foreign language

Emory alumns Erik Fyfe’s determination to find useful fuel alternatives will result in about 45 percent of Emory’s 53 shuttle buses being biodiesel fueled, making the University’s entire shuttle fleet alternatively fueled.

Emory Howard Hughes Medical Institute 1.9M grant supports science education

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Friday, June 29
Surgical Grand Rounds
“Surgeons as Communicators.”
Christopher Dente, medicine, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-9126.

Monday, June 26
Panel Discussion

Wednesday, June 28
Women’s Center Lecture

Women’s Center Lecture

Wednesday, June 28
Women’s Center Lecture

Wednesday, June 28
Clifton Community Meeting

Tuesday, August 15
EndNote Workshop
11:30 a.m. 310 Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-6863.

***Please recycle this newspaper.

To submit an entry for the Emory Report calendar, enter your event on the University’s web events calendar, Events@Emory, which is located at http://events.cc.emory.edu (also accessible via the “Calendar” link from the Emory homepage), at least three weeks prior to the publication date. Dates, times and locations may change without advance notice. Due to space limitations, Emory Report may not be able to include all events submitted.

Men’s Tennis
Women’s Tennis
GO EAGLES! 2006 NCAA CHAMPS NCAA CHAMPS NCAA CHAMPS

Men’s Tennis
Women’s Tennis

First time ever! NJCAA CHAMPS

Men’s Tennis and NJCAA Coach of the Year Brandon Feldman

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