Three thousand four hundred eighty-nine—nearly 59 percent of whom were women—donned their gowns and mortar boards, May 15, as Emory celebrated its 161st Commencement on yet another glorious Monday morning. Children’s Defense Fund founder Marian Wright Edelman delivered the keynote address, President Jim Wagner presided over the third Commencement of his presidency, and all of the graduates and their family and friends were even treated to a bit of juicy gossip, as rumors (which happened to be true) circulated of a certain Hollywood actor prowling the Quad (see photo, page 8).

Keynote speaker Marshall Duke told Oxford’s graduates that they serve as living bridges between Emory’s mother and daughter campuses during the school’s Commencement exercises, May 13. “Oxford is a place you can love, be angry with, lean upon, wish to leave, wish to stay,” he said. “It is a place you can carry with you, think back upon and long for. You have been nurtured in the warmth of this campus. The Seney [Hall] bell will silently sound every 30 minutes in your hearts.”

Graduates who advance to the Atlanta campus, Duke continued, become living bridges between Oxford and Emory, and he urged those doing so next fall to take a moment to stand before the Haygood-Hopkins gate at the University’s main entrance, honoring Atticus Greene Haygood 1859C (Emory’s president from 1875 to 1884) and Isaac Stiles Hopkins 1859C (president from 1884 to 1888).

“Those two pillars joined together by a delicate steel span … serve to cement the old Emory to the new. They ensure and strengthen the relationship to those who began this great institution, on this spot, in 1836,” Duke said, as he advised students to heed Haygood’s saying inscribed on the gate: “We must stand by what is good, and make it better if we can.” Oxford Dean for Campus Life Joe Moon presented the Eady Sophomore Service Award, given each year to an Oxford student for outstanding service to campus life “without seeking reward or recognition,” to Marlon Abraham Rhine. During her time at Oxford, Rhine was a student government senator. See Oxford on page 8.

In addition to continuing Emory’s remarkable run of meteorological good luck as it sends its graduates forth into the world, the University’s 161st Commencement ceremony, May 15, had a little something of everything: an inspiring speaker, last-minute changes, one or two impromptu moments, cheering graduates—and even a touch of Hollywood, thrown in for good measure.

“For most of your time at Emory, our nation has been at war,” President Jim Wagner told the graduates filling much of the Quadrangle. “For us and for our country, Americans your age have fought and died in faraway places. In our own land, some of our fellow citizens have suffered devastating losses of homes and livelihoods from natural disasters. Both at home and abroad, the principles on which our nation was founded have been put to severe and controversial tests.”

The president added that Emory’s graduation exercises were no place “to debate the politics of our day,” but the keynote speaker chose to be provocative. Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children’s Defense Fund and one of the day’s honorary degree recipients, wasted little time before touching on politics.

“Something is out of balance and out of kilter in the world that we live in when in just 691 billionaires have wealth that is equivalent to 3 billion people living in our 89 poorest developing countries. About 347 are in the United States,” Wright Edelman said in her address (see First Person, page 2). “They did it with tax cuts in 2001, 2003, 2004 and again this year.”

See Commencement on page 8

Oxford Graduates Annual rituial a bridge between two campuses

BY MARY LOFTUS

The thin blue line of Oxford College graduates proceeded solemnly through the “Temple of the Trees”—just as graduates have done near that very spot for more than 160 years. Congratulatory balloons and bouquets, parents holding digital cameras, alumni returning for their class reunions, and elated relatives young and old gave a festive atmosphere to the May 6 ceremony honoring 289 graduates—the first to be overseen by Oxford Dean Stephen Bowen.

And, for the morning at least, it was all sunshine and blue skies.

“It seems like even the weather is celebrating the accomplishments of these students today—the singing birds, the whispering trees, the cool temperatures,” said Oxford Chaplain Judy Shema, who led the invocation.

Rites and rituals were, appropriately, the theme of the day, made manifest not only by the ceremony itself but by Commencement speaker Marshall Duke, Charles Howard Candler Professor of Psychology.

“Let me begin with a confession: I love Commencement. I love the traditions, the bagpipe, the pageantry. It signifies that something special is happening,” said Duke, a faculty fellow at Emory’s Center for Myth and Ritual in American Life, who has attended 36 Emory Commencements. “Rituals may be thought of as gateways between one condition in life and another … at the very point of transition.”

Just as rituals connect graduates from one year to the next, and one generation to the next, so too does a sense of place, Duke said.

“Oxford is a place with which you have a relationship, a place you can love, be angry with, lean upon, wish to leave, wish to stay,” he said. “It is a place you can carry with you, think back upon and long for. You have been nurtured in the warmth of this campus. The Seney [Hall] bell will silently sound every 30 minutes in your hearts.”

Graduates who advance to the Atlanta campus, Duke continued, become living bridges between Oxford and Emory, and he urged those doing so next fall to take a moment to stand before the Haygood-Hopkins gate at the University’s main entrance, honoring Atticus Greene Haygood 1859C (Emory’s president from 1875 to 1884) and Isaac Stiles Hopkins 1859C (president from 1884 to 1888).

“Those two pillars joined together by a delicate steel span … serve to cement the
Enduring values

Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children’s Defense Fund, was the keynote speaker at Emory’s 2006 Commencement ceremony.

Mark Hatfield, a wonderful former Republican senator from Oregon, asked: How can we stand by as children starve by the millions because we lack the will to eliminate hunger, yet we have found the will to develop missiles capable of flying over the polar cap and landing within a few hundred feet of their target? This, Hatfield said, is not innovation; it is a pro- found distortion of humanity’s purpose on earth. The agitator poet Wendell Berry said the most alarming sign of the state of our society is that our leaders have the courage to sacrifice the lives of young people in war but have not the courage to tell us we must be less greedy and wasteful.

Something is out of balance and out of kilter in the world that we live in today. We lack the spirit of our forebears; we have lost the sense of moral duty that has characterized the nation since its founding.

The faith that our forebears held in God is out of balance with the spiritual despair that has infected our nation. Too many of us have grown up in a society that tells us we must be greedy and wasteful.

The last time I was a youngish activist, I remember being told that young people had a right to be out there doing something meaningful. I was 18 then. I didn’t need tax cuts in 2001, or 2004, or over the past few years in the midst of two costly wars, when Katrina’s children and families were suffering and our national leaders were not even there to help them.

We stand by as children starve by the millions because we lack the will to eliminate hunger, yet we have found the will to develop missiles capable of flying over the polar cap and landing within a few hundred feet of their target. This, Hatfield said, is not innovation; it is a profound distortion of humanity’s purpose on earth.

But the role models I learned to listen to were those ordinary people of grace, of kindness, of strength, of courage who didn’t need tax cuts. They did the very best they could do to love their families and to help care for those in need. When Katrina’s children and families were suffering and our national leaders were not even there to help them.

We stand by as children starve by the millions because we lack the will to eliminate hunger, yet we have found the will to develop missiles capable of flying over the polar cap and landing within a few hundred feet of their target. This, Hatfield said, is not innovation; it is a profound distortion of humanity’s purpose on earth.

When I was growing up, and my brother Harry is here today, when we were growing up in little Bennettsville, S.C., service was as much a part of our upbringing as eating and sleeping. It was a part of the school day; one of our teachers was a minister. Black church and community members were watchful extended families; children were considered community property. They reported on me when I did wrong, applauded when I did well, and they were very clear that doing well meant being helpful to others, achieving in school and reading. All the Wright children figured out early on that the only thing Daddy wouldn’t give us a chore was when we were reading—we were the only children in the neighborhood to take care of our elderly relatives and neighbors—and that everything that was needed was the job. Black church and community members were watchful extended families; children were considered community property. They reported on me when I did wrong, applauded when I did well, and they were very clear that doing well meant being helpful to others, achieving in school and reading. All the Wright children figured out early on that the only thing Daddy wouldn’t give us a chore was when we were reading—we were the only children in the neighborhood to take care of our elderly relatives and neighbors—and that everything that was needed was the job.

But the role models I learned to listen to were those ordinary people of grace, of kindness, of strength, of courage who didn’t need tax cuts. They did the very best they could do to love their families and to help care for those in need.
Law school’s Alexander recognized for career dedicated to service

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

It’s a safer bet that never has Emory bestowed its Thomas Jefferson Award—given each year to a faculty member or administration officer for significant service to the University—to a more deserving person than the 2006 recipient, Frank Alexander.

Frank Alexander, professor of law and interim dean of the School of Law, received the award from President Jim Wagner at Emory’s 161st Commencement, held May 15, but Alexander has spent virtually his entire professional life earning it, at least if one broadens one’s idea of “service to the University.”

To be sure, the last year qualifies even under the strictest of definitions: Alexander took over the school’s reins last summer after former Dean Tom Arthur stepped down. Within months of assuming the deanship, Alexander was confronted with a problem more vexing than he could have possibly anticipated, as Hurricane Katrina ripped through New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, leaving hundreds of law students from several schools academically homeless for the semester. Immediately, Alexander stepped up to help.

“In this year of transition, blessings came from unexpected quarters,” Alexander wrote in a year-ending letter to the school. “Throughout the fall semester our lives and our community were enriched and strengthened by the presence of 30 students from Tulane and Loyola law schools and several of their faculty and staff. Their own enthusiasm and strength in the face of adversity reminded us of the things that are truly important and the power of pulling together.”

Alexander said the year was bookended by this spring’s passing of former Professor Bill Turley and his long battle with cancer, which though painful served to bring together the school’s faculty, staff and alumni to mourn their beloved former colleague.

In between and around those emotional experiences, there was also plenty of accomplishment. The school more than doubled the total funding for public interest law fellowships, awarded through the Emory Public Interest Committee. It grew a lean repatriations assistance program, created two new clinical arms in the Indigent Criminal Defense Clinic and Juvenile Justice Clinic, celebrated many new arrivals and appointments, and watched its faculty publish some 22 books and 35 articles.

Not too bad for an interim dean.

“It’s been such a joy,” Alexander said. “To meet so many of my former students as I’ve traveled around the country, to be able to work in new ways with our current students and feel the excitement they have and the staff has for our common endeavors. I’m more excited about Emory law school—and, indeed, Emory University—than at any point in the past.”

Of course, service is nothing new for Alexander. A longtime scholar of and advocate for affordable housing and urban redevelopment, he helped create the mixed-income development in East Lake and more recently has spent time working on comparable projects in Flint, Mich., and Little Rock, Ark.

“I have a real passion for being involved in the community, and one of the privileges of being at Emory is the invitation and even the encouragement to be engaged with a much larger community,” Alexander said.

“The first thing I did last summer was say let’s devote the year to celebrating the profession of service, and that the opportunity on which we base everything all year.”

Interim law Dean Frank Alexander (right) accepts the Thomas Jefferson Award from President Jim Wagner.

A young scholar confronted with a wide world full of history to study, Frances Smith Foster said she made her choices by keeping her nines and nephews in mind.

“What kind of things would be helpful to them, to help them do what it was they were setting out to do,” said Foster, Charles Howard Candler Professor of English and Women’s Studies, and chair of the English department. “I’m trying to give information to people that I think might help them make better use of their lives and come closer to getting their dreams without the hindrance of wrong or inadequate information.”

In other words, to Foster, scholarship is teaching, and that’s one reason she was honored at Emory’s 161st Commencement with the University Scholar/Teacher Award, awarded each year and supported by the United Methodist Church Board of Higher Education and Ministries.

In fact, the inverse—that teaching is scholarship—is also true for Foster, or at least it is now. She admits that with greater tenure has come the freedom to pursue personally what interests her, and experiences in the classroom often lead to those interests.

“I don’t have permission [to study what I wanted],” Foster said. “I’m much better teacher and scholar now that I’m grown up.”

Concentrating on feminist sexual politics and African American families and religion, Foster has written or edited some 10 books, including Written By Herself: Literary Production by African American Women, 1746-1892. The titles of her seminars include “Becoming a Woman” and “Right Things Wrong in 19th Century African American Literature.”

Lately Foster has taken another project: Along with anthropologist’s George Armelagos, she is co-leading Emory’s “Race and Human Difference” strategic initiative. And though she mentioned the project to Emory’s University, she has a real opportunity.

“I think Emory can and already is a laboratory to work out its own theories,” Foster said. “In the old days, doctors used their bodies to test their vaccines, and had they not done that I’m not sure we would have had those vaccines. I’m not suggesting we put ourselves in harm’s way to test our theories, but if we’ve got good theories we ought to show that.”

As for the validation of her own “theories” that came in the form of the School of Scholar/Teacher Award, Foster said the occasion itself was as much the award as anything else and perhaps more than any previous award she’s received. Joining her at Commencement was her 84-year-old mother who made the trip from Ohio. “When she found out about the award, first she said, ‘That’s nice, dear,’” Foster said. “I said, ‘Well, that’s a big deal.’ and [my mother] said, ‘If I can get there, I’m going to be there.’”

“Nothing there they could have done to make me happier,” she said of her family. “That was the most fun, that was what I loved. I don’t think I ever had an award that gave me more personal satisfaction.”

FACULTY AWARDS

The following professors received the 2006 Williams Award for Distinguished Teaching, established in 1972 by alumnus Emory Williams:

• Peter Bing, associate professor of classics
• Eric Brussel, associate professor of math & computer science
• Francisco Pajares, associate professor of educational studies
• Lucas Carpenter, professor of English
• Henry Moon, assistant professor of organization & management
• Corrine Abraham, instructor of nursing
• Howard Abrams, professor of law

In addition to the Emory Williams Award, the University’s schools give out their own teaching awards. 2006 recipients for these teaching citations include:

EMORY COLLEGE

GOIZUETA BUSINESS SCHOOL
• Marc F. Adler Prize for Excellence in Teaching: Kristy Tovory, assistant professor of accounting.
• Donald R. Keough Awards for Excellence: Julie Barefoot, associate dean and director of MBA admissions, and Rich Metters, associate professor of decision and information analysis.
• Modular Executive MBA Distinguished Educators: Rich Makados, associate professor of organization & management, and Shelza Mian, associate professor of finance.
• Weekend Executive MBA Distinguished Educator: Rob Kazanjian, professor of organization & management.
• Evening MBA Distinguished Educators: Joe Labianca, assistant professor of organization & management, and Rich Metters, associate professor of decision and information analysis.
• BBA Distinguished Educator: Allison Burdette, assistant professor of business law; and
• Full Time MBA Distinguished Educator: Marty Butler, assistant professor of accounting, and Nicholas Valerio, associate professor of finance.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
• Evangeline T. Papageorge Award: David Feliciano, professor of surgery.

SCHOOL OF LAW
• Most Outstanding Professor Award: Richard Freer, professor of law.

ROLLINS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
• Professors of the Year: Jose Binongo, professor of biostatistics; Rob Stephenson, assistant professor of global health; and Thomas F. Sellers Award: Richard Letz (deceased), professor of public health.

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
• Outstanding Service: David Petersen, professor of religion;
• Excellence in Teaching: Roberta Bondi, professor of religion.
This page (clockwise from top left): A Swoop for the new millennium made his debut during Emory Weekend’s Block Party on McDonough Field; members of the Class of 2006 sign a banner after completing the Candlelight Crossover via the Houston Mill Road bridge, a journey that symbolizes their transition to Emory alumni; emeriti professors Art Dietz, Bob DeHaan, Herb Karp and Marie Nitschke all were honored at an Emeritus College reception; Lord James W. Dooley receives some (much needed) spiritual guidance from religion Professor Hoyt Oliver, who is retiring after 45 years at Oxford; members of Emory College’s Class of 2006 file into the Baccalaureate ceremony in Glenn Auditorium.
This page (clockwise from above): honorary degree recipient Stephen Bright is hooded by Provost Earl Lewis and University Secretary Rosemary Magee; an Emory ring shines with the luster of the gold and blue; honorary degree recipient Marian Wright Edelman minced few words in her keynote address; friends and families scrambled to get just the right shot of their proud graduates during the Emory College diploma ceremony; Ahamefula Echeka from Nigeria is grateful for the blessing of the master of divinity degree he’s about to receive; University Marshal Ray DuVarney and a corps of bagpipers lead the Commencement morning procession onto the Quadrangle.
Wagner spreads the good news at Presidential Town Hall

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

For thousands of alumni returning to campus, Emory Weekend was a chance to reacquaint themselves with their alma mater; to see first hand the new places and faces that define the University these days. On Saturday, May 13, a group of about 50 alumni, as well as a healthy number of Emory faculty and staff, decided to get their update straight from the top by attending the weekend celebration’s first Presidential Town Hall, held in Winship Ballroom.

“I’m here to talk about what Emory’s been up to lately,” President Jim Wagner said, adding that he looked forward to plenty of questions at the end of his remarks: “I want to have a lot of time to learn from you.”

Wagner gave a thumbnail description of the University’s various planning activities of the past year, focusing mostly on the strategic plan’s crosscutting initiatives such as Global Health, Predictive Health and Religions and the Human Spirit. Regarding the latter, Wagner remarked that this year marks the 40th anniversary of the Time magazine cover that asked, “Is God Dead?” That question was prompted by the scholarly work of Thomas Altizer, then a faculty member in the Candler School of Theology.

“I’m proud—and scared—that Emory has decided this will be one of its focal areas going forward,” Wagner said, referring to the New York Times columnist whose most recent book, The World is Flat: A Brief History of the 21st Century, deals with the increasingly global business environment.

Another question asked Wagner to explain Emory’s role in drug development, and the president explained the nature of partnerships the University forms with pharmaceutical companies, which are especially critical when it comes to the clinical-trial phase. Perhaps anticipating the audience member’s thinking, Wagner admitted that the temptation to “cut corners” does exist when such vast sums (witness last summer’s $450 million Emtriva sale) await the successful development and marketing of the most important drugs.

“But that’s where Emory’s being an ethically engaged university comes in,” Wagner said. He also elaborated on another recent example of such ethical engagement. After students pointed out that parts of Emory’s endowment are invested in companies that help fund the Sudanese government’s oil infrastructure—and thus indirectly support the genocide in the country’s Darfur region—Wagner said the University instructed its endowment fund managers to begin divesting Emory of holdings in those companies when they reevaluate their portfolios.

Other questions touched on everything from how much Emory’s enrollment will grow in the next 10 years (said Wagner: “Not much.”) to how the University should work with the Atlanta and Decatur communities, to the role Emory College plays in the strategic plan and its crosscutting initiatives (answer: a major one, Wagner said, including leadership in several, if not all, areas). The question: “How baseball ‘fits in’ with the University’s plans.”

That last question, as it was intended, drew a few laughs. But Wagner took the opportunity to deliver a serious, yet thoughtful, answer. Having recently attended a meeting of Association of American Universities—held in Washington, Wagner said the meeting was “somewhat of a conference of leadership of member schools dealing with difficult and even painful crises, such as presidential changes and the now-infamous situation concerning Duke’s lacrosse team.”

“Just got me to thinking how fortunate Emory University has been,” Wagner said, “to have been able to take a couple years and just dream through the strategic plan.”

But specifically, the Duke situation—as well as the seemingly scandalous concerns regarding high-profile Div. I sports teams at colleges and universities around the country—reminded Wagner of the beauties of Div. III athletics.

“I love Div. III sports,” he said, informing his audience that the average GPA of Emory’s varsity athletes was 2.82 compared to 3.34 for the overall student body.

Myron Steves, a 1934 graduate of Emory, ended the town hall on a nostalgic note, talking about how different Emory was during his undergraduate days in the 1930s. America was in the midst of the Depression, he said, and the sums of money involved in Emory activities would have been unimaginable back then— including the cost of tuition, which he said was $75 per quarter (before Emory switched to semesters).

With some good-natured mock chagrin, Wagner smiled from the podium. “Thanks, Myron. You’re a big help.”

BRITTNAWARD

Akbik quietly assembled sterling service, leadership record

BY BEVERLY CLARK

Through quiet leadership and a tireless dedication to making a difference, Emory College Class of 2006 graduate Feras Akbik will leave his alma mater having changed the way students experience—and will experiment—the University for years to come.

First as vice president, then as president of the College Council this past year, Akbik represented the concerns of more than 6,000 undergraduates to Emory’s administration and oversaw the distribution of more than $300,000 in grants to student-run events. During his tenure, he helped create new campus traditions, including the Great Debate lecture series, Battle of the Dorms and Screen on the Green. Behind the scenes, he led an overhaul of College Council’s internal structure so it would run more efficiently, remain fiscally responsible and better serve the Emory community now and in the future.

“Feras is a person who cares deeply about the college experience for students here, and is truly unusual for his work and dedication,” said Karon Salishburg, director of student activities in Campus Life. “He is someone who dove in to work on the inside for positive change instead of standing on the outside and pointing out what is wrong.”

Akbik’s achievements earned him Emory’s highest student honor, the Marion Lu— ter Brittain Award, given to a member of the graduating class in recognition of his or her service to the University. Akbik received the award (which carries a $5,000 gift) during Commencement, May 15.

The Atlanta native said he was surprised to receive the honor, and grateful for his Emory experience. “College is as much about developing as a person as it is about academics. By getting involved, you learn a lot of different life lessons that you wouldn’t learn in the classroom,” he said.

In addition to his leadership on College Council, Akbik worked closely with the Muslim Student Association (MSA). He helped plan and oversee events that furthered a campus education on Islam, including the first MSA Art Gala. His work with the association helped it achieve recognition as a three-time (in the year of the Year on campus. He also represented Emory’s Muslim community on the Inter-Religious Council and at interfaith services.

Akbik planned the sixth annual “State of Race Debate,” which this year tackled an international topic for the first time. He also helped found the Kappa Sigma fraternity chapter at Emory. A double major in biology and philosophy, he has maintained a near-perfect GPA as a Goodrich C. White Scholar.

Akbik’s work to make a difference extended beyond campus—he helped teach science classes last year at an Atlanta public school as an undergraduate fellow in the PRISM (Problems and Research to Integrate Math and Science) program, an initiative to improve science education by pairing teachers with Emory students in the sciences to develop problem-based, hands-on science lessons.

He spent a summer as a volunteer with the Emory Scholars and Service program, working with children who are suffering from cancer and leading bicycle tours around Atlanta. This summer, Akbik also worked as a tutor with local public high school seniors to help prepare them for the Georgia High School Exit Exam in science. Next year, he plans to attend Washington University in St. Louis to pursue a career in medical research.
BY BEVERLY CLARK

J. B. Tarter and Devin Murphy are a study in contrasts: Tarter, a diehard conservative from the heartland of Idaho, has strong aspirations for a career in politics and public policy; Murphy, a true blue liberal from Spartanburg, S.C., plans to become a professor of English at Emory. The two senior Emory College students, who share the same major and minor, have a mature and politically conservative approach to a number of issues. They are the first senior Emory students in the history of the University's top student award—The McMullan Award—to approach their senior year as partners in Emory's nationally ranked debate program, the Barkley Forum. They are the first to admit that their firm stance on the political spectrum will change as they come together in dialogue to defend their views on a range of sensitive debates.

“The two senior Emory students who share the same major and minor have a mature and politically conservative approach to a number of issues.”

They work together for the common good during their college careers, the pair is being honored for their accomplishments and that shared commitment to the university’s service with the unprecedented decision to award both a full funding from the McMullan Award.

“Interdependency remains a word that many people embrace, but Tarter and Murphy realized that they acted interdependently—in the pair is being honored for their accomplishments and that shared commitment to the university’s service with the unprecedented decision to award both a full funding from the McMullan Award.”

By having their political views that differ,” Tarter said. “We essentially strived to bring it all together and work across the aisle in a mature and politically centered manner.”

Similarly, Tarter also stood out in his four years at Emory for his participation in his campus leadership, founding new student groups, chartering new student groups, debating the important issues of the day in a way that built community instead of dividing people more, his nominations noted.

Through Emory’s Student Government Association (SGA), Murphy and Tarter worked closely together on many issues. Together, they addressed what they described as “common sense” issues that affected students and the University as a whole, whether it was student government election reform, chartering new student groups, discussing changes to campus policies and procedures.

“We are thrilled by the success of Emory Weekend 2006,” said Allison Dykes, vice president for freshman scholars, and cochair of the event’s program committee. “We also served on the Center for Ethics advisory board as a student representative.”

As is appropriate, Emory College graduate Devin Murphy is on the left and the classmate B. Tarter is on the right; the two symbol represent both ends of the political spectrum during their time at Emory.

As is appropriate, Emory College graduate Devin Murphy is on the left and the classmate B. Tarter is on the right; the two symbol represent both ends of the political spectrum during their time at Emory.

“Interdependency remains a word that many people embrace, but Tarter and Murphy realized that they acted interdependently—in the pair is being honored for their accomplishments and that shared commitment to the university’s service with the unprecedented decision to award both a full funding from the McMullan Award.”

Beginning on Thursday, May 11, the Emory College ceremony and a reception for Oxford College continued the weekend’s Commencement on Monday, May 15, the Emory campus buzzed with activity.

The theme of Emory Weekend 2006, “The Eagle Has Landed,” came to the forefront on Saturday at the Block Party on McDonough Field. The Department of Athletics was another of AEA’s partners, and Emory Weekend was the venue for the campuswide debut of Emory’s new mascot, Swoop. Emory’s old mascot is also named Swoop, but the 20-year-old Alumnus has since been retired. He had a career as a true blue liberal from Spartanburg, S.C., plans to become a professor of English at Emory. The two senior Emory College students, who share the same major and minor, have a mature and politically conservative approach to a number of issues. They are the first senior Emory students in the history of the University’s top student award—The McMullan Award—to approach their senior year as partners in Emory’s nationally ranked debate program, the Barkley Forum.

Nearly four years after they met, Tarter and Murphy say they both started laughing when they found themselves summoned together to the dean’s office. “It had to be either really good—or really bad. We had no idea what to expect,” Murphy said.

Both the pair are humbled to have received the award and happy, as well. The money will be used to fund their graduate studies in Emory scholarship programs, including the Boren Graduate Fellowship in 2003 and the Beinecke Scholarship in 2005. Though he spent most of his life with his political views that differ,” Tarter said. “We essentially strived to bring it all together and work across the aisle in a mature and politically centered manner.”

Similarly, Tarter also stood out in his four years at Emory for his participation in his campus leadership, founding new student groups, chartering new student groups, debating the important issues of the day in a way that built community instead of dividing people more, his nominations noted.

Through Emory’s Student Government Association (SGA), Murphy and Tarter worked closely together on many issues. Together, they addressed what they described as “common sense” issues that affected students and the University as a whole, whether it was student government election reform, chartering new student groups, discussing changes to campus policies and procedures.

“We are thrilled by the success of Emory Weekend 2006,” said Allison Dykes, vice president for freshman scholars, and cochair of the event’s program committee. “We also served on the Center for Ethics advisory board as a student representative.”

As is appropriate, Emory College graduate Devin Murphy is on the left and the classmate B. Tarter is on the right; the two symbol represent both ends of the political spectrum during their time at Emory.

As is appropriate, Emory College graduate Devin Murphy is on the left and the classmate B. Tarter is on the right; the two symbol represent both ends of the political spectrum during their time at Emory.

By Beverly Clark
Mentor Bright awarded for years of wisdom

“Senior faculty do and should provide guidance to students and other faculty, not just by teaching but also by doing whatever they can to make the academy run better and ensure that the academy has a functioning role in the community,” said David Bright, professor of classics and the 2006 recipient of George F. Cuttino Award for Excellence in Mentoring.

Bright, who is retiring this spring, came to Emory in 1981 as vice president for arts and sciences and dean of Emory College and served as chair of the Department of Classics until 2005. Although he held roles in administration he never failed to continue teaching, leading a freshman seminar every spring since he’s been here. “I tell students to think of me as a resource,” Bright said. “I’ve stayed in touch with many students, some only having taken one class from me.”

“I’m so gratified and touched about receiving this award and the values it represents, which are based on my own views,” he said. Faculty are in a position to make a difference in areas they may not even know differences are being made.”

This is the full list of retiring members of the faculty, administration and staff. Date indicates year of initial employment at the University.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty and Administrators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee Alderman, Environmental Health and Safety (1993)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberta Bondi, Theology (1978)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Bonner, Rehabilitation Medicine (1967)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Catlin, Physics (1974)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Chen, Physics (1964)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Douglass, Assistant Vice President, HR (1982)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Galindo, Endocrinology (1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Garber, Rehabilitation Medicine (1980)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Grindon, Pathology (1977)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles (Ted) Hackett, Theology (1972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Herbert, Psychiatrist, University Health Services (2001)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodney Hunter, Theology (1971)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Jenkins, University Food Service Liaison (1945)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Kinkade Jr., Biochemistry (1970)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Lichtman, Radiology (1978)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ming-Chang Lin, Chemistry (1988)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Livingston Jr., Dentistry (1982)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter Lowe, Theology (1971)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Lutz, Director, Nursing Staff Support Services (1990)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnnie Morgan, Rehabilitation Medicine (1976)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Murray, Surgery Oncology (1969)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Nikolayen, Director of Academic Services (1974)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Nitschke, University Libraries (1972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Pagell, University Libraries (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Polking, Art History (1974)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Pooler, Physiology (1969)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Puckett Jr., Physics (1962)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Schneider, Family and Preventive Medicine (1976)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwin Douglas Shires, Pathology (1987)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euclid “Neal” Smith, Anthropology (1974)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry Sprawls, Radiology (1960)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yung-Fong Sung, Anesthesiology (1971)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JoNell Adair Usher, Assistant Dean, Public Health (1984)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Wieland, Pathology (1970)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Elaine Wagner, University Libraries (1975)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yi-Chong Wang, Psychiatry (1987)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Seth Weintraub, Cardiology (1986)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yvonne Flowers, Association of Emory Alumni (1980)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly Leverett Cooper, University Libraries (1979)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Darnell Finch, Animal Resources (1970)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yvonne Flowers, Association of Emory Alumni (1980)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth McDonough, Dermatology (1975)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Moore, Winship Cancer Institute (1978)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Anderson Moses, Network Communications (1976)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodie Ring, Facilities Management (1972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Roberts, Parking and Community Services (1964)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Ford Scarborough, Oxford College (1972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willie Warbington, Operations and Maintenance (1978)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COURTESY SCHOLARS

The following Emory employees were scheduled to earn degrees this year through the University’s Courtesy Scholars program:

| Jewel Adams |
| Jared Banker |
| Jeynna Cluck |
| Lakeysia Daniels |
| Rodrick Ewas |
| Lorna Fagan |
| Hannah Feinberg |
| Quarkina France |
| Kevin Gelin |
| Raphael Gerson |
| Kathryn Glas |
| James Goff |
| Hans Grossniklaus |
| Robin Hitchcock |
| Jill Jones |
| Zohair Kapasi |
| Shelley Kozlowsky |
| David Lower |
| Linda Mbah |
| Adlene McEroy |
| Molly Morton |
| Michelle Mott |
| Iruka Ndubizu |
| Minh Nguyen |
| Masayo Nishiyama |
| Ann North |
| Suzanne Robertson |
| Samantha Schmidt |
| Jennifer Spann |
| Ilya Teplinsky |
| Casandra Walker |
| Megan Williams |
| Leping Zhao |

William Hurt, has not yet set a release date. Penn is directing the screenplay he wrote. Meanwhile, in the morning’s main attraction, Wagner announced that the University would revive a dormant tradition by singing the alma mater to conclude the main Commencement ceremony. So, after a multifaith benediction delivered in turn by representatives of all Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Jewish faiths, 2006 master’s of music recipient Jason Willcoxon led an a cappella rendition as yet another class of graduates hailed the gold and blue.