Celebrating Emory’s 160th graduating class

BY KATHERINE BAUST

The tightly packed slate of Commencement activities celebrating Emory’s 160th graduating class spans five days and promises a range of activities for every facet of the Emory community.

Commencement events—which begin Thursday, May 12, and run through the main campus and individual school ceremonies across campus on May 16—will blend old Emory traditions, such as Sunday’s Baccalaureate Service, with new programs undertaken in partnership with the Association of Emory Alumni (AEA).

The University enjoyed a large turnout last year for the renamed Emory Weekend, which for the first time combined Commencement with Alumni Weekend. “We had larger attendance last year than ever before—three times the amount in previous years,” said Gerry Lowrey, AEA senior director of campus relations.

This year also marks the first time Oxford College will combine Commencement with its annual alumni celebration, as Oxford Weekend will be held concurrently with Emory Weekend. “We hope these combining efforts will give alumni and friends a greater opportunity to participate in events on both campuses,” said Marvlyn Kirk, Oxford assistant director of college relations.

The 2005 Commencement schedule will kick off May 12 with a golf scramble for graduating students and their families, alumni, faculty and staff at the Stone Mountain Golf Course beginning at 8:30 a.m.

One of the celebration’s many highlights will be the dedication of the newly renovated P.E. Center and a block party on McDonough Field, followed by concerts by Tinsley Ellis and Shawn Mullins, to be held Saturday, May 14, from 12:30–5 p.m.

Programs and departments across campus have developed discipline-specific activities for alumni from their areas, and many celebrations and receptions honoring the graduates are scheduled all over campus.

The involvement of all members of the 50th reunion class, as well as any alumni who graduated earlier than 1954, in an alumni group called Corpus Cordis Aureum (Latin for “The Golden Corps of the Heart”) is a recent addition to the Commencement tradition. They will be invited to brunch on Sunday at Miller-Ward Alumni House and will march the next morning along with the graduates clad in academic regalia onto the Quadrangle.

By co-chair Paula Gomez, director of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program; Thom Bornemann, director of The Carter Center’s Mental Health Program, and Ben Druss, associate professor of health policy management in the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory should be abstinent, but it should be a place whose people wouldn’t let friends or co-workers lose their jobs, positions or even their lives as a result of alcohol or other drugs.

President Jim Wagner has green-lighted a pair of task forces, one on mental health and the other on alcohol and drug abuse, charged with collecting data on campus and prioritizing community needs in both areas. Formed in April, both task forces will work this summer to do just that.

“At our initial meeting, the president spoke very eloquently about what kind of place Emory University is,” said Michael Huey, executive director of Student Health Services and a member of the President’s Task Force on Alcohol and Other Drugs, as it is formally known. The two task forces are separate entities and will provide separate reports, but they have pooled some resources.

“There is a very moral and ethical view here about alcohol and other drugs,” Huey continued. “It’s not a case that communities are just forced to spend a lot more money to change things.”

The 2005 Commencement events will also feature best-selling author Tom Brokaw, renowned journalist and bestselling author, will deliver the main Commencement ceremony’s keynote address. Brokaw has won every major award in broadcast journalism, including a Peabody Award, two DuPonts and several Emmys.

Four other individuals will be recognized with honorary degrees: Oxford University administrator Robin Butler, Atlanta developer Tom Cousins, nursing scholar Sue Hegervig (’66N); and former Emory Law School dean Ben Johnson Jr.

The full Commencement schedule can be found at: www.emory.edu/COMMENCEMENT/schedule.html

FY06 budget shows 6% growth

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

Emory’s Unrestricted Operating Budget (UOB) will grow by roughly 6 percent in fiscal year 2006, according to the proposed budget that has been endorsed by the Board of Trustees’ finance committee and is scheduled to go before the board’s executive committee on May 12.

The proposed UOB would total $575 million for the period from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31, 2006. The budget accommodates a base 3 percent merit-salary program, salary structure adjustments and market adjustments for select job titles, and funding to bring the University into compliance with changes in the Fair Labor Standards Act. These changes hold an increase in the FY06 budget of 3.9 percent in base salaries.

“Faculties are at the heart of the academy,” Provost Earl Lewis said. “A number of our facultys’ headcounts are too small in comparison with peers. To address this, new positions are budgeted in a number of the schools. We continue to see salaries for the best faculty rise more rapidly than inflation, and we strive to keep new-hire salaries from creating internal compression for existing faculty.”
Choosing Oxford

Although we cannot auger the future, all the planets appear to be aligned; we are about to see something new being born here at Oxford. This new reality is the work of generations who continued to believe in this little place, its mission and its possibility.

The decision now was whether or not to enroll; I made that decision in Munich, sitting on the train. It would shape my future.

After heading home to New Jersey, I packed up my two suitcases and set off for Oxford on a Greyhound bus. Five years later I left the University with a newly minted Ph.D. (and my new husband, a law school alumnus).

We headed to Washington in our old green jalopy, determined to make our future at the Oxford College. I had a great Liberal Arts compacting: I had applied and was accepted into the 1837 president’s house, bewildered by the many nooks and crannies of our new home. I experienced immediately the competence and dedication of faculty and staff, and the fidelity of emerits and the Board of Counselors; I rejoiced in Oxford’s longstanding ethical and religious allegiances.

The last six years have been provocative, demanding, thrilling; I will miss Oxford and its very special ethos when I leave in June. During these years I have had lots of time to think about questions of institutional change, how it occurs, and why and how it endures. As a historian this has given me particular pleasure.

When I arrived at the college, it was immediately evident that it was ready to “take off.” All the pieces were in place for Oxford to reinvigorate itself while preserving the heart of this unusual institution. Although isolation and poverty had shaped Oxford’s identity in the past and negative and weighty, what was needed was to embrace that past and to confidently and realistically find new ways to express its links and contributions to the University. A conscious rededication, a repositioning vis-a-vis its past and future, was called for.

The problem, confirmed for me the insight of Kierkegaard that the problem of education is at least temporary disposition—what it leads to wisdom. In our frenzied, market-driven world, I continue to insist that the discovery of knowledge, its synthesis and its careful dissemination are important and can change lives and better the world, in fact to be counter-cultural in the best sense. This is the work of Oxford, the place, as our vision statement claims: “is at the heart of Emory.”

What is before Oxford is a double expectation: to provide an education in the early and crucial years of undergraduate study, and in so doing to be a crucial part of the many nooks and crannies of such a university we call Emory. In its own way, Oxford must live into the University’s vision of an “inquiry-driven,” “ethically engaged” and “diverse” community, one that becomes its very best self. Janus-faced, we look both to the past and to the future.

The recent recommitment of the Board of Trustees to Oxford’s mission, the vigorous support of the University administration, the opportunity for new leadership at Oxford, and a new strategic plan are both invitation and imperative: Oxford will be of Emory in new and dramatic ways. This will demand that the college’s personnel—faculty and staff—and its structure and processes be marshaled to serve the new self-understanding. The work of the last six years—the expansion of a faculty of teacher/scholars, a marked improvement of the physical plant, a stronger relationship with the surrounding Newton County community, a revision of organization and processes, and an augmenting of financial resources—has coalesced to make this moment possible.

Although we cannot auger the future, all the planets appear to be aligned; we are about to see something new being born here at Oxford. This new reality is the work of generations who continued to believe in this little place, its mission and its possibility.

Dana Greene has served as dean and CEO of Oxford College since 1999.

Remember exactly where and when I chose Emory. It was in 1967 “the idea of the days” I spent on a train in Munich, Germany, en route from the Middle East. I knew nothing of Emory or Atlanta, had no friends or relatives below the Mason-Dixon line, and had never trusted the South. But the description of Emory’s graduate program in the internal affairs of the Clinic, who was a chief financial officer in the Clinic, who was promoted to controller in 1997.

ER shifts to summer schedule

The Emory Report is shifting to its biweekly summer schedule. The May 31 issue will be devoted entirely to Commencement and Emory Weekend. The summer publication schedule is as follows: June 6 and 20, July 5 and 18, and Aug. 1. ER will return to a weekly schedule on Monday, Aug. 22. Copy deadlines for summer issues remain 10 days prior to publication date. For more information, call 404-727-0645.

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EMORY PROFILE AMY SMITH

Later this month, coach Amy Smith’s women’s tennis team will compete for an unprecedented third consecutive Div. III national championship. Smith, who was the No. 1 player on Emory’s 1996 national championship team as well as a standout Eagle soccer player, is the first woman in NCAA history to both play on and coach a national championship tennis team.

From 2001-04, the Eagles were anchoring Mary Ellen Gordon, the player behind those consecutive national singles titles and four doubles titles. Her graduation, along with the loss of national runner-up John Taylor, who did not return for her junior year in 2005, deplet- ed the team, which nevertheless retained its No. 1 ranking all year.

With seven freshmen on the tea—and four in the regular lineup—Emory may not be as invincible as it was in 2003-04 (the Eagles’ 76-match winning streak against Div. III opponents was broken earlier this year, and it may take three sets to close out some matches rather than two), but there is no doubt they are the team to beat.

“Is this probably the most challenging year I’ve had so far,” said Smith, whose career record is 115-21 and includes national Div. III Coach of the Year honors in 2003. “Freshmen have a lot of developing, and part of my job as a coach is to develop the girls as a team as well as on it. But we’re a good team and we could win the national championship. ‘We’re going to enjoy every moment for the rest of the season. It’s not for me to say, if we don’t win the national championship, that we haven’t succeeded. As long as I can look back and say we learned a lot about ourselves individually and as a team, and that we had a lot of fun—that’s all that matters.’

Smith’s current outlook is not the one she had when start-
ed as a player.

“I wasn’t exactly the epitome of a good team player when I came to Emory,” Smith said. “I’d grown up with the typical junior tennis lifestyle where it was all about me.” The fact that she had three coaches over four years didn’t help matters. But she remembers a turning point.

During a match in Smith’s sophomore year, she wasn’t playing very well—and she didn’t care who knew. “I was having a temper tantrum,” she said. “I must have broken two or three rackets.”

Then-coach Mark Brittain saw this and took Smith aside.

“If you don’t want to play, you don’t have to,” he told her. “I’m not going to let you play if you play like this.” Following that dressing down, Smith returned to the court. She lost the match but gained something much more—a nice dose of perspective.

“I went home, thought about it, and my whole outlook on college athletics and why I was doing it changed,” Smith said. “I’m on a team. I see these people every day. We’re a family. This isn’t all about me. It’s a team thing. It’s all about sacrifice and commitment, and my teammates don’t want to see me throw a temper tantrum on the court because I’m unhappy about the way I’m playing. They want to know I’m giving my all and that I care about what they are doing.

“These are very simple concepts, and you’d be surprised how many people don’t understand them—including myself for a time.”

If there ever was a time when Smith was a bit too obsessed with the whole tennis attitude, it’s long gone now. Her main athletic activity outside Emory is running. She rarely plays tennis, except for the occasional ALTA match (“It’s my job; I don’t want to do my job outside work,” she said), and coaches primarily because of her love of working with the players. Still, sports is in her blood. Smith grew up in Orlando, Fla., an area that, among its many attributes, allowed her to play sports year-round. She was about 8 years old when she started playing tennis. Smith’s mom, a huge fan of the sport, lined her up with one of her friends, who was an instructor at a local club.

Tennis was a nice distraction growing up, but Smith’s first love was soccer. She played club ball for years and her high school squad won state championships both her junior and senior years. The team was stacked. Several of Smith’s teammates advanced to Div. I schools and beyond, including national team member Danielle Fotopoulos (a member of the World Cup championship team in 1999), who also was Emory’s doubles team in high school.

Rather than join her team-

mates at the Div. I level, where women’s soccer was just starting to boom in the early 1990s, Smith had other aspirations. She wanted a school close to home where she could play two sports (two-sport athletes are very rare at the Div. I level).

“Emory is in a great location and has great academics,” said Smith. “I liked the idea that I could play sports here and potentially excel. I looked at it and saw the best of both worlds.”

That Smith would work “best of both worlds,” Emory’s athletics tagline, into casual conver-
sation shows her knowledge of sports marketing, her desired career after graduating with a degree in organization and management in 1996. It didn’t exactly work out that way.

Smith worked at IBM for about a year before quitting and taking a job with a nonprofit that was involved in youth leadership development in Israel. That expe-
rience, as well as some world traveling that followed, prompted a lot of soul searching. When she returned to the States, Smith came back to the place she loved best.

In 2000, Emory was looking not only for assistant coaches for women’s tennis and women’s soccer, but also wanted to ramp up its sports marketing efforts. Smith filled all three roles. When the women’s tennis head coach left in the middle of the season, Smith took over on an interim basis. After the Eagles advanced to the national quarterfinals (bettering the previous season’s result), Smith was elevated to the full-time job. On the side she earned a master’s in sports management from Georgia State in 2002.

“Emory is a great working environment, and I loved being an athlete here,” Smith said.

“The athletic department was like my family, so it was easy to come back.”

Smith excelled not only in tennis, where she is ranked in the top 10 all time in both singles and doubles wins, but also in soccer. She graduated as Emory’s all-time leader in goals and points (she is now third in both categories) and twice won the school’s Bridges Award, which is given to Emory’s most outstanding male and female athletes. Perhaps her crowning athletic achievement as a player (her 1995 national runner-up in singles and 1996 semifinalist in doubles finishes notwithstanding) was her induction into the Emory Sports Hall of Fame in 2001.

“That added a whole new level of pride for me,” Smith said. “It was an amazing feeling knowing that I was appreciated for everything I did when I was in college, and here I am now working in this place.”

Regardless of what happens at the nationals, Smith’s current place at Emory is as secure as her past. “I belong here,” she said.
The final meeting of 2004-05 for the President’s Com- mission on Race and Ethnicity (PCORE) was held Thurs- day, April 28, at 4 p.m. in the Goizueta Business School, capping a full year of commission accomplishments. Provost Earl Lewis opened and gave remarks.

Susan Gilbert, outgoing chair, opened the meeting and called for a vote on two pending bylaw changes. The changes called for a representative from the Office of Sexual Assault Education and a representative from Emory’s Office of Women’s Resource Center to be recognized as ex-officio members to the commission. Both changes were approved. Also, a bylaw was taken to approve the new slate of 2005–06 officers.

Next, each committee chair gave a presentation highlighting the accomplishments of the past year:

• Staff Concerns Committee, Susan Carini: Handing off the Mentor Emory program to Human Resources, bringing the Family Leave Act (FLMA) to the forefront of University discussion, and continuing work on adding lactation facilities around campus.

• Committee on Sexual Assault, Leslie Campisi: Placing University sexual assault statistics on the commission listeners, increasing sexual assault education and awareness (especially among Greeks), and continuing work on a program for parent awareness.

• Leadership Committee, Allison Dykes: Completion of the American Association of University Professors gender equity study, launching a campaign concerning lack of diversity representation on the President’s cabinet and receiving funding for two Emory to attend the premiere women in leadership program HERS.

• Faculty Concerns Committee, Sally Gouzoules: Completing a report on salary equity in the School of Medicine, a completed survey on the FMLA, and continuing work on initiating more friendly University policies.

Gilbert thanked commission members for their hard work.

“Great universities have strong women’s commissions, which is something we realized this year and worked toward,” Gilbert said.

She then listed some goals for next year. Recommendations include helping to foster a safer, more respectful envi- ronment for young women to live and learn at Emory; adopt- ing more policies and programs that facilitate advancement of female faculty and staff; and becoming more diverse by adding to the commission more women of color and men.

Gilbert then handed over leadership to the incoming 2005-06 Chair Allison Dykes. “This has been a real turnaround year for PCORE, and Susan has left a great mark,” Dykes said.

Lewis’ remarks concluded the meeting. He responded to con- cerns about the open senior vice provost position, saying, “We are correcting diversity when looking at candidates.” Then, he touched on Universitywide gender equity. “We need to figure out where we fit in the university world in terms of equ- ality,” said Lewis, who suggested a series of forums to examine the subject.

Orientation for 2005-06 PCWS members will be in September. –Christi Gray

BY HOLLY KORSCHUN

D espite the fact that cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of deaths in the United States, there is little understanding of the fundamental molecular biology behind the disease and how certain genetic factors contribute to plaque build-up in blood vessels. Biomedical nanotechnology could shed light on the molecular mecha- nisms responsible for one of the nation’s deadliest diseases.

To that end, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Insti- tute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has awarded researchers from Emory and Georgia Tech $11.5 million to establish a new research program focused on creating nanotechnology to analyze plaque forma- tion on the molecular level and detect plaque at its early stages. Plaques containing cholesterol and lipids build up during the life of a vessel, and when these plaques become unstable and rupture, they can block the vessel, leading to heart attack and stroke.

The multidisciplinary pro- gram, part of NIH’s Program of Excellence in Nanotechnol- ogy (PEN), is headed by Gang Bao, professor in the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory. The program, which will be based at Emory and includes a total of 12 faculty investigators from both institutions, is one of four national PEN awards.

The initiative is in accord with the NIH Roadmap’s strategy to target quantum dots and magnetic nanoparticles. These technologies allow researchers to contribute to cardiovascular disease research. “We are pleased to add cardiovascular researchers to the group who have unique and electronic and optical properties due to their size and their highly compact structure. These probes can act as molecular beacons to identify proteins and cells, and can be used to study protein-protein interactions in live cells to detect diseased cells. The probes may help cardiologists understand the formation of early-stage plaques and thereby improve detection sensitivity.”

Other research will include using magnetic nanoparticles to detect such early-stage plaques. Nanoparticles will target spe- cific proteins on the surface of cells in a plaque and serve as a contrast agent in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). This could provide an image of the plaque formation, a potentially powerful tool for disease diag- nosis. The investigators also will develop ultra-sensitive probes for the free radicals inside cells and biomolecular constructs for molecular imaging and therapeu- tic delivery.

The program will integrate Tech’s biomedical engineering strengths with Emory’s expertise in cardiology. The joint Couter Department, formed in 2004, is one of only three in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

In addition to this cardio- vascular nanotechnology award and an ongoing cancer nanotechnology program, the Georgia Tech/Emory group also plans to expand biomolecular engineering and nanotechnology to the detection and treatment of other diseases such as neu- rodegenerative and infectious diseases.

“This program is only part of a larger scale biomedical nanotechnology effort at Georgia Tech and Emory,” said Larry McIntire, Wallace H. Couter Chair of Biomedical Engineering. “We are pleased to add card- ioology to our growing breadth of biomedical research.”

Co-investigators on the project include Emory cardio- logist Wayne Alexander, Kathy Friedling, David Harrison, Charles Searles and Robert Tay- lor, and biomedical engineers from Georgia Tech and Emory Don Guldner, Xiaoping Hu, and Dongmei Wang.

The new program’s work will focus primarily on detect- ing early-stage plaques and pinpointing its genetic causes with three types of nanotechnology probes: molecular beacons, magnetic nanoparticles and quantum dots.

“Healthy, undamaged cells lining the vessel wall do not at- tract platelets or cause a build- up of plaque. But in a diseased blood vessel, cells lining the vessel wall may have certain internal and molecular character- istics that make them stickier, causing platelets to cling to the vessel wall, create plaque block- age and obstruct blood flow. A molecular beacon is a biosensor about four to five nanometers in size that can seek out specific genes. It is a short piece of single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) in the shape of a hairpin loop with a fluorescent dye molecule at one end and a “quencher” molecule at the other. The ssDNA is synthesized on a region from a specific messenger RNA (mRNA) that is unique to the gene. The fluores- cence of the beacon is quenched, or suppressed, until it binds to a complementary target mRNA, which causes the hairpin to open up and the beacon to emit light. The level of gene expres- sion within a cell can reflect susceptibility to disease. The fluorescence from the beacons will vary with the level of the target gene’s expression in each cell, creating a glowing marker if the cell has a detectable level of gene expression that is known to contribute to cardiovascular disease.

“With molecular beacons, we hope to follow the dynamics of gene expression in normal and diseased cells,” Bao said. “We can find out how quickly these genes are being turned on and how the expression levels are correlated with factors contribut- ing to early plaque formation.

To complement gene expres- sion studies using molecular beacons, the team will develop quantum-dot nanocrystal probes and use them to study protein molecular signatures of cardio- vascular disease. Quantum dots are nanometer-sized semicon- ductor particles that have unique electronic and optical properties

SPONSORED RESEARCH

Wagner thanks PCORE at year’s final meeting

If you have questions or concern for PCORE, e-mail Grey at magrey@emory.edu.
Perlman/Zukerman show to cap 2005–06 Candler Concert Series

BY SALLY CORBETT

The Schwartz Center will be one of just six stops on next year's concert tour of world-renowned violinists Itzhak Perlman (left) and Pinchas Zukerman, scheduled to visit April 29, 2006.

Mark O'Connor's Hot Emory alumni, family, faculty, staff, students, and Friends of Music at Emory will be involved in residencies are being offered by Sarband, an active composer who tours as a soloist and in collaboration with noted contemporaries. His music by Islamic, Christian and Jewish composers ($48 general admission; $36 faculty/staff; $5 Emory students). This leading orchestra, which tours as a world-renowned violinists Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman. The Schwartz Center has announced the music season for the 2005–06 academic year. For more than 30 years, the Candler endowment has enabled Emory to bring the best artists in classical and contemporary music to campus. "This year's season has several exciting collaborations," said Bob McKay, Schwartz Center director. "You will see Emory collaborating with the Atlanta Symphony to bring Golijov's La Passión. You will have the King's Singers and Sarband offering a program of psalms. The finale for the series is the rare pairing of Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman. The Schwartz Center is one of only six venues on their nine-day dual violin tour." Last year, the trio of Candler artists was extended by adding Emory Coca-Cola Art Series-in-Residence Series master classes, lecture/demonstrations and outreach, and that will continue in 2005–06. Artists involved in residencies are indicated by an asterisk in the following schedule:

• King's Singers* and Sarband present Sacred Bridges, Oct. 14, featuring psalms and contemporary, folk and pop music. Sarband is dedicated to illuminating cross-cultural encounters between cultures and religions through a spectrum of vocal and instrumental literature.

• Mark O’Connor’s Hot Swing Trio, Nov. 10 ($48; $36 faculty/staff; $5 Emory students). Grammy-winning violinist Mark O’Connor is an active composer and tours as a soloist and in collaboration with noted contemporaries. His fellow Hot Swing members are jazz and Broadway artists Jon Burr, double bass, and Frank Vignola, guitar.

• Evelyn Glennie*, percussion, Feb. 7, 2006 ($36 faculty/staff; $5 Emory students). Two-time Grammy-winner Evelyn Glennie gives more than 100 performances each year. She has written music for commercials, scored films and was named an Officer of the British Empire for her music.

• Osvaldo Golijov’s* La Pasión según San Marcos ("The Passion of St. Mark"). Feb. 17–18, 2006 ($45; $33 faculty/staff; $10 Emory students). Emory and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) present the Atlanta premiere of Golijov’s transcendent work, with Latin-American and Afro-Caribbean sounds performed by the Brazilian singer Luciana Souza, the Schola Cantorum de Caracas and members of the ASO under Robert Spano, conductor.

• Denyce Graves*, mezzo-soprano, March 3, 2006 ($48; $36 faculty/staff; $5 Emory students). Graves is known for her portrayal of title roles in Carmen and Samson et Dalila with the Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera and others. In addition to a classical repertoire, she sings Broadway hits, jazz and American spirituals.

• Rotterdam Philharmonic; Valery Gergiev, conductor; and Vladimir Felsman, piano, April 21, 2006 ($60; $45 faculty/staff; $10 Emory students). This leading orchestra is led by the world-renowned Gergiev at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, and is principal guest conductor of the Metropolitan Opera.

• Itzhak Perlman and Pinchas Zukerman, violins, with Rohan De Silva, piano, April 29, 2006 ($60; $45 faculty/staff; $10 Emory students). VirtuososPerlman and Zukerman are Juilliard alumni who have both won multiple Grammys during their impressive careers. Their program will include Mozart, Bach, Leclair, Moszkowski and others.

Candler concerts are held at 8 p.m. in the Schwartz Center’s Emerson Concert Hall. Discount subscriptions pack packages for four to seven concerts for $151–$249 are on sale through the Arts at Emory box office in the Schwartz Center or online ($100) or in person Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Faculty, staff, students, 2004–05 subscribers and Friends of Music at Emory receive priority seat assignments.

Single tickets go on sale Sept. 8. A private pre-sale for faculty, staff, friends and Friends of Music, Theater Emory and Dance, will be held Sept. 6–7.

FOCUS: HEALTHY EMORY

Godspeed and good health, Class of 2005

A t this time of year, I often find myself wondering about the future of the brand new graduates we are about to dispatch from our campus brandishing Emory degree parchments, who are in store for them in this 21st century? And, more to the point, given that we are one of the nation’s largest and most successful academic medical centers, Will they lead healthy lives?

I recently heard an interview on NPR with a college student from Washington. As a child, she had been so passion- ate about stopping her mother’s smoking that she flushed her cigarettes down the toilet and plastered anti-smoking stickers on her mother’s mirror. Now, years later, she had taken up smoking herself, mostly in response to what she saw her peers doing at clubs and parties.

But it was all right, she assured the interviewer—she wasn’t addicted. Another student smoker, a college sophomore, declared that she would quit when she graduated and entered the “real world.”

Will that happen? I certainly hope so. But I am not as confident as they seem to be.

From a medical doctor’s standpoint, I have to tell them—and you—that smoking will likely kill a body and mind and do not draw any distinction between what you do in college and what you do in the “real world.”

Oversights on campus every minute of everyday: sexually transmitted diseases or other types of preventable injuries do not distinguish between one day or the next, one societal role or the next. Life comes at you in real time, 24/7.

But to be more optimistic, habits of safe behavior—healthy eating, moderate drinking (or none at all), regular exercise and truly recreational play—also will leave lasting impressions for the good.

As I walk across Emory’s campus and talk to our students, whether undergraduate, graduate or professional, I am impressed by their vigor. It is not surprising to learn that fully two-thirds of our undergraduates participate in intramural sports, club sports or fitness classes, according to the Office of Recreational Studies. In fact, Emory has one of the oldest intramural and club sports programs in the country, dating to 1891. This very high participation rate speaks well of our students and bodes well for their future.

At the same time, a recent Michigan State study found that only three percent of Americans engage in all four habits of a healthy lifestyle: not smoking, maintaining a healthy weight, getting the recommended amount of regular exercise, and eating five fruits and vegetables every day. Three percent. We here in the “public health capital of the world” should feel chastened and sobered by that figure.

I am heartened to know that our students seem to be doing three times better than the 22 percent of Americans in this survey who reported getting regular exercise. But there are many other dimensions to health, as well.

Are we doing everything in our power to equip our stu- dents—undergraduate, graduate and professional alike—to begin their quest for a healthy and sustainable life, with a healthy and sustainable salary?

Dr. Michael Huie, executive director of Student Health Services, cites findings from the American College Health Association Spring 2004 survey of more than 47,000 students on 74 campuses. Nearly 15 percent reported having been di- agnosed with depression, up sharply from 10.3 percent only four years previous. Nearly one-third reported “stress” dur- ing the previous year as their greatest impediment to aca- demic performance. Half of all men (51 percent) and a third of all women (33 percent) reported binge drinking during the two weeks preceding the survey. A high of 12 percent said they drink up to seven drinks on any given day. Colleges are not so separate from real life, after all. Real life happens on campus, every minute of every day.

Are we doing everything in our power to equip our stu- dents—undergraduate, graduate and professional alike—to begin their quest for a healthy and sustainable life, with a healthy and sustainable salary?

A number of graduating classes have heard me quote from one of my favorite books of wisdom and hope, Oh, The Places You’ll Go!, by Dr. Seuss. I can’t even think about it without a smile. So it is with great pride and every good wish for a happy and healthy life that I offer this closing thought to the Class of 2005: May you “join the high fliers/who soar to heights!” and do everything in your power not to get “hung up in a prickly-ly perch.”
If the next 100 billion burgers sold at McDonald’s were McVeggie burgers instead of the traditional beef variety, customers would ingest a billion fewer pounds of fat, a billion more pounds of fiber, and even more protein. McVeggie burgers are sold in Canada and in some major cities across the United States, but not in Atlanta. Burger King sells a veggie burger in all of its restaurants. If given the option, Frank guessed, consumers could make the change from beef to plant-based patties relatively easy.

“Instead of squeezing the McDonald’s signs advertising ‘Over 100 billion burgers sold,’” conversation has been ongoing for some time.

“People really are alike, no matter what their sexual orientation,” says Mark Jordan, Candler Professor of Religion. Still, LGBT relationships face struggles many heterosexual ones don’t. In a new book, Jordan explores many of those struggles through the prism of religion, same-sex unions, but also asks pointed questions about what he sees as a necessity in planning a wedding. “I went to Borders and loaded up on these incredibly thick bridal magazines,” he said. “Though I never brought myself to the point of subscribing, so I did keep that distance.”

Jordan may have kept a certain distance, but much of what he read stuck. His chapter titles: “A Proper Engagement,” “Your (?) Special Day,” and “The Wedding and Its Attendants” sound etiquette-guide perfect.

“Some of the parts that were most fun for me to write were taking up a how-to manual for same-sex couples,” Jordan said. “I also wanted to structure the book according to the cycle of a romantic novel, starting with falling in love and getting through the wedding, but going beyond where most romantic novels stop, and asking uncomfortable questions about what happens after the wedding.”

Over the book’s 207 pages, Jordan not only explores the intersection of religion and early Christian marriage—and current Christian marriage isn’t Ozzie and Harriet—we should see Christian marriage as a huge variety of things, and we ought to feel the challenge and the liberation of that.”

Following the release of Blessing Same-Sex Unions, Jordan will participate in book signings around the country. He already has moved on to his next project, a book about the experience of growing up LGBT and Christian. In the fall, Jordan will release a book tentatively titled Reutherian Theology: Aquinas After His Readers, which explores St. Thomas Aquinas and the idea of authority in Catholic theology.
Announcement of signature themes to wait until June

BY MICHAEL TERRAZAS

T he retreat held April 29–30 at the Emory Conference Center and Student Health Services. The Graduate School of Public Health and the Emory School of Medicine also have identified a fund to be created from three revenue streams. The fund will be created from two sources: contributions from schools’ and centers’ unrestricted operating budget, and income from the School of Medicine’s revenue streams. The fund will be used to support the work of the theme committees, and these concepts will be used to develop a strategic plan for the university. The university has a strategic plan, but it needs to be developed and implemented. It is important that the university’s strategic plan be developed and implemented with the input of the entire institution. The strategic plan is a way to ensure that the university’s goals are aligned with the university’s values and mission. It is also important that the strategic plan be developed and implemented with the input of the entire institution, including faculty, staff, and students.

On the revenue side, endowment income is projected to decline 4.9% from FY05, according to Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Mandl. "Our income distribution formula uses a three-year average market value in the calculation, so declines in the market value in previous years are impacting the spending distribution in FY06," Murphree said. "We need to anticipate our endowment distribution will begin to increase in two to three years."

Tuition will increase from 4.6% for each of Emory’s schools, though the law school will post a 6.9% increase. "Starting salaries are just a little more patient as we continue to grow," said McLeod. "This task force is a great way to do that." As Vice President for Finance, Edie Murphree. "Our budget is designed to get projects off the ground."

"We’re figuring out how to leverage all of these sources to most efficiently and effectively support the priorities identified through strategic planning," said Johnson. Lewis said that the fund is designed to get projects off the ground. "The sources of funding for the strategic plan will be threefold," Lewis said. "The University’s Strategic Plan Fund and the comprehensive campaign will all be critical!"

The strategic plan, Mandl said. "The University’s Strategic Plan Fund and the comprehensive campaign will all be critical!"

The table shows decisions that are being made about the well-being of our community," McLeod said. "This task force is a great opportunity for people with certain roles who would continue into the fall if the table shows decisions that are being made about the well-being of our community," McLeod said. "This task force is a great opportunity for people with certain roles who would continue into the fall if public health and psychiatry professor. McLeod and Huey said they forces’ work will be completed by June. "This task force is a great way to do that," Johnson said. Lewis said that the fund is designed to get projects off the ground. "The sources of funding for the strategic plan will be threefold," Lewis said. "The University’s Strategic Plan Fund and the comprehensive campaign will all be critical!"

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**VISUAL ARTS**

Schatten Gallery Exhibit

**LECTURES**

MONDAY, MAY 9
Genetic Seminars Series

HALLE Institute Lecture
“Malaria: Red Cell Invasion Under the Microscope.” Lawrence Bannister, Guy’s, King’s and St. Thomas School of Biomedical Science (UK). 3 p.m. Free. Vaccine Center Seminar Room. 404-727-7504.

THURSDAY, MAY 12
Surgical Grand Rounds
“29th J.D. Martin Oration: Nutritional and Metabolic Support of Surgical Patients—An Update.” Danny Jacobs, Duke University Medical Center, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory Hospital Auditorium. Free. 404-712-2106.

Department of Medical Research Seminar Series

Noon.

**PERFORMING ARTS**

**MONDAY, MAY 9**
Concert
Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony. Scott Stewart, directing. 4 p.m. Schwartz Center. Cost TBD. 404-727-5050.

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**
Concert

**RELIGION**

**MONDAY, MAY 9**
Zen Buddhist Meditation
4:30 p.m. Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225.

**TUESDAY, MAY 10**
Baptist Worship
Around the Table
5:30 p.m. Baptist Center. Free. 404-727-6225.

United Methodist Dinner
7 p.m. 211 Glen Church School. Free. 404-727-6225.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 11**
Catholic Worship
3 p.m. Catholic Center. Free. 404-727-6225. Mass at 6 p.m.

Zen Meditation & Instruction
4:30 p.m. Clairmont Campus. Free. 404-689-1299.

**THURSDAY, MAY 12**
Emory Christian Fellowship Meeting
7 p.m. 303 Geosciences Building. Free. 404-727-6225.

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**
University Worship
Dan Sailer, theology, presenting. 11 a.m. Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel. Free. 404-727-6225.

**SPECIAL**

**WEDNESDAYS**

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**UNITED METHODIST DINNER**
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