Barkley Forum debates value of free speech

BY CHANMI KIM

Throughout this nation’s history, the ambiguity of the celebrated words, “Congress shall make no law ‒ abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press,” found in the First Amendment has been the source of both pride and agony.

Some have criticized the media for overstepping its boundaries of free speech, at the cost of national security; others have argued that free speech is free speech. And with The New York Times recently coming under attack for publishing an article that outlined the government’s use of a bank surveillance program to monitor terrorist finances, attempts to define what free speech actually means are far from over.

Thus, a debate that sought to answer the question, “Has the First Amendment outlived its usefulness?” was a timely and appropriate approach for Emory’s second annual Constitution Day, sponsored by the Center for Student Leadership and Engagement. Roughly 70 students and journalism faculty gathered Sept. 18 in the Dobbs Center’s journalism faculty lounge to hear the First Amendment debate, attended by a lively 80-minute debate over what the nation’s most valued amendment does and does not guarantee the press.

Karen Salisbury, director of the Center for Student Leadership and Engagement and assistant dean of Campus Life, opened the night by welcoming the audience to “embark on a wonderful journey on the intentions of the First Amendment.”

Moderator Isabel Wilkerson, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for The New York Times and Emory’s newly appointed James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism, called the discussion a rare opportunity for both journalists—who are usually too busy exercising their right to free speech under deadline—and the public. Wilkerson cited survey results that indicated Americans’ general lack of knowledge on what the First Amendment protects, pointing to the timeliness and relevance of such a discussion.

Before handing the floor over to the debaters, Wilkerson expressed her own opinion on free speech and the press, quoting Thomas Jefferson: “Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without liberty, I would never advise that the first of these should be compromised.”

The New York Times Barkley Forum debaters Cyrus Ghavi and Joe Bucchero debate freedom of speech at this year’s Constitution Day celebration.

Parking rate increase supports alternatives

BY DAVID PAYNE

Parking rates for University staff, faculty and students are scheduled to rise in 2007 in accordance with a plan originally announced in April 2005, and discussed in campus-wide forums during the 2005–06 academic year.

On average, parking rates for faculty and staff will increase from $25 per month to $50 per month, effective Feb. 1, 2007. Student parking rates will also increase to $50 per month effective Sept. 1, 2007. The rates are consistent with parking charges at Atlanta’s other major universities as well as other major employees in the city.

The rate hike will occur approximately six months after the launch of Emory’s free, expanded Cliff shuttle bus service, along with the opening of the first of several free Park-N-Ride lots designed to encourage satellite parking by university commuters. Already more than 100 cars a day are using the university-patrolled lot at North DeKalb Mall, and as many as three or four additional satellite lots are under active consideration.

The underlying goal is to serve the University’s sustainability vision, the Clifton Community Partnership initiative and the 2005 Campus Master Plan by reducing the number of single occupancy vehicles entering and leaving campus every day.

Beginning next year, the former subsidy funding will be put toward Emory’s alternative transportation programs and all individual payments made for parking permits will be used solely for parking-related costs.

“I realize that these changes in the parking policy will have an impact on commuters,” said Mike Mandl, Emory’s newly appointed director of sustainability.

Parking rate increase will have an impact on commuters, said Mike Mandl, Emory’s newly appointed director of sustainability.

See CONSTITUTION DAY on page 4

These boots are made for walking

BY DAVID PAYNE

There’s something new afoot on Emory’s campus—students, staff and faculty.

Emory recently took the next step toward putting the principles outlined in its sustainability vision into practice. Although some faculty and staff have questioned rerouting buses to skirt Emory’s core campus, the new routes are based on guiding principles in the 2005 Campus Master Plan, Emory’s sustainability vision and a 2005 Student Government Association (SGA) resolution.

Emory’s vehicle-less core campus is accessible by bike, wheelchair and on foot. It supports the overall sustainability vision for Emory, including a safe and healthy environment in which to work and study, according to Casmat Howett, Emory’s new director of sustainability.

“Individual movement on campus allows us to connect with our natural environment and engage each other in a way we could never achieve when traveling by car or bus,” Howett said.

Howett, who studied at Emory in the 1980s, remembers a campus that was focused on vehicular movement. “Since...
Friends team up to tell their stories

BY STACEY JONES

Two longtime friends and colleagues having a chat outside Emory's new Center for the Performing Arts, will feature the voices of women both personal and professional, this annual program sponsored by the Center for Women that features two prominent Emory women, now in its eighth year.

The conversation by this year’s duo, Rosemary Magee, vice president and secretary of the university, and Ali Crown, director of the Center for Women at Emory, was by turns frank, heartbreakingly humorous, a window into the personal experiences and formative years of two very visible women on campus. Magee and Crown, who have each spent more than 25 years at Emory, sat down to talk in Governor’s Hall at the Miller-Ward Alumni House on Sept. 19 before a capacity crowd.

For Magee, the event gave her an opportunity to indulge in her love of storytelling. “I have always loved stories. My parents and family have shared stories. I’ve studied stories and written stories.” What they delighted in, was the voices of women both personally and professionally, this was a “natural convergence for me,” she added.

While Crown has a fascinating story, less eager to share it, but only because she felt it “unnecessary” that the director of the event’s sponsor would be one of its featured participants. But Magee had specifically asked Crown to be her partner for the evening, and when Crown went to the women’s center board seeking advice, their response was unequivocal: Do it, they told her.

Crown began by asking Magee when she first recalled feeling different because she was a woman. “I think you know that when you’re in the womb,” she said to laughter. Raised among strong women and reading stories by such as Laura Ingalls Wilder and Louisa May Alcott led Magee to feel different but “special” as a girl.

Conversely, Crown said she did not feel special but marginalized. “My first experience had to do with going to synagogue as a child with my very observant grandmother. Sitting in a pew amongst the women, you were,” she remembered. “There was lots of curiosity and probably some resistant surrounding that.”

Religion, if not in practice but in theme, became a pursuit for both women. Crown returned to school to earn an undergraduate degree in religion and psychology at Emory after the age of 40 and grad- uated Phi Beta Kappa. “I had a real passion for studying women’s experiences surrounding their spiritual lives—perhaps it harkens back to my childhood,” Crown said.

Magee followed a more traditional path, earning a Ph.D. in literature and religion from the Graduate Institute of the Graduate School of the Liberal Arts in 1982. Magee’s tenure as a teacher, then admin- istrator, coincided with malaise and children.

Crown’s return to the classroom brought into focus the difficulties women face in environments not originally created for or by them. Just before she enrolled full time, Emory relaxed its rule against admitting part-time students in a degree-seeking status. Its previous position had hindered women, who had more often interrupted their post-second- ary education due to family or work issues. Eliminating the rule made it easier for staff to graduate from Emory, rather than taking a limited number of courses here and being forced to complete their degrees elsewhere.

Eventually, two date rapes one weekend in 1990 galvanized crown’s passion around the need for a campus women’s center. After a national search, Crown was selected to head it. “This has been my life work,” she said of her tenure. “There have been lots of changes and there still lots left to do, and I have energy left for the basics that need to be done.”

Magee’s ascent meant that her work took place in environ- ments less regulated by women, moving from assistant dean in Emory College, to planning and raising money for the new arts center, to her present position as the only woman on the president’s cabinet. “A lot of women are not good problem solvers,” she said. “The various challenges I’ve faced throughout my career are really about trying to consider important issues on the campus in new ways. Challenges provide a great opportunity for creativity.”

Both women recognize that Magee’s perch at the top of Emory’s administration presents its own set of challenges. While she feels it’s an “enormous privilege to be part of the decision-making process at Emory,” Magee also understands a strong sense of responsibil- ity, personified by the aspiration and embodiment of many Emory women. When she was first named university secretary, women throughout the campus approached her with congratula- tions and a sense of hopeful- ness, she said.

“It’s a huge responsibil- ity you have,” Crown told her “a lot of us do count on you because you’re a role model for us. But we’re awfully glad that you’re a part of the community of women here and have the awareness you have.”
Isabel Wilkerson, James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism

Isabel Wilkerson's cof-fee was getting cold, her slice of pumpkin bread remained untouched. Despite the chatter of the crowded cof-feehouse, the new James M. Cox Jr. Professor of Journalism was completely focused on the story she was telling, one of many that has built her reputation as an award-winning jour-nalist.

This particular story, written while serving as the Chicago bureau chief for The New York Times, centered around a small Missouri town devastated by the great Midwestern floods of 1993 that washed away its cemetery. While other reporters focused on the more macabre aspects of caskets floating down the streets, Wilkerson chose to cen-treate on the humanity: “In the end, nothing really matters until I can see from the per-spective of the human heart,” she explained.

Her approach was to wit-ness and inhale the moment with her subjects. She spent time with the townpeople, went with them to comb the crater that ruptured the cem-etery, listened as they spoke of the self-described risk-taker never doubted she had the ability to accomplish her goal. In a bold and unusual move, she was able to get a foot in the door as a fresh-man, and from there “never stopped” until she eventually secured the much-coveted role of editor-in-chief.

While at Howard, she became “internship queen,” at a time when classroom work was valued far more than real-world experience. Wilkerson was accepted to summer internships with national dai-ly newspapers such as The St. Petersburg Times, the Atlanta-Journal Constitution, the Los Angeles Times—and what she called the “holy grail of internships”—the Washington Post.

Those “sink or swim” internships helped Wilkerson obtain her dream of becoming a feature writer. One article, a Cinderella story of a D.C. office cleaner, earned her the Mark of Excellence award, which she said is “like the Pulitzer for col-lege students.”

That story also attracted the attention of author and former New York Times edi-tor Anna Quindlen, who told Wilkerson “if you could do this as a college student, I know you can do even greater things.” Thus began Wilkerson’s long and prolific career at The New York Times. Her provoca-tive and unique brand of story-telling earned her a George Polk award for regional report-ing in 1993. The following year she would win the Pulitzer Prize—the first black woman to win a feature writing Pulitzer, as well as the first black journalist to win the prize for individual reporting.

But Wilkerson is mod-est about this accomplish-ment—certainly a career highlight—saying simply, “it was an honor.” She seemed more concerned that her stories make an impact on her readers. Just as rewarding, as she said, is “hearing from the people I’ve written about.” Wilkerson views each interview as “a gift,” as a “privilege and a responsibility” to make an impression on a listener or the reader or viewer, and making that intimate con-nection with that person, particularly in a time when the Internet, television and radio compete for readers’ attention.

And she is convinced that “storytelling will always win out.” Wilkerson is at the fore-front of the trend towards mov-ing away from the classic inverted pyramid style to incorporate narrative elements into even the most basic stories, a believer in the “potential to lift anything from the mundane to something special through the use of nar-rative technique.” She plans to teach this approach to her Emory students in the spring, and has taught similar courses at Princeton, Northwestern and Harvard. Her class this fall is focused on the history and eth-nics of journalism, an area where she holds truth as the highest standard. “I really like the idea of making an impression on a new generation of students who are going to be entering a very complicated world in journal-ism,” she said, which in turn “inspires and motivates me in my own work.”

Although Wilkerson is new to Emory, having started her three-year appointment in the journalism department this fall, she is not new to Atlanta. While on leave from The New York Times and in between her lecture circuit, she has been working from Atlanta on a book that will chronicle the multi-generational saga of the Great Migration. This mass movement of African Americans from the South to the North in search of a better life created the first large, urban black communi-ties in the North and continued until the 1960s. Supported ini-tially in part by a Guggenheim Fellowship, the work-in-prog-ress is now in the final stages. Wilkerson said she is grateful to Emory for its support as well.

She describes the research and writing involved in such an epic event as “a huge undertaking,” calling the proj-ect “truly a labor of love.” For example, she spent two years scouring the country, inter-viewing hundreds of potential subjects in her search for just three central characters.

Her interest in the move-ment stemmed from her years living in Chicago, where she routinely tackled stories on the issues that shape—and plague—urban life. Wilkerson herself is a product of the Great Migration. Wilkerson’s father, a Tuskegee airman from Virginia, and her mother, from Rome, Ga., both migrated to Washington, D.C., where they met as students at Howard. “It was something in my history that I had taken for granted, but if my parents had not been participants in this movement, I wouldn’t be here today,” she said.

A listener by trade, it’s clear that Wilkerson also excels as a talker. She is equally comfort-able being on the other side of the interview—having a “60 Minutes” feature and sev-eral public appearances under her belt—and her enthusiasm for her work shines through.

In a world of deadlines, Wilkerson said it is important to recognize that “every story is a miracle.” She added: “We as journalists need to applaud ourselves more.”

Well done, Wilkerson.
Librarian, theologian receive Emory’s top alumni-only award

BY ERIC RANGUS

One is a librarian who has devoted her career to innovatively promoting libraries in her community. The other is a theologian who has criss-crossed his home state of Florida and the Caribbean tirelessly tending his congregations every step of the way.

Their vocations may be different, but the positive impact they have had on the people whose lives they have touched is equally undeniable. While Sarah Long’s and Eugene Zimmerman’s paths may have been quite far apart, they came together Thursday, Sept. 14 at the Miller-Ward Alumni House for the medal ceremony, which was emceed by Andrea Casson, the outgoing president of the Emory Alumni Board, which selects the recipients.

Following a reception, dinner and biographical video presentation, President Jim Wagner presented the Emory Medals to Long—who earned a master’s in library science from the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences in 1969—and Zimmerman—a 1954 graduate of the Candler School of Theology.

Long’s career spans more than 35 years, the last 17 of those as director of the North Suburban Library System (NSLS), an organization of 650 academic, public and special libraries in the Chicago suburbs. She has spent her career staying on the edge of technology and communication so that she can best serve her constituents. In the early 1990s, she was a leader in providing Internet connectivity for NSLS branches. In 1999, searching for better ways to reach library users, Long and several of her staff began production of a monthly cable television show “What’s New at the Library?”

Two years later, Long conquered another medium—the printed word. On April 14 of that year, the first of her weekly columns on libraries ran in the Daily Herald, Illinois’ third-largest newspaper. Until very recently, she also wrote a bimonthly column for the British publication New Library World.

“The Emory Medal makes me feel verified, confirmed, special and a whole range of adjectives,” Long said upon receiving her medal. Zimmerman is known as the “Godfather of the Bahamas” because of his work in helping that country’s churches acquire such basic tools as pews and hymnals to serve their congregations. Zimmerman’s preaching work touched people all over the Caribbean, as well as in Florida, where he held pastoral appointments in every corner of the state.

He also kept close ties to his alma mater. His friendship with Frank and Helen Sherman of Jacksonville, Fla., led to the establishment of several endowed funds that are currently valued at $17 million. Nearly one in four Candler Theology School students receive a full-tuition scholarship through programs funded by those endowments.

“I came here [to Candler] with $300, a new wife and an old car. I left with a new car, an old wife and $300,” Zimmerman quipped upon receiving his medal. Perhaps the highlight of the evening was the pair of biographical videos introducing the medalists to the audience. Often emotional, the videos provided a touching glimpse into Zimmerman’s and Long’s lives and said more about their qualifications for the medal than any paper nomination.

“It’s a powerful and humbling feeling to have a camera crew come to your home and say ‘we’re here to make a movie of your life,’” Long said.

So how did the AEA and its awarding body select these landmarks in Emory alumni history? In short, they have been recognized for their accomplishments in at least one of the following areas: distinguished service to Emory, the AEA or a constituent university; distinguished community or public service; or distinguished contributions in business, the arts, government or education. The medal itself, designed in 1987, is attached to a blue and gold ribbon and emblazoned with the University’s seal. The award dates back to 1946 when it was known as the “Alumni Association Award of Honor.”

‘State of the University’ annual address to be delivered Sept. 26

President Jim Wagner will deliver his annual “State of the University” address to the campus community Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 4:30 p.m. in the Cox Hall Ballroom. Wagner will update faculty, staff and students on the progress of major initiatives and future goals.

“We have come through three years of intense planning and activity on all fronts at Emory, and we will be working hard over the next five or six years to fully fund and implement the Emory Strategic Plan. So this good annual exercise will give us a chance to take stock of where we are and what lies ahead,” said Wagner.

Following the address, Wagner will take questions from the audience in a town hall forum. A reception will follow. The event also will be Web cast at www.emory.edu.

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“The enormous consequences of a catastrophic attack.”

Arguments for the affirmative to the question of whether the First Amendment has outlived its usefulness included the unprecedented threat of danger facing the country today and potential threats to national security the media could cause by exposing anti-terrorism strategies. Emory College junior Joe Bacciero argued “the press’s callous indifference [for national security] . . . could pave the way for thermonuclear annihilation for us all.”

College sophomore Tye Tavara also warned against.
Renewal and youth lead Theater Emory’s new season

Theater Emory focuses on the joys and trials of youth this season. In addition to two major productions—Frank Wedekind’s “Spring Awakening” (Nov. 9–19), directed by Emory faculty member Tim McDonough, and William Saroyan’s “The Time of Your Life” (April 19–29), directed by Georgia Shakespeare’s Richard Garner—the season offers two programs of one-act plays titled “Young Acts,” performed in repertory (Sept. 28–Oct. 7). Both programs juxtapose works by such well-known authors as Tennessee Williams with pieces from such cutting-edge authors as José Rivera. The plays will be directed by Emory faculty Jan Akers, John Ammerman, Leslie Taylor, McDonough, Lisa Paulsen, Jim Donadio and Emory alumnus Matt Huff.

“Brave New Works” makes its biennial reappearance from Feb. 6–25. Produced by the Emory Playwriting Center, the festival allows playwrights to work with students and professionals in developing new plays.

This season is an exciting time of renewal for both Theater Emory and the Theater Studies Department. Vincent Murphy has retired as Theater Emory’s artistic director and is writing a book as he continues as associate professor and resident artist. Assuming the director position is McDonough, whose interest in greater student involvement has led to this season’s focus on “youthful issues and aspirations and many roles for young actors.” Rosalind Staib, former general manager of Theater Emory, is the theater’s new managing director, and Paulsen is the Playwriting Center’s new director.

Emory Theater Studies Department also welcomes three additions. Alexandre Harrington, last year’s Emory Coca-Cola Artist-in-Residence, will be full-time lecturer in voice and diction and the vocal coach for Theater Emory shows. Amy Cook, recipient of the Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, will be the Mellon Fellow for the next two years. Donald McManus joins the faculty as assistant professor in dramatic literature and dramaturgy, and will perform in “Spring Awakening.”

For tickets and information, contact the Arts at Emory Box Office at 404-727-5050 or www.arts.emory.edu.

Parking

from page 1

executive vice president of finance and administration, “but this change allows us to spend university dollars to support Emory’s vision. We are hopeful that faculty, staff and students will understand and value that ultimately the Clifton Community Partnership initiative will significantly improve the life of University citizens and that our long-term sustainability goals are worthy. Emory simply cannot continue to fund reliance on single occupancy vehicles.”

Emory leadership is aware that these new rates will disproportionately affect those of modest income. In order to ease this financial burden, University employees who purchase parking passes and earn under $30,000 per year will receive extra payments of $300 for the first year, $200 the second year, $100 the third year and no payment thereafter.

University employees who purchase parking passes and earn between $30,001 and $40,000 per year will receive payments of $200 for the first year of the new parking rates, $100 the second year and no payment thereafter.

How the new fee structure will apply to the special case of part-time employees who choose to park on campus is still under review and will be clarified in the near future.

The new plan will not apply to Emory Healthcare employees, who have a different pay and benefit system.

Alternatives available

So, what are the options for commuters?

Emory offers Eagle permits and Cliff permits for those commuters or students who don’t need to purchase an annual parking pass.

The Eagle permit is designed for those who only need to park on campus occasionally, such as part-time employees and students. This permit costs $75 per year for 20 daily uses. Up to 120 daily uses can be purchased within a 12-month period.

The Cliff permit is designed for commuters who register and participate in Emory’s transportation programs, such as vanpool and carpool, which transport more than 1,000 Emory commuters. The free permit entitles registered commute option participants to 24 daily uses. Up to 40 additional daily uses may be purchased within a 12-month period at a cost of $75 for 20 permits. The Cliff permit can be used in conjunction with Emory’s program to provide free MARTA passes for commuters.

The free Park-n-Ride commuter shuttle service from North DeKalb Mall serves those east Atlanta commuters who travel to campus via Lawrenceville Highway and Stone Mountain Freeway. These shuttles run to campus weekdays 5:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

The North DeKalb Park-n-Ride, barely open three months, continues to be discovered by commuters. Emory’s second Park-n-Ride service is expected to open at Northlake Mall soon. Another option is the new rent-by-the-hour Flexcar service that provides “loaner” cars for those on campus who need a car to run an errand. Flexcar pays for the insurance, gas, cleaning and maintenance.

Emory pays for the initiation fee and first year’s membership dues for faculty and staff and a limited number of free hours to those who use alternative transportation.

For more information on Emory’s transportation options, visit www.ridecliff.org and www.epcs.emory.edu/alttransp/flexcar.html.

Integrative studies conference will focus on bridge building

The Association for Integrative Studies (AIS) will hold its 28th annual conference Oct. 5–8 at the Westin Atlanta Perimeter North hotel. Co-hosts Emory and Oxford College have worked with other Georgia institutions to organize the conference, “Bridge-Building: Connecting Hearts and Minds, Arts and Sciences, Teaching and Research, Academy and Community.”

A broad spectrum of papers, panels and workshops by more than 150 presenters will address the multiplicity of ways in which integration of human capacities, academic disciplines, career practices and social institutions characterize higher education in the United States and around the world.

The AIS is an interdisciplinary professional organization focused on promoting the interchange of ideas among scholars and administrators on issues related to furthering integrative studies.

For more information, visit www.ais.oxford.emory.edu.

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Eye Center awarded $1M grant to study macular degeneration

BY JOY BELL

Emory Eye Center has been awarded a $1 million grant from the R. Howard Dobbs Jr. Foundation. The grant will support the research of Santa Ono, professor in the School of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology, by establishing a new laboratory to investigate the role of immunity in the pathogenesis of age-related macular degeneration (AMD)—the leading cause of blindness in aged individuals.

Ono will work with Eye Center Director Thomas Aaberg and retinal specialist Daniel Martin to investigate three major healthcare problems: ocular cancer (melanoma and retinoblastoma), ocular inflammation and the immune component of AMD.

“We are thrilled to have Dr. Ono join the Eye Center research section,” said Aaberg. “His important macular degeneration research and the research of others will be facilitated by the establishment of the R. Howard Dobbs Jr. Ocular Immunology Laboratory, which will allow work on this debilitating disease to continue.”

The Eye Center’s involvement in fighting AMD has past years involved many clinical trials and innovative treatments. Its involvement in the National Eye Institute’s Age-Related Eye Disease Study helped scientists demonstrate that a regimen of supplements slowed the progression of AMD. Emory will also be involved in the second phase of the study, to launch this fall.

Much of the research on the most basic level looks at AMD as an immunopathological disease. The loss of vision caused by AMD involves an immune component. Ono’s work will carry on the work of researchers Kyle McKenna and Judy Kapp, who established a retinal cell transplant program at Emory. Also, Ono will work along with Hans Grossniklaus, an ocular pathologist at the Eye Center, who is studying the host immune response associated with neovascularization (formation of new blood vessels), occurring in the wet form of AMD.

In my view Emory is the most exciting academic center on the globe. It is so, not only because of our current strengths, but because of our trajectory and our strategic vision,” Ono said. “I am honored to work with outstanding colleagues at the Eye Center and elsewhere across the University, and am committed to making the new Dobbs Laboratory a world center for research into the immune component of AMD.

“The work that we will undertake will dovetail with some of the cross-cutting themes of President Wagner’s strategic plan, and is one example of the John’s vision for predictive medicine. Emory research will help uncover how the immune system contributes to AMD, and will also pave the way for the development of new diagnostics that are at the heart of predictive medicine.”

Ono also holds the University appointment of vice provost for academic initiatives and deputy to the provost. In that capacity he has oversight of student enrollment activities across the University and helps facilitate implementation of the University’s strategic plan. Santa Ono is a world-class scientist and experienced academic administrator,” said Earl Lewis, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. “Standing as a scholar and administrator first attracted my attention. The fact that he has received this highly prized award is an external endorsement of the assessment we had made. I am delighted that Santa is at Emory and I look forward to working with him in his dual roles of faculty member and vice provost.”

Researchers study new treatment for vets with post-traumatic stress

BY KATHI BAKER

Emory University researchers are embarking on a study they hope will enhance the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and help soldiers who are affected get better faster.

PTSD is a serious condition that can become achilles problem, with devastating life altering effects on soldiers and their families.

Barbara Rothbaum, a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, and Kerry Ressler, faculty member at the Yerkes National Primate Research Center, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Emory School of Medicine, and a member of the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, are leading the study, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, using the drug D-cycloserine (DCS) combined with virtual reality therapy.

DCS binds to neurotransmitter receptors in the amygdala called NMDA receptors. The mechanisms governing the fear response are located in that region of the brain. Previous rodent studies of DCS by Ressler and Michael Davis at Emory University School of Medicine and Yerkes National Primate Research Center have shown that it has a positive effect on the extinction of fear.

The first human trial using DCS with Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy for acrophobia, or fear of heights, was completed by Davis, Rothbaum, and Ressler, and was very successful.

Soldiers returning from Iraq who have been diagnosed with PTSD will be eligible for the study. A total of 150 volunteers will be enrolled. Participants will be randomized into three simultaneous groups, using virtual reality exposure therapy with each group: those who receive placebo, those who receive DCS and those who receive alprazolam (Xanax). Participants will take one pill before each virtual reality therapy session for a total of four pills.

The virtual reality exposure therapy will portray scenes, sounds, vibrations and odors related to combat in Iraq. Researchers will also test galvanic skin response and heart rate, and will measure the level of cortisol, a stress hormone in saliva.

Co-investigators in the study will include Davis and other Emory psychiatry faculty, Erica Duncan and Maryrose Gerardi. Ressler and Davis are co-authors of a patent for the use of DCS for the specific enhancement of learning during psychotherapy and are co-founders of SynKyn Pharmaceuticals, LLC, which holds the patent rights for this indication. The terms of these arrangements have been reviewed and approved by Emory University in accordance with the conflict of interest policies.
The Carter Center calls for better mental health care for Georgians

BY DEBORAH MAKES

Five-foot-six-inches tall, Angela Ford’s weight has varied from 90 pounds to her current 216. She struggles with anorexia and binge eating, and suffers from postpartum stress disorder and depression. She lives in Fulton County, Ga., which has no mental health services available to her. Even if it did, she could not afford them because she is disability checks anyway.

“I think about food all day, every day,” she said. “I need help.”

It is much needed help that Angela Ford, 21, of Fulton County, Ga., which has no mental health services supplied through the Division of Mental Health reach less than a third of people estimated to have a serious mental illness or a serious emotional disturbance, according to a 2004 study conducted by APS Healthcare.

The Carter Center addressed this gap in service with other mental health advocacy leaders at the recent 11th annual Rosalyn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum. The center is still involved through the Georgia Mental Health Program works to improve mental health care nationwide. Change at the policy level helps those at the consumer level, like Ford, who because of current policies feels “no hope of recovery.”

With the budget cuts and the system, things are getting harder and harder,” said Ford. Ellingson expects mental health consumers to become increasingly frustrated with current policy, but hopes the center’s impact will make a difference in the future.

The Center Carter works to improve the hope for treatment for consumers by working with the system to highlight these situations and to find solutions, said Ellingson. “We present the unified concerns of the mental health groups to legislators to make changes in policy.”

Momentum has built following the Georgia Mental Health Forum. One follow-up meeting has already been held and a second one is in the planning stages. Representatives of mental health groups met at the Carter Center in July to develop a legislative agenda for the upcoming session. A meeting to form a common understanding of the term “recovery” will be held in this fall.

The center’s Mental Health Program holds other annual conferences, including the Rosalyn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy. This year the symposium will address disaster mental health in the wake of Katrina and will take place in November.

Mental health experts from across the nation will convene to address this important issue.

“The Carter Center’s continued involvement helps improve the mental health community,” Tucker said. “The center has a great deal of credibility and great mental health experts have been a great passion of Rosalyn Carter as long as I’ve known about her. She cares about us.”

Georgia ranks 43rd in the country for per capita spending on mental health services.
—Lei Ellingson, The Carter Center

Students engagement office name change reflects new focus

BY BEVERLY CLARK

For students seeking to expand their extracurricular horizons, Emory’s newly renamed Student Leadership and Engagement (CSLE) is ready to serve.

The CSLE reflects a more concentrated mission—and a new name—for what was formerly known as the Student Activities Office. The President’s Cabinet approved the change this past July. The new name and the renewed focus on leadership better reflect what we are all about: helping students discover their gifts and develop their leadership skills outside of the classroom,” said CSLE Director Karen Salisbury.

The changes reflect a year’s worth of work to more finely tune student activities to reflect the University’s core values to produce ethically engaged leaders, she said. More leadership programming for students has been developed, but work is ongoing to fulfill the center’s newly focused vision.

One important part of leadership is for leaders to learn how to get groups of ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things,” said Senior Vice President and Dean for Campus Life John Ford. “We hope the Carter Center for Student Leadership and Engagement will help our students develop these skills so that they can use them on campus and in their leadership roles after graduation.”

The center’s staff began surveying students and conducting focus groups last year, and leadership development quickly emerged as a key area that needed additional growth. Staff members also traveled to other colleges and universities both locally and around the country to see firsthand what different leadership programs worked and were developed.

Student activities has sponsored a popular “Emerging Leaders” retreat for freshmen each year, but other formal programming was lacking.

To answer the need, several workshops will be offered this fall including “Real World Workshops” and “Leadership Skills Development Workshops.” Such workshops will help the CSLE expand its mentoring reach and help students, Salisbury said.

“We are looking to appeal to a broader base of students. Most students aren’t presidents of organizations, but many are still involved and provide leadership in different ways.”

We want to aid their engagement in society and help them fulfill their potential,” Salisbury said.

The CSLE also sent two students this summer to the national LeaderShape Institute, a renowned leadership training program, and plans to send at least two more students next year. The idea is that these students will come back to campus and implement what they learned, and share their knowledge with other students.

“One of the most important things I learned is that to be a leader you don’t have to be elected or in the spotlight,” said one of the students, Emory College sophomore Maria Town. “Leadership is about doing your very best with whatever it is you are passionate about, which is very much in line with what the center is striving to do.”

The CSLE will unveil a new Web site by mid-October, and work is ongoing to develop stronger partnerships with other offices around the University. The CSLE is working with development officers to find more funding resources.

Another key component of the CSLE’s new focus is a more comprehensive leadership recognition program. “There are a lot of high-powered awards, but we have so many students who need to have awardable things that are not that need to be acknowledged for the work they do,” Salisbury said.

The center is still involved in traditional student activities programming, such as the Friday@10 entertainment program for students. Staff members also provide direct advising to the Student Government Association, Student Programming Committee and other groups, but Salisbury said, “our new focus is transforming how students will engage in extracurricular activities.”
MONDAY, SEPT. 25

**Film**
“Battleship Potemkin.” 8:30 p.m. 100 Wight Hall. Free. 404-727-6847.

**Concert**
Vega String Quartet, performing; 8:30 p.m. 995 Schiele. Free. 404-727-5050.

**Lecture**

**Arts**
**Arts**
Sadie Kurz-Bear, director; Joe Rivera, playwright. "This Property is Condemned." 9 p.m. Phipps Auditorium. Free. 404-727-0147.

**Lecture**
Terry Carlin, director; Richard Blanch, director; Robert B. Reich, economy, labor, and public policy, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Nicholas Negroponte, director; Anthony D. Romero, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Marilyn Anckarsrom, economics, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Rita Costa-Gomes, Town Center, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Linda Schad, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Ernesto Zedillo, director; Mary Frances Berry, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
John E. McNeice, associate professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Eric Johnson, director; Rosemarie Trockel, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Pamela W. Katter, director; Robert B. Reich, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Evelyn Y. Chung, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Peter J. Kuznick, author, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Jared Diamond, author, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Susan Michal, director; Michael Kauffmann, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Ann B. Setsuko Esaki, director; Elizabeth A. Kornack, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Anne C. Hastings, director; Patricia Erskine, director, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Richard J. Bernstein, research professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Nick Bilton, technology and culture, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Viviane Reding, European commissioner for media, culture, and audiovisual policy, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Georges de Marees, director; Marion Monlezun, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Frank B. Andrus, Jr., author, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
David L. Lowery, director; Michael L. Meyer, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Thomas H. McAdams, author, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Karen O'Connor, director; Elinor Ostrom, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
José A. Ferrer-Olmo, director; Michael D. Pollack, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.

**Lecture**
**Lecture**
Mark S. Glick, director; Richard S. Feinberg, professor, presenting. 4:30 p.m. 479 Brawman. Free. 404-727-1218.