A.S. Byatt, one of the foremost novelists and storytellers of our time, presented a series of lectures as part of the biennial Richard Ellmann Lectures held in March. Byatt spoke on Fathers, Forefathers, Ancestors: The Surprising Renaissance of the British Historical Novel and drew large audiences at each of her three lectures and book signing.

From the publication of her first novel Shadow of the Sun in 1964 to her Booker Prize winner Possession in 1990, to her seventh novel Babel Tower in 1996, Byatt has continually enriched the world of fiction as a short story writer, editor, literary critic, reviewer, broadcaster, and lecturer. You may listen to one of A.S. Byatt’s Emory lectures by visiting http://www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/NEWS/.

The opening lecture was followed by a reception and dinner in Lullwater Park, at which guests enjoyed music in the tradition of Southern blues and the celebrated, if infamous, whole roast pig.

Emory College was honored and delighted to have Byatt present the 1999 Ellmann lectures. The Richard Ellmann Lectures in Modern Literature have been endowed in honor of the literary achievement of Richard Ellmann who, as the first Robert W. Woodruff Professor, served Emory from 1980 until his death in 1987. The biographer of W.B. Yeats, James Joyce and Oscar Wilde, Ellmann was also a gifted speaker. His public lectures were unparalleled in their appeal to a worldwide audience of readers, for he spoke in a language that invited the reader to share his personal engagement with serious literature. It is in this spirit that the Ellmann lecturers are chosen.
From the Dean

Spring is the lively season: Atlanta is in bloom, we are busily closing the academic year, commencement is in our minds, and the lures of summer are strong. In the College, it’s also a time of accomplishment, and our newsletter can’t possibly convey all that is happening.

In April alone, Creative Writing Professor Xuefei Jin won a Guggenheim fellowship to write his next novel. The Ford Foundation chose us among a handful of universities to receive a second round of grants to revive area studies research and teaching. About 250 colleges and universities submitted proposals, but only about a dozen are in the final group chosen for phase two. Such grants and fellowships reaffirm our work together.

Commencement this year means a thousand young Emory graduates will enter their professional lives or go onto graduate school. It’s also the time when our new class for Fall 1999 will make their decisions for next year. Twenty new faculty have been appointed to join them, as six have retired from decades of service here.

We’re breaking ground on Cherry Logan Emerson Hall, the first of two new science buildings near the quadangle. Plans for the Performing Arts Center continue apace, and our fundraising is ahead of schedule.

This has been an outstanding academic year, and we look forward to another as we work through the summer. As you read this issue of Quadrangle, think of information you would like to see reported and keep in touch with us. Best wishes.

Steven Sanderson
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Dean of Emory College
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Amos Jones Selected For Truman Scholarship

Emory College junior Amos N. Jones has been selected as a 1999 Truman Scholar by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation. Jones is a Robert W. Woodruff scholar pursuing a dual major in political science and economics/mathematics, and is one of 79 scholars selected from 657 candidates from 332 U.S. colleges and universities for the prestigious honor.

The Truman Scholarship recognizes students with outstanding leadership potential who plan to attend graduate school in preparation for a career in the government or public service.

The scholarship provides $3,000 for the senior year and $27,000 for two or three years of graduate study. Scholars also receive priority admission and supplemental financial aid at premier graduate institutions, leadership training, career and graduate school counseling, and special internship opportunities within the federal government.

Jones plans to pursue joint law and urban policy degrees to prepare for a career in federal housing policy formulation and enforcement. Jones is thrilled to be selected and directs gratitude to his recommenders, the four faculty members who served on the mock interview committee (Bobbi Patterson, Regina Werum, Steven J. Kautz and Joanne Brzinski), and “extra special gratitude to Assistant Dean of Emory College Priscilla Echols, who has been a great encourager since the day I met her,” says Jones. - Emory Wire

Brant Brown honored with McMullan Award

The Lucius Lamar McMullan Award is a scholarship given to an Emory College graduate in recognition of “rare potential for service to the global community and extraordinary promise of becoming a future leader.”

This year’s recipient is Brant D. Brown, a student in Biology and German Literature, who has also been honored this year with one of the University’s Humanitarian Awards.

“Brant has been a surprisingly atypical student,” wrote his nominators, a group of eight – including deans, faculty and staff. “At the same time, however, he embodies in his academic career and in his life those qualities of intelligence, insight, perseverance, service, humility, and compassion that we value most highly in this community.”

Brown came to Emory from Arizona State University as a self-supporting transfer student, waiting tables to make ends meet. While at Arizona, he was awarded a highly competitive Ciba-Geigy Gene Research Internship in Basel, Switzerland. He later accepted a position in a lab at the Heidelberg University School of Medicine where he co-authored a major clinical publication. While in Europe, Brown served in a child transport unit in the Bosnian War Relief Effort of the German Red Cross. It is an experience he counts as one of the most formative and painful of his life.

Once at Emory, Brown was named a Goodrich C. White Scholar. He was elected in his junior year to Phi Beta Kappa, and in his senior year to Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Brown will use the $20,000 award to continue his volunteer work over the next year before entering an M.D./Ph.D. program. He will also continue genetic research in the lab of Dr. Gray Crouse. Brown hopes to one day combine his skills in science and medicine to work with children, especially those most in need.

“I am especially grateful for this award,” he says, “because it will allow me to dedicate the next year to developing the Emory Grady Connection, which I envision as an intense, hands-on internship for Emory College students – giving them the chance to work with children who have been victimized by violence. At Grady Memorial Hospital, students are not only exposed to one of America’s busiest hospitals, but also to some of the neediest and most victimized patients. I think in seeing that side of life, students will truly come to understand the challenges that lie ahead of them as future physicians, nurses, psychologists, and social workers.”
The recent death of Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate of England and former husband of the late American poet Sylvia Plath, and the sensational publication of Hughes's Birthday Letters have focused worldwide media attention on Special Collections in the Robert W. Woodruff Library, which acquired Hughes's literary archive in 1997 (see New York Times, Feb. 11, 1999). As I write, scholars in Special Collections are poring over his papers, which promise to shed much new light on the development of Hughes's poetry as well as his relationship with Plath. Despite the publicity, many Emory alumni and friends may not be aware that during the past twenty years the library has been building one of the most distinguished research and teaching collections of twentieth-century poetry in America. In addition to the Hughes material, the library has acquired important archives of numerous English, Irish and American authors, including W.B. Yeats, Lady Augusta Gregory, Robert Penn Warren, James Dickey and others. The most striking additions, however, have been the ongoing archives of numerous contemporary Irish poets. When scholars from around the world come to Emory to work on these various collections, they often have to make room in Special Collections for “the Bloomin’ Irish” - Emory students reading Irish manuscripts, and visiting Irish poets reciting poems and playing tin-whistles and flutes.

**Our Living Archive**

The personal archives of most writers ordinarily do not become available until years after their deaths. What makes the contemporary Irish collection at Emory unique is that all the poets whose manuscripts and correspondence comprise the “living” archive are not only alive and in their prime but still contributing papers and paying periodic visits to Emory. The collection itself is the finest and most active anywhere in the world, including the libraries and universities of Ireland, and the extraordinary relationship between the library and the poets has resulted in huge dividends for Emory students.

The Irish collection had its origins in the late 1970s, following Robert W. Woodruff's record gift of Coca-Cola stock and the appointment of Richard Ellmann, biographer of Yeats, Joyce and Wilde, as Emory's first Woodruff Professor. In 1979 Emory purchased at auction not only Lady Gregory's papers but her personal collection of books and manuscripts by W.B. Yeats. During the 1980s the library added significant collections related to the Abbey Theatre, Maud Gonne, Samuel Beckett and other members of the Irish literary and dramatic movement. When Richard Ellmann died in 1987, the University established the Richard Ellmann Lectures in Modern Literature in honor of his achievement. The first Ellmann lecturer was his friend Seamus Heaney (Nobel Laureate, 1995), who donated the manuscripts of his lectures, The Place of Writing (1989), to the library in memory of Ellmann.

**Growing the Collection**

Heaney's generous gift did much to alter the scope and shape the expansion of the collection into the contemporary period. The arrival of Special Collections librarian Steve Enniss, with his gift for inspiring the confidence and trust of prospective authors, further enhanced the climate for growth, and as the 1990s progressed the library added in succession the archives of the major poets of Northern Ireland and the Republic: Michael Longley, Derek Mahon, James Simmons, Medbh McGuckian, Ciaran Carson, Paul Muldoon, Frank Ormsby, Thomas Kinsella and Peter Fallon, together with the archive of Fallon's Gallery Press, the most important literary press in Ireland since 1970. As Seamus Heaney has been a friend and teacher to most of these poets, he is substantially represented - not only in the Irish but in the Hughes collection. Indeed, the Heaney-Hughes correspondence on poetry has been described as being of greater importance than that of Wordsworth and Coleridge. During the 1990s, these Irish poets have come to Emory to give readings, visit classes, grant student interviews and deposit new...
Medbh McGuckian, on an extremely difficult volume by writing. Meanwhile, her critical essay at Harvard last fall on Irish women's correspondence with Heaney and Heaney her freshman year, began a enjoyed a class visit from Seamus Sered, a junior in the College, the poet they are studying. Danielle the exhilaration of conversing with of examining a major manuscript to dentists is immeasurable – from the awe with women poets and editors that could not have been arranged otherwise. Graduate students Brian C liff, Brendan Corcoran, Gavin Drummond and Leigh Partington, presently writing doctoral dissertations on Irish authors, have astonished audiences at professional meetings with revelations and quotations from the archives in their presentations. Beginning next fall, Emory students will be able to study for a semester or a year at the top four Irish universities – Queen’s University, Belfast; Trinity College, Dublin; University College, Dublin; and University of Belfast, Galway; and we hope to establish an Irish Studies program in the future.

Yes, Irish literature and culture are very much alive and well at Emory. Please visit the Irish Literary Collections page on the web at http://info.library.emory.edu/Special/irishbrochure.html. Contact the English Department at 404-727-6420 if you would like to be on a mailing list for future readings.

Poets, Writers, Students
The effect of this living collection on the intellectual lives of Emory students is immeasurable – from the awe of examining a major manuscript to the exhilaration of conversing with the poet they are studying. Danielle Sered, a junior in the College, enjoyed a class visit from Seamus Heaney her freshman year, began a correspondence with Heaney and arranged a special interview with him at Harvard last fall on Irish women’s writing. Meanwhile, her critical essay on an extremely difficult volume by McGuckian, Captain Lavender, won second place and $1000 in the W. W. Norton national undergraduate essay contest. McGuckian was so impressed by the essay that she granted Danielle a special interview on the volume when she came to read at Emory. Danielle has studied, met and conversed with all the Irish writers who have come to Emory since she arrived. She was recently awarded one of the College’s new International Study Awards to research her senior honors thesis on women’s writing in Ireland this summer, and Rita Ann Higgins has invited her to stay in her home when she visits Galway. With the interest and assistance of Emory’s Irish writers, Danielle has scheduled interviews with women poets and editors that could not have been arranged otherwise. Graduate students Brian Cliff, Brendan Corcoran, Gavin

Do you know about...?
Endowed Scholarships
At Emory College, there are 124 endowed scholarships established by alumni and friends and available to most any deserving student.

The oldest endowed scholarship, the Young Harris Scholarship, was created in 1898 with $15,300. The most recent scholarship was established in August 1998 with a gift of $50,000.

These funds are invested in the Emory Endowment, and through careful management we have seen the principal grow steadily. Many scholarships are now able to support more students than the donors first imagined possible.

If you are interested in contributing toward a named scholarship endowment, please call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 404-727-5657 or the Office of Gift Planning at 404-727-4498.

A c c o l a d e s

Thomas J e f f e r s o n A w a r d
Harvey Klehr, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Politics and History, has been honored with the University’s Thomas Jefferson Award in appreciation of significant service through personal activities, influence and leadership. As specified by the original donor, The Robert Earl McConnell Foundation, the personal and professional qualities of the recipient should be “as nearly as possible those which we believe Jefferson would have considered essential to the intellectual, social and political advancement of society.”

Klehr said, “I am deeply honored, not least because as a political theorist and historian, it is very humbling to be compared in any way with Jefferson. I have been privileged to have had the opportunity to conduct my career at Emory and I enjoy being able to give some of my talents to serve the University.”

Exceptional Mentorship
The Emory College Cuttino Prize recognizes a faculty member who has proven to be an exceptional mentor to students. This year’s prize is awarded to Ronald Johnson, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Chemistry, Honor Council advisor, and membership committee chair of Phi Beta Kappa. He is also a faculty advisor for the American Chemical Society Affiliates, Alpha Epsilon Delta pre-medical society, and the Emory Christian Fellowship.

“I’ve had many opportunities to talk one-on-one to students,” Johnson said. “I enjoy these conversations and hope they’ve helped students evaluate their own situations and see additional options.”
My name is Justin E. Burns and I’ll soon be a junior in the College’s Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology Program. I hail from the city of Yakima in the beautiful evergreen state of Washington.

During the summer of 1998 I participated in the Energy Research Undergraduate Laboratory Fellowship (ERULF) at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) in Richland, Washington. Then last summer, I became one of twenty college students nationwide asked to present my ERULF research to the federal Department of Energy (DOE) in Washington, D.C. We presented our work at DOE headquarters while researchers and administrators browsed and spoke with us about our research.

What was my project? Basically, a substance called dichloroacetic acid (DCA) is a contaminant frequently found on DOE sites and is a disinfection by-product formed during the chlorination of drinking water. Studies conducted at PNNL have demonstrated that DCA is a rodent hepatocarcinogen (causes cancer in liver cells). Previous studies had suggested that the carcinogenic effects of DCA were mediated through prostanoids, a form of prostaglandins that essentially perform a variety of hormone-like actions in the body. Prostanoids bind to specific cell surface receptors in a process referred to as signal transduction.

One receptor, termed the prostaglandin F2 alpha-receptor (FP), has been implicated in the regulation of hepatocyte growth. Our studies were conducted to determine whether signal transduction actually modulates the growth behavior of a hepatocyte cell line by inducing the FP receptor with a substance called fluprostenol that would specifically bind to it.

After a long series of tests, we surprisingly observed that fluprostenol actually decreased cell number instead of inducing tumor growth as we first suspected. Although additional studies are required to validate the actual mechanism proposed by these initial observations, it is reasonable to predict that a decrease in cell number would not contribute to the carcinogenic response. The cell killing effect of fluprostenol could potentially represent a novel chemo-preventive strategy for liver tumors. Of course, there is much more work to be done!

My overall goal is to attend medical school and become a surgeon, though I am also considering the possibility of including research in my post-baccalaureate education and pursuing an M.D./Ph.D. degree. Three years ago before applying for an ERULF appointment, I had no idea I would enjoy research as much as I do now.

I feel very fortunate to have participated in this fellowship. There are few programs that allow undergraduates the opportunity to work alongside such distinguished researchers, use innovative technology, and conduct studies that have the potential to make a real difference. The faculty went out of their way to accommodate the student interns and make us feel part of the team. Our opinions and questions mattered to them.

At ERULF there were several times in which my mentor and I utilized trial and error strategies only to find that our end result wasn’t what we had predicted. I had to really hone my cognitive and problem solving capabilities. Let’s just say that my brain cells were kept in high gear for those ten weeks.

I strongly encourage anyone to apply that has a scientific-inquiring mind and isn’t afraid of making mistakes.

For more about the ERULF program and to obtain the online application, visit the web site: http://www.orau.gov/doe_erulf/. Electronic applications will be reopened in September for internships in spring, summer and fall of 2000.
New Department of Environmental Studies

Emory College is pleased to announce the formation this spring of the new Department of Environmental Studies and the appointment of Lance Gunderson as its chair. Previously at the University of Florida, Gunderson has over twenty years experience as a wetland ecologist, primarily in the Everglades of south Florida. He has published on the human and institutional dimensions of ecosystem ecology, and serves as executive director of the Resilience Network, an international program that links ecological and social sciences.

The department, or ENVS as it is affectionately known, will grow over the next five years, developing a curriculum that will eventually lead to undergraduate degrees in Environmental Studies.

Interdisciplinary and integrative, the ENVS program is rooted in relevant disciplines in the natural and social sciences, while modestly engaging the humanities and arts. ENVS was composed in part by combination of the College’s previous programs in Geosciences and Human and Natural Ecology. The courses offered are designed to help students confront a broad range of environmental issues. And seminar series and outreach programs are geared toward increasing the environmental literacy of the Emory community.

Environmental Studies combines the study of the earth’s physical, chemical and biological characteristics, with the ecological and social sciences. For more information please contact Environmental Studies at 404-727-4216 and visit the web site at http://www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/ENVS/.

Excellence in Teaching

Center for Teaching and Curriculum Awards

The College’s Center for Teaching and Curriculum proudly announces the recipients of the 1999 Awards for Excellence in Teaching. Patrick Allitt, Professor in History; Catherine Nickerson, Associate Professor in English and the Institute of Liberal Arts; and Frank Pajares, Assistant Professor in Educational Studies will each receive a stipend of $2,000 and, perhaps best of all, a year-long honorary parking space in a place of their choice. These marvelous teachers will be honored in September at the CTC’s third annual Teaching Awards Banquet.

Recipients are chosen each year on the basis of peer assessments from faculty and student evaluations.

Walter Reed, Director of the Center for Teaching and Curriculum, noted that there have been many strong candidates for these awards in the three years that they have been given. “There is a tradition of strong teaching at Emory,” he said, “that is being continued by faculty hired in recent years as well. The public recognition of this tradition is important to the future of the College.”

Emory Williams Honorees

The CTC awards complement the long-standing Emory Williams Awards for Distinguished Teachers which are made on the basis of alumni balloting. Honorees this year for the Emory Williams Awards are Niall Slater, Professor of Classics; Hashem Dezhbakhsh, Associate Professor and co-chair of Economics; and Ronald Gould, Professor of Mathematics & Computer Science.
Women's Council reaches out

The Women's Advisory Council has begun an active outreach to the women students and faculty in the College. At the January reception, faculty and students heard Lynna Williams speak on “Girls in Trouble.” In March, students were invited to a pizza dinner to help define ways in which the council can best serve young women in the Arts and Sciences. The group then attended a “Gender Talk” lecture by Johnnetta Cole and Beverly Guy-Sheftall.

The Women's Council, chaired by Becky Evans 83C; Ann Estes 65C, 76L; and Debbie Blum 82C, 86L is also defining programs for mentoring and networking to build beneficial relationships between students and alumni. Future plans include a lecture and symposium on planning a career.

Groundbreaking held for new Science Complex

Science Advisory Council chair Jimmy Bolen 65C, attended the groundbreaking May 13 for the Cherry Logan Emerson Hall.

The ceremony marked the official start of construction for the new Emerson Center for Scientific Computation, which will include a physical sciences library and new homes for the Departments of Physics and Mathematics & Computer Science. A twoed Hall, a major component of the new complex will be renovated and remain the home of the Chemistry Department.

Dr. Sidney Yarbrough 59C, 63M and wife Becky of Columbus hosted one of the four Dinners Across Georgia with Dean Steven Sanderson. Other hosts this spring were Mike McDougald 52C of Rome; Sonny Deriso 68C, 72L of Albany; and Bert 75C and Nancy 74C Tenenbaum of Savannah.