

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

“You are a leader,” Vicente Fox told graduates. **Page 2**



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Scenes from Emory and Oxford's 164th Commencement celebrations. **Page 8**



SPECIAL 2009 COMMENCEMENT EDITION

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Class of 2009 ready to reshape world



A Class of 2009 celebrant tips his hat to economic realities.

BRYAN MELTZ

By CAROL CLARK

Members of the Class of 2009 awoke to the patter of rain early on Commencement Day. Despite forecasts of more rain — and a dismal economic climate — they arrived on campus bearing the happy, triumphant spirit that buoys the shared experience of graduation.

The sound of bagpipes signaled a break in the clouds. Shafts of sunlight gilded the faces of the robed graduates as

they flowed into the Quad. They took their places amid rows of white plastic chairs that had been freshly washed by nature and lovingly dried by Emory staff volunteers, cheerful and dapper beneath their straw boaters.

A passing shower during the ceremony hardly ruffled a feather. It was civility that reigned that day — and every day for the class of 2009.

“Each class seems to carve out a distinctive identity for

itself,” President Jim Wagner told the graduates. “You folks have understood earlier than most the value of civility. You have shown concern for those who are victims of incivility — incivility of a contrived and sophisticated sort, as well as incivility born of poverty.”

Wagner noted that many of the graduates became leaders of the Transforming Community Project when it was launched during their freshmen year, to open up difficult conversations

about race. They continued to provide forums for civil conversations, including the heated politics leading up to the election of Barack Obama.

“As you go forward, may you be builders of civil society, even as you have worked toward that end in this community,” he said. “It will be the legacy of the Class of 2009, and I look forward to watching you in action.”

Please see GRADUATES page 4

Oxford: Excellence with a soul

By MARY LOFTUS

When twins Seni and Tola Ajibade first showed up at Oxford College, their professors were sometimes confused: how could the same student be everywhere at once? But by the time the brothers graduated on May 9, they had each made a distinctive mark on campus, as had each of the 351 members of the Oxford College Class of 2009.

Dean of the Chapel and Religious Life Susan Henry-Crowe gave the invocation for the celebratory day, thanking “professors and mentors who opened new windows to the world” for the graduates, and praying that they have “the power to be aware and gentle.”

Oxford Dean Emeritus William Murdy, standing in for Dean Stephen Bowen, who was attending his daughter’s graduation from Earlham College, introduced Commencement speaker and Emory President Emeritus James Laney. “The Emory we know today,” said Murdy, “is in many ways the product of his vision.”

Laney, former ambassador to South Korea, who served as dean of the Candler School of Theology before leading the University from 1977 to 1993, said he had gained personal insight into “the genius of Oxford” after his son, Arthur Laney ’77Ox-’79C, and four of his grandchildren attended the College, including Rachel Laney ’09Ox, a member of this year’s class.

Graduates, Laney said, should be guided not by

Please see OXFORD page 7

Weekend welcomes thousands of alumni

By ERIC RANGUS

It’s an event that’s so big, it takes five days to squeeze it all in.

Emory Commencement Weekend, May 7–11, is the five-day campuswide celebration that culminates in the graduation of a new class — and for the Emory Alumni Association, it’s a great opportunity to welcome more than 3,800 new alumni into the community.

And on a few occasions, it seemed like every one of those new 3,800 alumni, and their

parents, were in the same place at the same time.

From the shoulder-to-shoulder lines at registration kiosks following the annual Candlelight Crossover, May 7, to the packed dance floor at the Torch and Trumpet Soirée, May 8, it seemed like the new graduates never wanted the celebration to stop.

Like the Crossover and the Soirée, many of the weekend’s events have grown into valued traditions. One new tradition, it’s hoped, is how Emory Commencement Weekend is

communicated. For alumni who couldn’t attend in person, the EAA blogged from the trenches throughout the weekend at eaavesdropping.blogspot.com and tweeted from seemingly every corner of campus at www.twitter.com/EmoryAlumni. That way, alumni everywhere can join in the conversation, no matter where they are.

Another of Emory Weekend’s goals is to focus on the pride that should accompany an Emory degree. If the words of Brittain Award winner Nicolai Lundy ’09C are any indication, the goal

has been met.

“When we are asked where we went to school, let’s not just say the name, but let’s also say what is behind the name — the incredible opportunities that students experience every day here at Emory,” Lundy told a gathering of the 100 Senior Honorary, on May 8. “If we can do that, then we will indeed be leaders among our peers, leaders among the alumni, who do a little bit every chance they get to let others know why they should regard Emory with the same respect that we do.”

More news and numbers on the Web

Visit Emory Report online at www.emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT:

- Watch the ceremony
- Hear Vicente Fox’s message to graduates
- Find out who won faculty awards, who is retiring from Emory, and which employees earned an Emory degree
- View videos
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Commencement

BY THE NUMBERS

Total number of 2009 graduates: **3,810**

Total number of degrees awarded: **3,867**

Undergraduate degrees: **2,011**

Graduate degrees: **1,405**

Professional degrees: **443**

Percent of male graduates: **43.4%**

Percent of female graduates: **56.6%**

States represented: **48**

Countries represented: **78**

Age of youngest graduate: **20**

Age of oldest undergraduate: **58**

Oldest degree recipient: **61**
(Master of Divinity)

Military service veterans graduated: **24**

Average GPA of Emory College graduates: **3.35**

Percent of Emory College graduates with GPA of 3.5 or higher: **43.2**

Time of Vicente Fox's Commencement address: **11 minutes 4 seconds**

Number of chairs on the Quad: **14,000**

Total time it rained during main ceremony: **9 minutes**

Number of Commencement volunteers: **175**

Number of frames shot by University Photography: **3,183**

Servings of Ben and Jerry's ice cream available at Class Day: **1,000**

**Registrar figures correct as of May 11. Other figures may be estimates.*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Vicente Fox: Exercise your leadership every day



Vicente Fox, former president of Mexico and founder of Centro Fox, delivered the keynote address.

KAY HINTON

By VICENTE FOX

Every day, we must thank life for the gifts we receive.

Like being in a university of excellence, like you have been here for four years, at Emory University. In Latin America, Africa, no more than 22 percent of kids of your age have the opportunity to be in school. What a big responsibility is upon your leaders' shoulders . . . What a big responsibility it is to meet the challenges of today's world . . .

You are a leader. We are all leaders. We are born leaders, each and every one of us. And

that's the best and first gift of life. But not everybody has discovered that leadership. We have to make sure that through leadership . . . through helping our neighbor, through building our community, through building our world, we will find our own joy, our own ecstasies, our own happiness. That's the power we carry within ourselves, so . . . exercise your leadership, every day of your life.

We need to reshape, you need to reshape, the world. To reinvent it, to bring new order and new justice, as the founding fathers of this great nation started 200 years ago.

Universities are pillars, foundations, where thought is generated, where freedom is nourished and where commitment is attained. So this is the world you are going to be in.

You have to have high, very high, aspirations. Leaders don't go for less. Changing the world, reducing poverty, increasing education, increasing wealth to all families and all peoples in the world. Heroic aspiration is the course of a leader.

I know you have dreams, big dreams, and you are going to accomplish each and every one of them. Because you are leaders. And those dreams you have

to hook on the stars, up above, high, and they will make you grow each day, to be a better person. They'll make you feel happy in your heart, because you are working for a better world, and for others.

Life is waiting for you. The world is waiting for you . . . God bless you.

This is an excerpt of Vicente Fox's Commencement address. To hear his complete speech, visit www.emory.edu/home/about/history/commencement-2009.htm.

EMORY report

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Nancy Seideman
nancy.seideman@emory.edu

EDITOR
Kim Urquhart
kim.urquhart@emory.edu

DESIGNER
Christi Gray
christi.gray@emory.edu

PHOTO DIRECTOR
Bryan Meltz
bryan.meltz@emory.edu

STAFF WRITER
Carol Clark
carol.clark@emory.edu

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Leslie King
lking@emory.edu

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Mexican leader and Emory are scholarly partners

By KIRSTEN TAGAMI

As president of Mexico from 2000 to 2006, Vicente Fox, who delivered the keynote address and received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Emory's 164th Commencement, made immigration a priority. It was one of the first issues he brought up with President George W. Bush, and he boldly called for open borders with the U.S. and protection of the rights of undocumented Mexican workers.

Although he's no longer in office, immigration remains near to Fox's heart. It's one of the main areas of scholarly collaboration planned between Emory and Centro Fox, the presidential library and research center modeled loosely on The Carter Center.

Faculty from Emory's history and sociology departments, the School of Law, and the Rollins School of Public Health have been working on a research agenda with colleagues from Centro Fox, said Sita Ranchod-Nilsson, director of Emory's Institute for Developing Nations, who has been instrumental in the ongoing discussions.

The Emory professors are interested in studying transnational

communities created by migration in the southeastern U.S., she said. Last year, the former Mexican president agreed that Centro Fox would collaborate with Emory to research migration, to expand the Global Health Institute's field partner sites in Mexico and to host academic exchanges at Centro Fox, which Ranchod-Nilsson described as a "state-of-the-art" facility on Fox's family ranch.

On May 10, Fox was honored for his outstanding leadership with Goizueta Business School's Global Innovation Award. He also received The Halle Institute's Head of State Award for his pioneering contributions to democracy.

Fox's great-grandparents were German immigrants to the U.S. and his grandfather later moved to Mexico.

"President Fox never loses sight of the fact that immigration involves real human beings," said Ranchod-Nilsson. "He knows that immigration is a complex issue that involves national security and labor markets. But he never forgets that there are real people trying to improve their lives in the midst of broader debates."

Commencement

DIPLOMA CEREMONIES



President Jim Wagner's daughter, Kimberly, graduated from Candler School of Theology.

ANN BORDEN



Emory Law graduates

BRYAN MELTZ

CANDLER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

In her remarks to the Candler graduates, Dean Jan Love quoted Philippians 4:8-9, which states in part, “. . . whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice.”

Love then pointed out two words in the passage that hold special meaning for graduates: think and learn. “Use your brain,” Love said. “And use what you have learned to transform the world.”

In all, the school awarded 119 Master of Divinity, 20 Master of Theological Studies, and 11 Master of Theology degrees.

—Laurel Hanna

EMORY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

“Sitting before me are the leaders of our generation,” class orator Ashley Tran said of Emory College's 1,259 graduates, 43.2 percent of whom earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or more.

Facing an uncertain future, Tran urged her fellow graduates to be idealistic in their dreams.

“Will we be the generation remembered for its accomplishments in the face of adversity? The generation that

meaningfully contributed to the world despite social, political and economic pressures?” asked Tran. “These are not questions that are easily answered. Our circumstances are not easy, and our challenges will be great.

“We must not be disheartened by these challenges. We must hold steadfast to pursuing our goals.”

—Kim Urquhart

GRADUATE SCHOOL

This year the Graduate School outgrew the traditional location for its ceremony — the Schwartz Center — and needed to move to two separate ceremonies: one to award 129 master's degrees, and one to award 226 doctoral degrees.

Dean Lisa A. Tedesco congratulated all the graduates and urged them to go forward “with something of the spirit of Emory in your character, and with

a commitment to pursuing knowledge that will shape our future by addressing the most difficult and important problems of this day.”

Tedesco was joined by Provost Earl Lewis and the graduates' advisors, and afterward all enjoyed a Graduate School brunch celebrating the graduates.

—Ulf Nilsson

GOIZUETA BUSINESS SCHOOL

Dean Larry Benveniste said to the Class of 2009, “We are blessed that our school bears the name of one of the greatest principled leaders of our time, Roberto C. Goizueta. He was proud of our school and especially proud of our graduates. He would have expected much from you. Everything you do reflects on all of us... so remember the values of the school.”

Sarah O'Brien, president of the Goizueta Business School Alumni

Board, welcomed the graduates into the Alumni Association. Olga C. de Goizueta, widow of Roberto C. Goizueta, congratulated and shook hands with each graduate.

The business school awarded 709 degrees: 284 BBAs, 203 full-time MBAs, 90 Evening MBAs, 33 Modular Executive MBAs, and 99 Weekend Executive MBAs.

—Victor Rogers

ROLLINS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Daniel Blumenthal did not intend to make a political speech but then again, the public health field is political. From tobacco control and safe water, to health care reform, public health experts advocate change to protect the health of populations.

“Change at the top will not take place until you hear from those at the grassroots level,” said Blumenthal, professor

and chair of community health and preventive medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine. “I hope you will not forget to focus on community, because that's where change starts.”

The RSPH Class of 2009 included 222 Master of Public Health, 19 Master of Science, and 15 dual-degree recipients.

—Pam Auchmutey

SCHOOL OF LAW

“The need for law remains and, in fact, rises in times of need,” Most Outstanding Third-Year Student Brent Douglas told his classmates. “I assert that every lawyer has an obligation to ensure that all persons subject to our laws are viewed equally before them.”

Most Outstanding Professor Dorothy

A. Brown encouraged the 222 graduates to embrace uncertainty. “Uncertainty creates the space for you to pause and ask, ‘what do I really want to do with my career? What am I passionate about?’”

—Liz Chilla

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The School of Medicine had a total of 109 graduates, including 21 with dual degrees (seven MD/PhDs, 13 MD/MPHs, and one MD/MBA).

Valedictory speaker William Wood, former chair of the Department of Surgery, told stories to the about-to-be physicians, including one about an entrepreneur who learned in his younger years not to worry when others got credit for something he himself had done, and in his older years not to be surprised when he got credit for the genius of others.

Health Professions

In the medical school's ceremony for health professions, 68 students received degrees in the following programs: 25 in medical imaging, four in physician assistant, one in ophthalmic technology, and 38 in physical therapy. The ophthalmic tech student was the last to graduate from that program as it transitions from a master's to a certificate program. Nathaniel Thomas was Emory's first graduate to receive a dual DPT/MBA.

—Karon Schindler

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Graduates of the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing have the potential to succeed like no other class because of their place in history, said Dean Linda McCauley, who spoke to 92 master's degree and 91 bachelor's degree recipients as their Commencement speaker and new dean.

McCauley recently read Malcolm Gladwell's “Outliers,” which she said held a number of life lessons for nursing graduates. “Gladwell says that who we are and what we are depend on our

place in time,” she said.

“It's not brightest that succeed, but those who are given opportunities and have the presence of mind to seize them. The health care crisis puts each of you in a time to make a significant difference in history . . . This day, this time, this era that you are entering nursing practice gives you a huge advantage to make a difference.”

—Kay Torrance

Commencement

GRADUATES: Rain doesn't dampen spirits



Continued from the cover

Vicente Fox, former president of Mexico, delivered the keynote. He urged the students to take on the economic crisis and other challenges rocking the globe. "You need to reshape the world, to reinvent it," he said. "You have to have high, very high, aspirations. Leaders don't go for less."

Inspired by the work of former President Jimmy Carter and The Carter Center, Fox founded Centro Fox, a presidential museum and library that also does humanitarian work.

By helping our neighbors, our communities and reshaping our world "we will find our own joy, our own ecstasies, our own happiness," Fox said. "That's the power we carry within ourselves. So, please, exercise your leadership, every day of your life."

His thoughts echoed those of the Class Day speakers — the founders of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream. Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield explained how they built their business by poking fun at the corporate establishment that tried to block their entry into the marketplace. They started a foundation to fund community-oriented projects.

"What we're learning at Ben and Jerry's is that there is a spiritual component to business, just as there is to individuals," Greenfield told the seniors. "As you give, you receive. As you help others, you are helped in return. For people, for nations, for businesses — it's all the same."

By the end of Commencement, the sun had burned through most of the clouds. The grass on the Quad looked greener than usual, still wet with rain. The birds seemed to chirp louder. The sky looked bluer. It had turned into a good day for ice cream.

Umbrellas sprouted beneath a pop-up shower, but were soon folded away as the sun returned.

BRYAN MELTZ

CUTTINO AWARD

Stein's mentorship reaches across time and distance



Kenneth Stein congratulated by Dean Robert Paul. BRYAN MELTZ

By CAROL CLARK

When Kenneth Stein was in Washington recently for a conference, he contacted 15 former students, stretching back to the early 1980s, and invited them to lunch. "I sat back and listened to them talk about what they had accomplished," he said. "I'll do the same thing with a group of students when I'm in New York this week. Sometimes I'll see a business card being passed. It can be networking opportunity for the students, or 'Let's just have lunch with Ken and tell stories.' I do it

because it's fun."

Wherever Stein travels in the United States, or even abroad, he's likely to know many people nearby — the bounty of 33 years of teaching at Emory. His interest in the lives of his students past and present helped earn him the 2009 George P. Cuttino Award for Excellence in Mentoring.

Stein has no shortage of accolades: A prolific author, he is also the William E. Schatten Professor of Contemporary Middle Eastern History, Political Science and Israeli Studies, director of the Middle East Research Program and director of the Institute for the Study of Modern Israel — which he founded in 1998.

But the numerous teaching awards he has received over three decades are among his proudest achievements. "The Cuttino Award, to me, is the equivalent of having two major scholarly books published," Stein said. "It's the body of my work. How do you evaluate the contribution you may have made to 4,500 kids? I've had a lot of lunches and dinners and meetings over the years with former students. Maybe that time could have been spent drafting another chapter, but I think it was time well spent. It's important to make time for people, even in a busy world."

As a teacher and a mentor, Stein strives to instill a sense of confidence that goes beyond the walls of a classroom. "Every student needs to be able to make themselves marketable, to set themselves apart from the next person. Your task as a mentor and a teacher is to give them the skills to do that," he said.

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Commencement

SCHOLAR/TEACHER AWARD

Fineman a pioneer for social equality



President Jim Wagner congratulates Scholar/Teacher recipient Martha Fineman.

ANN BORDEN

By KIM URQUHART

One of the world's leading feminist theorists and family-law scholars, Martha Fineman has encouraged colleagues, lawmakers and students to challenge the status quo.

"In my academic career I have found pulling stock perceptions, concepts and arguments apart, and then putting them back together in novel and interesting ways, to be among the most rewarding intellectual exercises," Fineman said.

The Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law was chosen to receive the University Scholar/Teacher Award by Emory faculty on behalf of the United Methodist Church Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the third law faculty member to receive this honor.

Fineman has published more than 60 scholarly texts. Forthcoming is "The Vulnerable Subject: Anchoring Equality in the Human Condition." In her writings, Fineman explores issues such as the nature and function of the family as a societal institution, the economic and political consequences of welfare and divorce reforms, and the meanings of dependency in American society and politics.

"The growing inequality in America over the past decade has convinced me that there is a pressing need for us to develop a more substantive approach to issues of equality," she said, "one that is attentive to the differing contexts in which individuals find themselves," such as inequalities in income, education and wealth.

An important component of Fineman's scholarly work is the Feminism and Legal Theory (FLT) Project, which she founded in 1984 at the University of Wisconsin. The core purpose of FLT is to foster interdisciplinary examinations of laws, social policies and structures that are of particular interest to women. Her research, scholarship and activism have helped to define the field of feminist legal theory and family and marriage law.

A dedicated teacher and mentor, Fineman also carries forward the themes and methods developed in her research and the FLT Project.

"I consider my teaching successful if I can get my students to raise questions they haven't asked before, or to question assumptions that they have previously left unexamined," said Fineman. "I try to present the same type of challenge to the readers of my books and articles — always asking them to consider the why and how of the legal, social and cultural arrangements in which we all are enmeshed, as well as understanding how the world might be seen and understood differently."

Fineman's exemplary scholarship and teaching have earned her national recognition, such as the Harry Kalven Prize for Distinguished Research in Law and Society.

Fineman joined Emory Law in 2004 from Cornell Law School, where she held the first endowed chair in feminist jurisprudence in the United States.

Her advice for the Class of 2009? "Never take anything, or anyone, for granted, and don't be afraid to ask hard questions, particularly of yourself."

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McMULLAN AWARD

Dorsainvil shares wealth of education, passions



Monique Dorsainvil

BRYAN MELTZ

By BEVERLY CLARK

Monique Dorsainvil's dedication to cultivating positive social change both on campus and beyond led to her winning the 2009 Lucius Lamar McMullan Award, one of Emory's highest student honors which also comes with \$20,000

— no strings attached.

Dorsainvil '09C, a women's studies major and global health minor, and an Emory Scholar, is donating a portion of the award to the Tiana Angelique Notice Foundation, founded by the Center for Women's Sasha Smith, after the murder of her sister.

In addition to saving up for graduate school, Dorsainvil plans to start college savings accounts for her two younger brothers. "I believe that education is one of the most liberating and enabling gifts that can be given," said Dorsainvil. "With the education I have, I really feel like I can do anything now."

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow spent a summer in Thailand to work with the transgender Kathoey culture. She volunteered with the Ashraya Initiative for Children in India, and traveled to Haiti and with the Emory Development Institute to Tanzania and Ethiopia.

Next year, she plans to apply for joint degree JD/PhD programs in women's studies and law, with a focus on public interest. "I have many passions . . . Currently I'm focusing my energy on government and political advocacy," she said.

She has been a programmer at the Center for Women, on the President's Commission on the Status of Women and co-founder of Feminists in Action. She also has been active in Emory's Transforming Community Project.

BRITTAIN AWARD

Lundy inspired by gift of people at Emory



Nicolai Lundy

ANN BORDEN

By BEVERLY CLARK

"I've simply tried to be of benefit to the groups I'm involved in, and to not sit back and take what I have for granted," said Nicolai Lundy '09C. "I've been deeply inspired by the people around me at Emory. It's really been a gift."

The Phi Beta Kappa Scholar earned Emory's highest student honor: The Marion Luther Brittain Award.

The Brittain Award, which comes with \$5,000, is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated exemplary service to the University and the greater community without expectation of recognition.

"Out of everything I did at Emory, I'm most proud of Greeks Go Green," said Lundy, who was co-founder and co-director of that sustainability initiative.

The four-year varsity letterman in track and field specializes in the 800-meter relay and was team co-captain this year. He holds the University record in the 4x800 meter relay and the Distance Medley Relay.

Lundy has been a frequent volunteer and mentor at an Atlanta Boys and Girls Club.

The Alpha Tau Omega fraternity president saw Emory's chapter garner top honors in the nation, at Emory and in North America. He led an effort that successfully secured a \$150,000 grant for an ATO scholarship fund.

The philosophy major plans to work in the nonprofit sector to "learn more about life outside the classroom," and then pursue degrees in medicine and/or public health.

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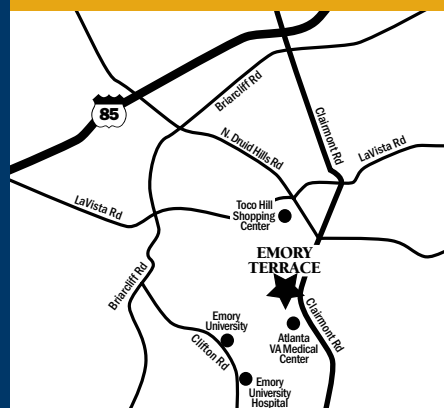
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Commencement

OXFORD: From one generation to the next

Continued from the cover

“self-preoccupation, but by a loftier sense of purpose . . . We have seen where excellence without a soul, where that leads us.” Leadership at its best, he added, is about getting others “to sign on with you, not beating them out.”

The late president of the Coca-Cola Company and Emory benefactor Robert W. Woodruff was the embodiment of “excellence with a soul,” Laney said. To put it bluntly, he “gave a damn.”

“Education,” said Laney, “instills the discipline, knowledge and mastery necessary for everyday life. But the best education offers something more — more than a pragmatic way to make a living. That ‘more’ is what you’ve received here in the past two years.”

In addition to the graduates and their families and friends, also in attendance at Oxford’s 164th Commencement were 40 Golden Robe participants, the greatest number the College has had participate. The Class of 1959 was out in full force, having held a party the night before at Oxford Professor Emeritus Judy Greer’s home, in whose name the class has established a scholarship.

Among the class was Anne Worrell ’59Ox, who met her husband, Chuck Worrell ’58Ox, when they were undergraduates. “We met right here, walking across that campus,” she said, gesturing across the lawn. “Our first kiss, everything.” Their son, Charles III,



Oxford College graduates will proceed to the next phase of their education.

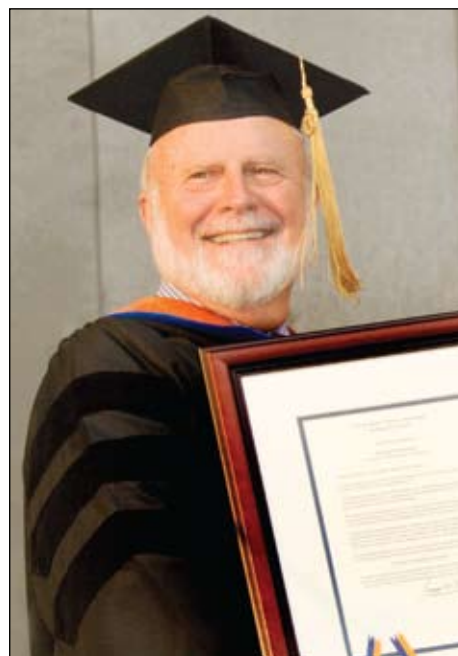
KAY HINTON

went on to attend Oxford as well.

The Virgil Y.C. Eady Sophomore Service Award, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year and was presented on what would have been Dean Eady’s 110th birthday, was given to Helen Hill ’09Ox, who served in Leadership Oxford, was a College tour guide, worked in the sustainable garden, was president of Oxford Fellowship, sang in the choir and did research in Botswana and Namibia. “Helen,” said Dean of Campus Life Joseph Moon, “brings her head and heart to all she undertakes.”

JEFFERSON AWARD

Schuchard’s quest to fill academy’s needs renewed



Ronald Schuchard honored with Jefferson Award.

ANN BORDEN

By LESLIE KING

When Ronald Schuchard first came to Emory in 1969, one of the first committees he was appointed to was the one to select the recipient of the University’s Thomas Jefferson award.

“As a very junior member of the University faculty, observing and listening to the proceedings, I was deeply impressed by achievements and contributions of the nominees and it gave me a strong, new sense of a rich, full and rewarding University life,” he said.

After 40 years of service and a lengthy string of accomplishments, the Goodrich C. White Professor of English received the Thomas Jefferson Award, which is presented at Commencement to a faculty member or administrative officer in recognition of significant service to the University through personal

activities, influence and leadership.

Past recipients, he noted, “sensed an absence or need within the University that their talents could fill. They initiated action and devoted great energy to fulfilling that need or absence, like a bright new leaf on the University tree.”

“You never think about it or know you are a candidate. When the call comes, it’s a surprise,” said Schuchard, who was in London when the call from President Jim Wagner came.

“My own professional life goes on apace,” he said. Currently embedded in a massive project on the works of writer T.S. Eliot — he is the general editor of Eliot’s prose — Schuchard said he felt the need for an international summer school and so “I will be happily taking four Emory students with me” to the University of London this summer.

Noting, “I’ve always been interested in international education,” he has directed the British studies program at the W.B. Yeats summer school in Ireland, which this year celebrated its 50th anniversary. He’s also completing, as co-editor, the third edition of the collected works of Yeats.

After 20 years of creating and growing the Richard Ellman Lectures in Modern Literature, Schuchard is turning the series over to Joseph Skibell, associate professor in the Creative Writing program. “I want to always support the Ellman Lectures and do everything in my power to see that it is endowed and a permanent part of University life,” he said. “All great universities have major lecture series. It’s important for Emory to have and preserve such a lecture series and I am working to secure its endowment.”

As a Jefferson award winner, he said, “I feel like I need to redouble my effort to become worthy of the award. I feel a new charge to continue to find ways of filling absences and dealing with needs.”



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Diploma dash for Pitts family

By CAROL CLARK

When Robert Pitts walked across the platform on May 11 to receive his undergraduate degree in biology, his family shouted from the audience: “It’s about time!”

Pitts, 50, enrolled in Emory College in 1977. “Neither of my parents were college educated,” he said. “They owned a country grocery store in Flowery Branch, and they paid for my education without financial aid or loans.”

When he was accepted by Emory School of Medicine in his junior year, he applied for early admission and got it, enabling him to skip his senior year. “I was just possessed to get through my undergraduate years quickly, because my parents were struggling to pay for it,” Pitts said.

Pitts and his wife, Patti, had three sons while he was in medical school. He went on to become a successful ear, nose and throat doctor in Carrollton, Ga.

His eldest son, Ben, attended the University of Georgia. But his second son, William, enrolled at Emory in 2005, and started ribbing his father. “I told him that I was going to get an undergraduate degree before he did,” recalled William, a music composition major.

Robert Pitts took up the challenge, contacting the dean’s office at Emory to see what he needed to do to complete his degree. It turned out that he had biology credits from medical school to qualify for his undergraduate degree.

He was able to beat his son to a diploma by a few minutes, due to an alphabetical advantage. “But Will trumped me in the end,” Pitts said. “He graduated with highest honors.”

There are no hard feelings, he added. “Afterward, I bought T-shirts for Will and I: ‘Emory Class of 2009.’ We’ll go to the same college reunions.”

Just two days earlier, Pitts’ youngest son graduated from Oxford College. His name is Matthew Emory Pitts, after his father’s alma mater. “Emory’s a big part of our lives,” Robert Pitts said.



KAY HINTON



TOM BRODNAX



KAY HINTON



KAY HINTON



KAY HINTON



BRYAN MELTZ



KAY HINTON

Energy Awareness Campaign



DROP OFF locations

- Admin Building 2nd floor entrance (May 18)
- 1762 Clifton lobby first floor north near EHSO (May 19)
- 1599 Clifton main lobby (May 20)
- Oxford College Branham Hall east connector lobby (May 21)
- North Decatur Building Burlington lobby (May 22)
- Campus Services Building E Warehouse (May 18-22)
- Campus Services Building A lobby (May 18-22)



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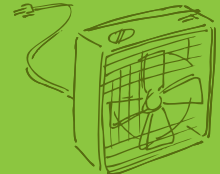
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