

A watercolor illustration of the Rollins School of Public Health building and its courtyard. The building is a multi-story structure with a red-tiled roof and a curved glass entrance. To the right is a taller, modern glass building. The courtyard in the foreground has green grass and several people walking. A large tree with green leaves is on the right side. The sky is blue with white clouds.

EMORY

FALL 2008

Public Health

Rollins School of Public Health

Courage to Give

The Rollins family invests in the future with a new building for public health

A Resounding 'Yes' | The Mind Matters | Honor Roll of Donors

On the Cover

When it opens in 2010, the nine-story Claudia Nance Rollins Building (right) will create a public health complex designed to enhance collaboration within the Rollins School of Public Health and with the school's many partners in and outside of Emory.

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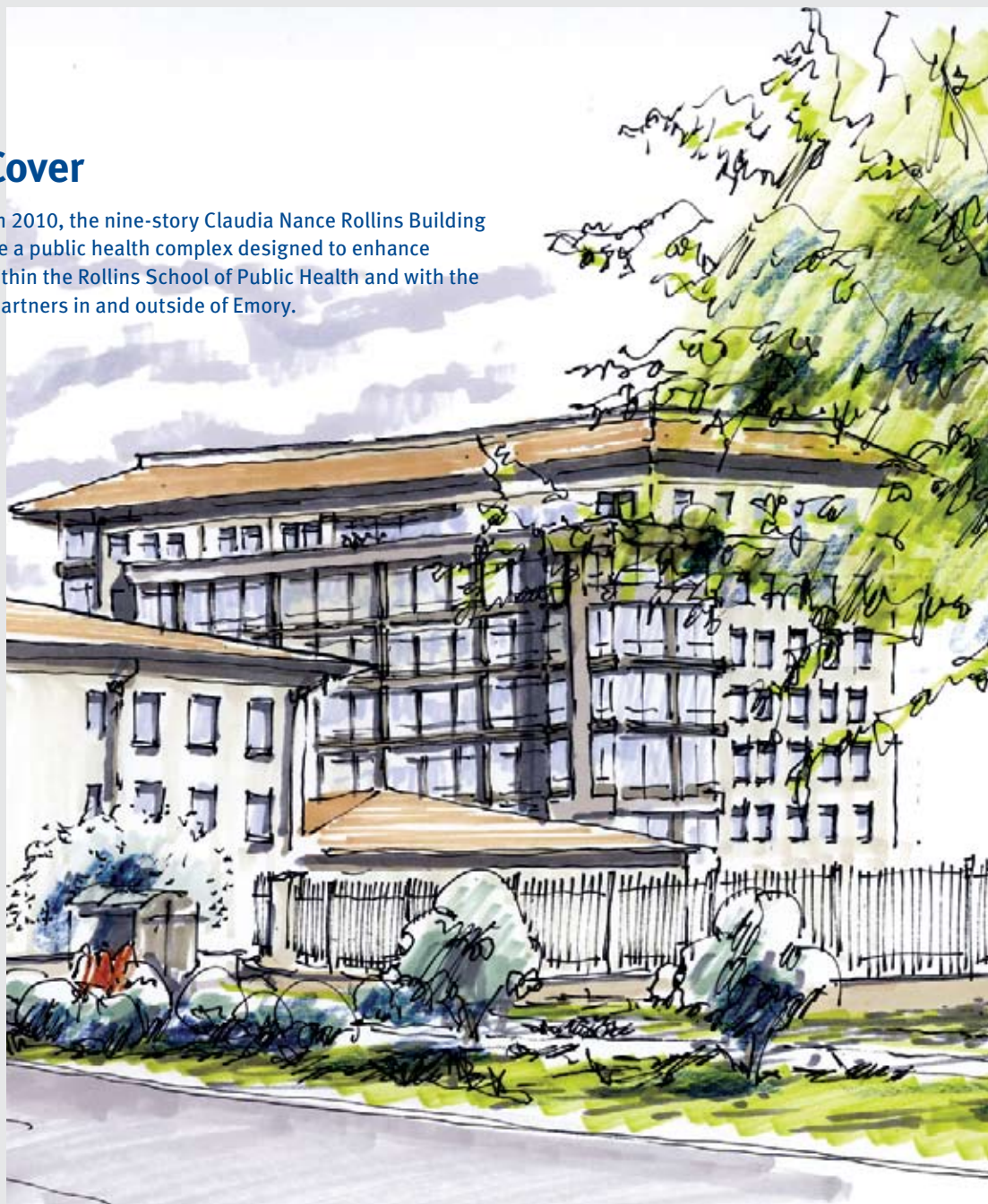
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EMORY

**ROLLINS
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC
HEALTH**

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This fall, our journey took on greater meaning with the launch of Campaign Emory. As part of this effort, the RSPH plans to raise \$150 million by 2012. To date we have received more than \$110 million in gifts and pledges from friends, donors, and foundations.

Making lives by what we give

The Rollins School of Public Health is on a remarkable journey. We have outgrown the Grace Crum Rollins Building—having tripled our faculty, students, and research—and will more than double our physical space when the Claudia Nance Rollins Building opens in 2010.

This fall, our journey took on additional meaning with the launch of Campaign Emory. As part of this effort, the RSPH plans to raise \$150 million by 2012 to grow our endowments for faculty, scholarships, and programs. To date, we have received more than \$110 million from friends, donors, and foundations, some of whom are featured in this issue of *Public Health*.

We are especially indebted to the Rollins family, whose generosity has helped our school thrive and for their magnificent lead gift for the new building. The Hubert Foundation is helping us recruit a new chair for the Hubert Department of Global Health. Eugene and Rose Gangarosa have endowed faculty chairs for global safe water and environmental health. Mental health advocate Beverly Long helped create the Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health, held by RSPH researcher Benjamin Druss. Joseph Blount is supporting an endowment for initiatives led by Sandra Thurman, who directs our Interfaith Health Program. Retired biostatistics professor Donna Brogan and Emory School of Medicine physician Michael Lindsay, 91MPH, have found personal ways to stay connected to our school through their gifts. So have the many supporters in our Donor Report (page 27).

Where would we be without our RSPH Campaign Emory volunteers? Lawrence and Ann Estes Klamon, 65C, 76L didn't hesitate when asked to serve as our campaign co-chairs. Nor did former CDC deputy director Virginia Bales Harris, 71C, 77MPH, our campaign chair for alumni.

We are indeed fortunate, especially during these tough economic times as families find it increasingly difficult to lead healthy, productive lives. Consequently, our mission in the RSPH is more important than ever. Please join us as we protect health and prevent disease through our vital work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "James W. Curran". The signature is fluid and cursive.

James W. Curran, MD, MPH
Dean



Factoring the environment into Parkinson's disease

Gary Miller's grant from NIH builds on previous studies using mouse models to link pesticide exposure to Parkinson's disease.

RSPH's Gary Miller is leading a new multidisciplinary center to expand the study of environmental factors related to Parkinson's disease.

The Emory Parkinson's Disease Collaborative Environmental Research Center (Emory PD-CERC), funded by a five-year, \$6.4 million grant from NIH, involves researchers from Emory and Georgia Tech to learn more about how pesticides and other agents may influence the disease.

"Exposure to various pesticides and PCBs [polychlorinated biphenyls] are thought to be involved in Parkinson's," says Miller, associate professor of environmental and occupational health. "It's likely that a combination of environmental exposures and genetic susceptibility ultimately leads to the disease. Although most people are diagnosed in mid- to late life with Parkinson's, experimen-

tal evidence suggests that neurodegeneration begins decades before a clinical diagnosis of the disease. Thus there should be opportunities to prevent or slow its progression."

Emory's PD-CERC encompasses three major research areas: determining the environmental contaminants that can interrupt storage of the neurotransmitter dopamine, determining how mitochondria respond to injury, and developing metabolic biomarkers to detect exposures and the disease itself.

Miller's research team recently established a mouse model of Parkinson's. They also identified a connection between exposure to the banned pesticide dieldrin during gestation and lactation and an increased risk of developing Parkinson's-like damage in laboratory mice.

"While many pesticides have been banned, they still remain in the soil

and can take decades to break down, as in the case with dieldrin," Miller says. "We found that the pesticide does not directly kill the mice's dopamine neurons but makes them more vulnerable to Parkinson's."

Through the PD-CERC, researchers will study how various chemicals affect dopamine neuron function in order to identify which chemicals influence Parkinson's. They also plan to develop biomarkers to identify people exposed to suspected pollutants and determine if their exposure contributes to disease onset or progression.

To foster new research, the funding from NIH allows the PD-CERC to award three pilot grants for promising proposals each year. "In the past, these types of pilot grants have had a major impact by bringing new people and ideas to the field," says Miller. "We look forward to fostering new collaborations."—*Kay Torrance* ■

New faculty appointments

The RSPH appointed several faculty members in recent months.

Solveig Argeseanu, assistant professor of global health, studies the social influences on child health. Her interests include relatives within the home environment, behavioral influences within social networks, demography and health, and child obesity. Prior to joining the faculty, Argeseanu was a postdoctoral fellow in global health epidemiology.

RSPH alumna **Cam Escoffery** is an assistant professor of behavioral sciences and health education specializing in cancer prevention and control, including tobacco control, program evaluation, web-based health promotion, and use of evidence-based public health strategies. She formerly was a clinical assistant professor with the RSPH.

Laura Gaydos, research assistant professor in health policy and management, also directs the department's MSPH program. Her research encompasses unintended pregnancy prevention/reproductive health, religion and reproductive health, women's fitness and nutrition, and racial disparities and legislative advocacy with regard to women's health.

Julie Gazmararian, associate professor of epidemiology, studies health literacy and reproductive health in underserved populations. She previously worked with the CDC and the USQA Center

for Health Care Research with Aetna. The center is now based in the RSPH as the Emory Center on Health Outcomes and Quality. Formerly a research associate professor, Gazmararian leads a health literacy work group at Emory.

Ron Goetzel, research professor in health policy and management, wears two hats as director of Emory's Institute for Health and Productivity Studies and vice president of consulting and applied research for Thomson Reuters in Washington, D.C. Among multiple studies, he is the lead investigator for a New York City-based project supporting collaboration between private and public sectors in health promotion and disease prevention initiatives directed at employers.

Pulak Ghosh, research associate professor in biostatistics, holds appointments in the RSPH and the Emory Winship Cancer Institute. He conducts research on Bayesian statistical methods in clinical trials, longitudinal data, and multivariate survival analysis and contributes expertise to the RSPH's growing team on statistical clinical trials.

Cardiologist **Abhinav Goyal** is an assistant professor of epidemiology and assistant professor of medicine. Through population research, Goyal explores the link between dysglycemia and cardiovascu-

lar disease. Most recently, he completed a fellowship at the Population Health Research Institute at McMaster University in Ontario.

Penelope Howards, assistant professor of epidemiology, specializes in reproductive health. She joined the RSPH after serving as a visiting scientist at the Danish Epidemiology Science Center at Aarhus University and as a postdoctoral fellow with the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Sean Kaufman, senior associate in epidemiology, is director of programs for the Center for Public Health Preparedness and Research. He currently directs a behavioral-based training program for staff working in high-containment laboratories. Kaufman previously served with the CDC, working directly with populations affected by infectious diseases, including anthrax, West Nile virus, and SARS.

Juan Leon was a postdoctoral fellow in the RSPH prior to becoming an assistant professor of global health. Among his research interests: infectious disease, immunology, enteric and foodborne diseases, diarrhea, norovirus, parasitology, and Chagas heart disease.

Saad Omer, assistant professor of global health, is a physician and epidemiologist specializing in vaccine-preventable



Solveig Argeseanu



Cam Escoffery



Laura Gaydos

diseases and HIV/AIDS. His research portfolio includes clinical trials to estimate the efficacy and/or immunogenicity of influenza, polio, measles, and pneumococcal vaccines; studies on the impact of spatial clustering of vaccine refusers; and clinical trials to reduce mother-to-child transmission



Penelope Howards



Justin Remais



Juan Leon



Kevin Ward



Saad Omer



Zhou Yang

of HIV in Africa. Omer comes to Emory from Johns Hopkins.

Justin Remais, assistant professor of environmental and occupational health, studies the spatial and temporal factors that propagate environmentally mediated tropical diseases. Key to his approach

is linking models of environmental phenomena with mathematical models of disease transmission to answer fundamental questions about how diseases spread along environmental pathways.

Jessica Sales is a research assistant professor and

recent postdoctoral fellow in behavioral sciences and health education. She is a co-investigator on a randomized controlled trial to reduce decay of HIV-preventive behaviors among African American adolescent girls, a school-based flu vaccination program, and an HIV prevention program to strengthen family interaction and support early adolescent development.

An assistant professor of epidemiology, **Anne Spaulding** is a physician specializing in infectious and chronic disease epidemiology in correctional and drug-using populations. She has worked with the Rhode Island Department of Corrections, CDC's National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention and National Center for Infectious Diseases, and Georgia Correctional Health Care. Spaulding previously was a research assistant professor.

Matthew Strickland joined the RSPH as assistant professor of environmental and occupational health after serving with the CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. His interests include the epidemiology of congenital heart defects and associations between ambient air pollution and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Strickland also serves as assistant professor of epidemiology.

Patrick Sullivan, associate professor of epidemiology, is a veterinarian specializing in infectious diseases and vaccine development. He spent

most of his career at the CDC, most recently as chief of the Behavior and Clinical Surveillance Branch, and also worked with the HIV Vaccine Trials Network at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Poul Thorsen, research professor of epidemiology, comes to Emory from the Institute of Public Health at the University of Aarhus in Denmark. His research encompasses pre-natal risk factors, infectious causes of preterm delivery, low birth weight, autism, fetal neurologic development and alcohol consumption in pregnancy, and neurodevelopmental outcomes.

Kevin Ward, research associate professor of epidemiology, is an expert in cancer surveillance, registration, and control. He serves as deputy director of the Georgia Center for Cancer Statistics and as co-principal investigator of the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Registry in Metropolitan Atlanta. He received his MPH and PhD degrees from the RSPH.

Zhou Yang, assistant professor of health policy and management, comes to the RSPH from the University of Florida. Her research interests include the cost and efficacy of prescription drugs and the economic burden of chronic diseases. Her articles have appeared in the *Journal of Human Resources*, *Health Services Research*, the *Journal of Gerontology Social Science*, and the *American Journal of Managed Care*. ■

A global voice for nutrition

Nutrition expert Reynaldo Martorell received the 2008 Marion V. Creekmore Award for Internationalization. The annual award honors a faculty member for furthering Emory's commitment to building a global society.

Martorell, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of International Nutrition, is known for his longitudinal studies in maternal and child nutrition and his research on micronutrient malnutrition. Also chair of the Hubert Department of Global Health, he has increased faculty and student



Rey Martorell

numbers and expanded research and academic programs.

"Dr. Martorell has improved the lives of countless citizens in the developing world," says Holli Semetko, Emory vice provost of international affairs. "His voice in the struggle to fight malnutrition can be heard around the world."

Coca-Cola executive Claus M. Halle established the Creekmore Award in 2000. A former diplomat, Creekmore was Emory's first vice provost for international affairs. ■



Amy Patterson in Mali

Fulbright honorees in Africa

A current doctoral student and an alumna both specializing in behavioral sciences and health education hold grants from the Fulbright Scholars Program this year.

PhD candidate Amy Patterson is in Mali this fall to learn how information about malaria is produced and shared at various health system levels. "I'm particularly interested in the ways that health workers interpret information from the national level and apply it to their day-to-day work," says Patterson. Additionally, she is looking at how patient-provider communication influences behavior in seeking and adhering to

treatment and how households and communities receive and translate health information.

Melissa Adams, O3MPH, is studying in Africa on a Fulbright-MTVU Fellowship. Adams is working in Northern Uganda to develop a hip-hop therapy project for youth affected by war and AIDS and assess how the project suits the children's psychosocial needs. Adams is one of five graduates nationwide to receive fellowships sponsored by the U.S. State Department and MTV's 24-hour college network. The fellowships use the power of music to promote mutual understanding worldwide. ■

Health-care hero

Behavioral sciences professor Karen Glanz was honored by the *Atlanta*

Business Chronicle for reducing cancer and disease related to obesity and smoking in rural Southwest Georgia. The newspaper recognized her as part of its 2008 Health Care Hero Awards.

The RSPH partners with the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition through the Emory Prevention Research Center (EPRC), which Glanz directs. The beauty of their relationship is that community members reached out to the RSPH instead of the other way around. As a result, the EPRC initiated programs and research to target behaviors among residents that contribute to increased cancer risk—tobacco use, physical activity, and poor nutrition.

"Karen has really helped change the negative stereotypes and misunderstandings that people at the community level have had for large universities and research in general," Diane Fletcher, CEO of the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition, told the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*.

Amy Rollins Kreiser was among the speakers who helped kick off Campaign Emory. Pictured behind her are members of the Rollins family.



PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK

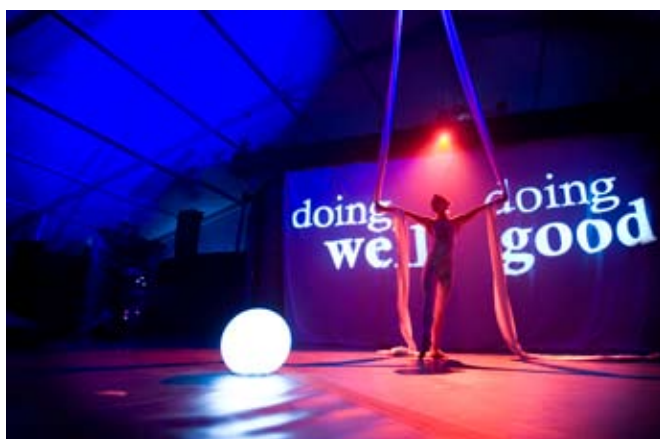


Emory President James Wagner

Emory launches its most ambitious fund-raising campaign ever to improve lives and health

Together, the university and the RSPH launched a new era this fall with Campaign Emory. With a goal of \$1.6 billion, the campaign is destined to bring about what Emory President James Wagner calls “positive transformation” in society at home and abroad.

“Campaign Emory will help us put knowledge to work,” Wagner told alumni and friends during the kickoff gala. “With your support, we will endow chairs to recruit and retain the best faculty. We will provide scholarships for the best students, including students who couldn’t afford to come

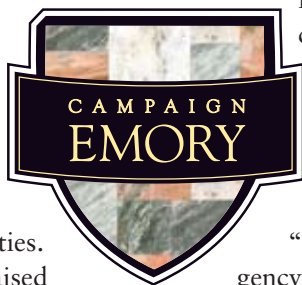


Top left : Sonny Deriso Jr., 68C, 72L (left), chair of Campaign Emory, and Ben Johnson, chair of the Board of Trustees, are key leaders in the university's fund-raising efforts. Top right: Randall and Peggy Rollins and their daughter Amy Rollins Kreisler were

among those representing the Rollins family at the gala. Bottom left: Circus-style acrobats portray Emory's ideals. Bottom right: The audience included Richard Hubert, whose family foundation endowed the Hubert Department of Global Health.

here otherwise. Resources for this campaign will launch programs that change the lives and health of people in Atlanta and around the world."

Wagner's words reflect both the mission and aspirations of the RSPH as it seeks to raise \$150 million for faculty research and teaching, student scholarships and programs, and facilities. Thus far, the RSPH has raised more than \$110 million and the university \$856 million since Campaign Emory began quietly three years ago.



Scheduled to run through 2012, the campaign not only will transform Emory's campus and programs but also raise public awareness about research, education, and community endeavors.

Campaign goals are tied to the university's strategic plan, "Where Courageous Inquiry Leads," set in 2005.

"What drives us is the urgency to show what we know, to care for communities at home and abroad, to discover solutions to difficult problems, and to give something back to a world that has given

us so much," said Sonny Deriso Jr., 68C, 72L, Campaign Emory chair.

The RSPH has built considerable momentum for the campaign aided by school and volunteer leaders, including Lawrence and Ann Estes Klamon, 65C, 76L, RSPH campaign co-chairs, and Virginia Bales Harris, 71C, 77MPH, alumni chair.

In celebrating the campaign launch, circus-style acrobats performed "Enquéir," a five-act journey exploring the idea of courageous inquiry. Magically, the performers portrayed nurture, ethics, and other themes behind the campaign.

"There have been many transfor-



During the campaign gala, Crystal Edmonson, 95C, Emory Alumni Board president, told the inspirational story of O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins (shown right), whose generosity transformed the RSPH.



Glen Rollins with his father, Gary Rollins, and his wife, Danielle Rollins

mational points in Emory's history, times when the university had the courage to reach for that next rung on the ladder," said Wagner. "This is one of those points. We know who we are and what we want to become. We also know that what got us where we are today will not be sufficient to get us where we want to go."

The campaign celebration also

honored alumni and friends committed to transforming the university. Thus far, the two largest gifts to date include \$261.5 million from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation to the university for expansion of its health care facilities and \$50 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation and the Rollins family for a second RSPH building, now under construction. The new building is named for Claudia Nance Rollins, the mother of the late O. Wayne Rollins. Through the years, O. Wayne and his family have made major gifts to Emory for theology, medical research, and public health.

"We are delighted to be part of the continued growth at Emory," said Amy Rollins Kreisler, executive director of the Rollins Foundation. "As a family, we have strived to continue my grandfather's vision to

Campaign Progress

more than

\$110

MILLION

RSPH GOAL
\$150 MILLION

improve people's lives. We would not be able to do so if it were not for the students, faculty, and staff of the Rollins School of Public Health who work hard very day to improve lives around the globe." ■

To learn more about Campaign Emory and the RSPH, visit campaign.emory.edu.



A RESOUNDING ‘YES’

Lawrence and Ann Klamon
didn't think twice when asked to lead
Campaign Emory for the RSPH

By Pam Auchmutey

If it weren't for snow and *The Wall Street Journal*, Lawrence Klamon might never have come south, met his wife Ann, or become a fan of the RSPH.

A young attorney, Klamon had just returned from a business trip when he picked up the newspaper and saw an advertisement for a general counsel position in Georgia, far away from the cold, wet winters in New York City. The ad led to a meeting with Fuqua Industries founder J.B. Fuqua, who convinced Klamon to join his young company. Klamon would serve more than two decades with what became a Fortune 500 conglomerate, eventually becoming president and CEO.

Today, Klamon and his wife Ann have taken on the responsibility of growing another enterprise as RSPH co-chairs for Campaign Emory, the university's \$1.6 billion fund-raising effort. Together, the Klamons are helping the school raise \$150 million by 2012 to support faculty recruitment, research and teaching, student scholarships, and facilities.

Not long after the RSPH was established in 1990, Larry Klamon joined the Dean's Council, whose members serve as school ambassadors. Although Klamon didn't know much about the RSPH at first, he became hooked after listening to faculty and students talk about their research and field experiences. When the school asked him to chair the Dean's Council, he agreed. Ann Klamon, 65C, 76L, joined the council as well.

"I was fascinated by the subject matter and the relevance to health

at every level, from local to global," says Ann, retired vice president for executive banking with SunTrust Bank. "The mission of the school resonated with me strongly. That's why I feel very positive about giving time and effort to the school and the campaign."

After graduating from Emory College, Ann Estes taught high school briefly and traveled through Europe for a year with a friend. She was working in the psychiatry department at Emory when she decided to expand her career options by earning a law degree and subsequently worked in the Georgia Office of the Attorney General before joining

SunTrust Bank. She met Larry Klamon through a law school classmate. In addition to sharing professional interests, they were bound by a passion for community service. "It's in my blood," says Ann. "It's something I've always done, and Larry too."

Ann, for example, serves with the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation, which provides scholarships to U.S. students in science, medicine, and engineering. ARCS supports two RSPH doctoral students in epidemiology and other students at Emory. This past summer, the Klamons were elected to the board of directors for the Piedmont Hospital

RSPH Campaign Committee Members



Fred Sanfilippo (left), Emory's executive vice president for health affairs, recently met with RSPH Campaign Committee members Virginia Bales Harris, 71C, 77MPH; Lawrence Klamon; Ann Klamon, 65C, 76L; RSPH Dean James Curran; Walter Wildstein; Stanley Jones; and Richard Hubert, 60L. The group includes 15 school and volunteer leaders who will guide RSPH efforts for Campaign Emory. Jeffrey Adams, Eugene Gangarosa, Anne Hydrick Kaiser, Amy Rollins Kreisler, Cecil Phillips, Jane Shivers, Shelby Wilkes, and Kathryn Graves, 93MPH, also serve as committee members.

Foundation. Ann also serves on the board for Camp Sunshine and is a former board member with the Atlanta Botanical Garden, the Georgia Conservancy, and the Girls Preparatory School, her high school alma mater in Chattanooga. At Emory, she helped establish a mentoring program for undergraduate women in the college.

“Emory has always called me back to help with various initiatives,” says Ann. “I love the place. Emory has great leadership, and I’ve always wanted to be involved with that.”

Although Larry didn’t attend Emory, he has strong ties to the university through Ann and his children. Both of his sons hold degrees from Goizueta Business School, and his daughter graduated from Oxford College. He has served on the Goizueta Advisory Council and the university’s Board of Visitors. Outside of Emory, he has served on multiple boards and remains active in the Atlanta Rotary, Yale Law School, and Washington University in St. Louis, which presented him with a distinguished alumni award in 1985.

Through their volunteer leadership, the Klamons have formed long-lasting ties with a variety of organizations and people who share their interest in serving others. Those connections will serve the RSPH well as they help advance Campaign Emory.

“Chairing the campaign for the RSPH is a major task,” says Larry, “but our job is made easier because the school has great leadership and programs that touch people in all kinds of ways.”

Like a rocket

Through the Dean’s Council, for instance, members learn about the vast range of RSPH initiatives in areas

such as diabetes, cancer, and safe water. “While the school’s scope is worldwide, there are significant public health issues right here in Georgia—AIDS, diabetes, obesity,” says Ann. “Those topics resonate personally with most everyone on the Dean’s Council because they often affect someone the members know.”

“If people are exposed to what the school does and the kinds of issues it addresses, it’s not a hard sell to get them to support the school,” adds Larry. “The challenge is getting the word out so that people know about the school.”

The rapid growth of the RSPH in recent years appeals to his business sense. “The school has taken off like a rocket. It’s 18 years old and already ranked 7th in the nation,” he says. “It’s been able to attract

ment and external relations, and other leaders. “If they weren’t there, I don’t think we would be either,” says Larry. “We augment them. Look at what’s happened to the endowment in the time that Jim Curran has been here. It’s gone from something like \$3 million to more than \$50 million.”

Thus far, the RSPH has raised a significant amount for Campaign Emory—more than \$110 million of its \$150 million goal. But much work remains.

“We’ve been fortunate because the school is already two-thirds of the way toward its goal, thanks to the \$50 million gift from the Rollins family for the Claudia Nance Rollins Building and other significant gifts,” says Larry. “We need to focus on smaller gifts and getting

“Chairing the campaign for the RSPH is a major task, but our job is made easier because the school has great leadership and programs that touch people in all kinds of ways.”—Lawrence Klamon, RSPH campaign co-chair

world-class faculty to enhance teaching and research. Enrollment has tripled in recent years, with students doing field work around the world and collaborating locally with the CDC, CARE, and other partners. As a result, the school has grown dramatically and outstripped the Grace Crum Rollins Building. That’s why the school has a new building under construction.”

The Klamons attribute the school’s growth to the leadership of Dean James Curran, Kathryn Graves, associate dean for develop-

the word out to more people outside the school.”

That’s where the Klamons and other members of the RSPH Campaign Committee—more than a dozen of the school’s key volunteer leaders—come in as they connect and reconnect with others to spread the word about the school’s mission and its plans for the future.

“The hardest part of the campaign lies ahead. But we’re off to a great start and well on our way,” says Larry. “Ann and I are confident that we will get there.” ■



Virginia Bales Harris, 71C, 77MPH

BORN TO SERVE

Long grounded in the RSPH, Virginia Bales Harris leads alumni for Campaign Emory

By Pam Auchmutey

Virginia Bales Harris, 71C, 77MPH, came to enroll in Emory's first MPH class by way of the point system. Former CDC director David Sencer used the system to recruit CDC staff for the MPH program that he co-founded with Emory faculty.

"He'd point to you or call you up and say, 'You are going,'" says Harris, whose career with the CDC spanned 35 years.

Harris has been tapped many times since, most recently as RSPH alumni chair for Campaign Emory. As the school's alumni leader for the university's \$1.6 billion fund-raising initiative, Harris builds on a legacy of serving the RSPH and Emory. She currently is a member of the school's Dean's Council and has spearheaded fund-raising efforts for the RSPH in years past.

"Service" has been part of her vocabulary since childhood. The daughter of a U.S. Air Force officer and

an elementary school teacher, Harris grew up in Maryland just outside of Washington, D.C. "My parents were committed to public service," she says.

Her own career reflects similar dedication. During her early years with the CDC, Harris became grounded in programs for tuberculosis control, environmental health, and epidemiology. In the early 1980s, she served as special assistant to CDC Deputy Director Bill Watson, just as the agency expanded its scope beyond infectious disease to focus on health promotion.

Later, as deputy director for what is now the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, she played a pivotal role in team projects, such as establishing the state-based Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System and the Public Health Prevention Specialist Program. As deputy director for program management under CDC director Jeffrey Koplan, Harris helped update the agency's master building plan and secure funding for new facilities. She then directed the Division of Adult and Community Health, which allowed her to resume working in public health programs and continue mentoring young professionals.

Now, more than 30 years and several career awards later, Harris credits her MPH degree with expanding her view of public health. "It was also important that I had connections

outside of work. Emory has given me that."

Awareness of public health in general, Harris found, widened considerably over the years. "Elected officials and people around the world have a basic understanding of public health and how important it is to our well-being," she notes. "The world is changing fast. That's what the RSPH prepares students for. The key is to learn how to keep learning."

That's what Harris intends to do as she leads alumni fund-raising to support the RSPH. "Campaign Emory is a great way to connect with alumni," she says. "There were a handful of graduates in my class, and the number of alumni now [almost 5,000] is tremendous. I run into people all the time who are alums, which gives you an opportunity to meet so many people."

"The school is my touchstone and my home," she adds. "It has offered me the best opportunity and the best way to serve." ■



THE BEST KIND OF RETURN

A family invests in the lives of people
through the Claudia Nance Rollins Building

By Pam Auchmutey

It was a day for honoring generations when ground was broken on a second RSPH building last spring. As members of the Rollins and Emory families gathered, they embodied the close-knit ties that have made the RSPH one of the nation's top 10 schools in its field.

"The word 'family' is widely used in the Rollins School of Public Health," said Emory President James Wagner. "It often refers to the incredible sense of community that exists in the school, among its leaders, faculty, students, alumni, and its public health partners. The word also refers to 'THE' family, a name increasingly recognized for its support of public health."

With the naming of the new building for Claudia Nance Rollins, the Rollinses' ties to Emory and the RSPH now span five generations. The building is named for the mother of O. Wayne and John Rollins, who were reared by Claudia and their father Henry in Catoosa County, Georgia. It was there that Claudia instilled in them a deep regard for family, community, and hard work. The two brothers became respected self-made businessmen through suc-



cessful ventures from pest control to radio and television stations. Committed to improving the lives of those around them, they also became two of Emory's most distinguished benefactors.

As a university trustee, Wayne supported Emory's effort to establish a school of public health in 1990. Following his death in 1991, his family was instrumental in constructing the Grace Crum Rollins Building, named for his wife. In 1994, Emory named the school to honor the family's commitment to the university. The family subsequently funded the

O. Wayne and Grace Crum Rollins Endowment for faculty research and the Center for Public Health Preparedness and Research.

Last year, the Rollins family stepped forward again to provide a \$50 million lead gift through the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation for a second RSPH building to be connected to the Grace Crum Rollins Building by a glass corridor. The nine-story Claudia Nance Rollins Building will more than double the capacity of the RSPH complex and thus enhance its ability to improve health and prevent disease. Both

Left page: Faculty, staff, and students line up to form the footprint of the Claudia Nance Rollins Building, which will be linked by a glass corridor to the Grace Crum Rollins Building. Right page: Gary Rollins (left), Fred Sanfilippo, James Wagner, Ben Johnson, James Curran, Amy Rollins Kreisler, Randall Rollins, and Michael Johns break ground on the new building. Ruthie (L-R) and Gary Rollins and Peggy and Randall Rollins continue the legacy begun by Claudia Nance Rollins (above), who valued family, community, and hard work.

A glass corridor will link the Claudia Nance Rollins Building (center) with the Grace Crum Rollins Building (right). Both are a short distance from the O. Wayne Rollins Research Center (left).



buildings are a short distance from the O. Wayne Rollins Research Center in the School of Medicine.

“It’s very fitting that my grandfather’s research center will be next to a building named in honor of his mother, which in turn will be connected by a bridge to a building named for his wife,” said Amy Rollins Kreisler, executive director of the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation. “These two women were very important figures in his life and had a close relationship with each other. It’s very fitting that their buildings be connected.”

Many members of the Rollins family attended the groundbreaking—Wayne and Grace’s sons, Randall and Gary (Emory trustee emeritus and trustee, respectively), their wives Peggy and Ruthie, and many of Wayne and Grace’s children and grandchildren. All are part of an extended family quilt that includes three generations of Emory leaders.

Fred Sanfilippo is among those leaders, having joined Emory last year as executive vice president for health affairs. Already, he has come to value the school’s “unparalleled gift for collaboration and community. These partnerships and the school’s role as a center for international health research and training contribute to Atlanta’s reputation



Left page: O. Wayne Rollins with his mother, Claudia Nance Rollins, at her Catoosa County home in northwest Georgia. Above left and center: Audience members Gary (left) and Ruthie Rollins and Bob and Danielle Rollins Henritze enjoy the groundbreaking, along with Peggy and Randall Rollins. Above right: Amy Rollins Kreisler (left), Michael Johns, and Fred Sanfilippo wait their turn on stage during the ceremony. Right: Former Emory health sciences leader Charles Hatcher (left) and former Emory President James Laney both supported creation of the RSPH in 1990.

as the public health capital of the world,” he said.

‘A fortunate problem’

When James Curran became dean of the RSPH in 1995, the school had occupied the Grace Crum Rollins Building for nearly a year. The school has since tripled its students, faculty, and research. Now the school has what Kreisler calls “a fortunate problem”—the need for more space. The Claudia Nance Rollins Building will enable the school to expand its physical capacity, recruit additional faculty, grow its research and education programs, and attract more students with the goal of becoming one of the top five public health schools in the world.

“We cannot achieve those things without this building,” said Curran. “And we would not have this building and all that it represents without the vision and generosity of the Rollins family.”

Slated to open in fall 2010, the new facility will have technologically so-

phisticated “smart” classrooms, wet laboratories on three floors, offices, conference space, and an auditorium. It will support education and research in several key areas, including global health, predictive health, infectious disease, cancer, diabetes, and other chronic diseases. Conference capabilities will augment the development of training, distance-learning, and professional exchange programs. The Grace Crum Rollins Building will be renovated to enhance existing classroom and office space and provide a full-service cafe.

The building has been a partnership from the beginning. SLAM Collaborative, the building architect, has based its design on ideas generated by RSPH faculty, staff, students, and alumni; members of Emory’s health sciences and university communities; and the Rollins family. Filled with natural light and energy-saving features, the building is designed to achieve silver status for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

Once it opens, the Claudia Nance

Rollins Building also will enable the school to better serve the university, city, state, nation, and world, just as its multiple planners intended.

“Many of our alumni think of themselves as Rollins graduates, and as those alumni practice what they learn here, hundreds of thousands of people throughout the city and the world know the Rollins name as a sign of hope,” Curran told the great-great grandchildren of Claudia Nance Rollins at the groundbreaking. “Most of those people will never know you, but like us, they will be grateful to you.”

As the ceremony concluded, Kreisler reflected on what the new building and the RSPH would mean to O. Wayne Rollins.

“My grandfather once said that ‘giving to a living institution that goes on and on and affects people’s lives—to me that’s the best. That’s the highest kind of giving when you invest in people.’ I can’t think of a better example of his philosophy than this school.” ■



Joseph W. Blount provided a gift to support RSPH initiatives in faith and health and global justice.

A POWERFUL FRIENDSHIP

Joseph Blount puts his faith in Sandra Thurman and the RSPH to address the challenges of global health

By Martha Nolan McKenzie

When Sandra Thurman joined the Hubert Department of Global Health in 2006, she brought with her unparalleled expertise in AIDS, connections with leaders like former South African president Nelson Mandela, and best wishes from friends like Joseph W. Blount. The latter recently proved to be a true friend indeed, when Blount, a philanthropist and AIDS activist, pledged \$2 million to support Thurman's work.

Blount's largess comes as Thurman steps into a new role as director of the Interfaith Health Program (IHP) and establishes the Joseph W. Blount Global Health and Society Program. "The gift was not tied to my joining the Interfaith Health Program, but it was a nice fit," says Thurman, who also directs the International AIDS Trust (IAT) at the RSPH. "It gives me the opportunity to pursue the connection between faith and health, as well as look at global justice and

social issues pertaining to women's health and HIV and AIDS. Joe and I both have a keen interest in all of these issues."

Their relationship grew from seeds planted in the mid-1980s, though they met a decade before. Their friendship deepened when many of their gay friends fell ill with the disease that came to be known as AIDS.

At the outset of the epidemic, Thurman and Blount became involved with the grassroots nonprofit AID Atlanta—Thurman first as a hospice volunteer and later as director and Blount as financial supporter. "AID Atlanta was in a precarious position with their finances when Sandy joined the organization," says Blount. "I became her 'groupie' and supported her every effort in making AID Atlanta one of the most respected community AIDS organizations in the country."

Following AID Atlanta, Thurman served with the Task Force for Child Survival and Development and then directed the Office of National AIDS Policy in the Clinton White House. When Clinton left office, many of the AIDS programs were shifted to IAT, led by Thurman in Washington and now at the RSPH.

Blount supported Thurman each step of the way and even encouraged her to go back to school to get a theology degree.

“When I started my work in HIV/AIDS as a hospice volunteer, I learned that it’s impossible to separate people’s health from their spiritual life,” says Thurman. “What sustains people in times of challenge, particularly around end-of-life issues and chronic illness, is their faith. So much of Joe’s generosity is grounded in the tenants of his faith. We resonate in that way.”

When Thurman returned to Atlanta with IAT, she and Blount began to discuss the possibility of an endowment to support her ongoing work on HIV/AIDS and the connection between faith and health. The \$2 million gift, creating the Joseph W. Blount Global Health and Society Program, was formalized earlier this year.

With Blount’s support and Thurman’s direction, the Global Health and Society Program will focus on challenges faced by the world’s most underserved populations. Its work will encompass faith and health, HIV/AIDS, women’s health, health advocacy, and the empowerment of women and girls. The goal: coming to understand the social drivers of disease and disparities to help communities address issues in their own backyards.

In many poor places in the world, that means working through the

church or other faith-based institutions, which together provide more than 40% to 60% of all health care and social services.

IHP, a cornerstone of the Global Health and Society Program, works



“What sustains people in times of challenge is their faith.”

—Sandra Thurman, director, Interfaith Health Program

with faith-based institutions, non-governmental organizations, governments, and religious and political leaders to assess public health needs and resources in communities. Working with those communities, IHP then helps develop health, education, and support services that fit the people they serve.

At the same time, Thurman works to empower people who have the resources to help more effectively. For the past five years, she has taken women philanthropists to Africa to see the disproportionate impact of

the AIDS epidemic on women and girls. After introducing her visitors to first ladies, ministers of health, and other women leaders, Thurman leads her guests to various sites, such as microenterprise programs that bring women out of poverty or orphanages and homes for children affected by AIDS, to demonstrate how appropriate investments can make a difference.

Just recently, the IHP began working with the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief on prevention programs in Kenya. IHP also joined forces with the CDC to create the first National Center for Public Health and Faith Collaborations (NCPHFC). The NCPHFC works with more than 13,000 partners worldwide, including more than 125 congregations with health missions in East and Southern Africa.

“Our goal is to teach—and share—the basics of public health, the basics of development, and the basics of engaging with people in resource-constrained settings,” says Thurman. “Our curriculum builds on community wisdom from Africa and other global settings and is designed, in part, to train people in U.S. congregations to be more effective when they go overseas and spend time on the ground in the developing world.”

Though the fight against AIDS has seen some victories, with a reduction in new infections in Africa, Thurman is the first to admit that there is yet a long way to go. “What Joe and I have begun, we will not see the end of,” says Thurman. “But we are both committed to building a foundation that will foster the necessary research and conversations so the kind of interventions that really make a difference can be built. I’m talking about interventions based on science and reality, not ideology.” ■



A SOUND INVESTMENT

Alumnus Michael Lindsay adopts the notion of grounding future physicians in public health

By Martha Nolan McKenzie

Michael Lindsay, 91MPH, believes in investments. Not necessarily the kind that require filling out a 1099 tax form each year, although he has filed his share of those. Lindsay is more interested in investing in youth. He regularly donates to the annual funds of various colleges and medical schools and contributes to the James Thornton Memorial Scholarship, awarded each year to

a high school senior who lives in DeKalb County.

So when he was approached about sponsoring an MD/MPH student through Emory's Adopt-a-Scholar Program, he didn't hesitate. "I thought it would be a great use of resources—investing in the education of young physicians who are pursuing additional training in public health," says Lindsay, the director of the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Emory and chief of the

gynecology and obstetrics service at Grady Memorial Hospital.

The Adopt-a-Scholar Program offers alumni a way to honor their time at Emory with a named scholarship for a student who needs financial assistance with tuition. Last year, Lindsay "adopted" then fourth-year MD/MPH student Demetrius Woods. This year he is sponsoring fourth-year MD/MPH student Olivier Deigni.

Both students appreciated the financial help that came with the

Michael Lindsay (left) “adopted” MD/MPH student Olivier Deigni this year. Now in his MPH year, Deigni is studying epidemiology like his mentor.

sponsorship. Although Emory’s medical school provides significant scholarship funds for the MPH year to students seeking the dual degree, taking on an extra year of school while deferring a year of earning is a daunting financial hurdle. Every bit of help is precious.

“Medical school is very expensive. Public health school is very expensive,” says Deigni. “I haven’t had an income since I started medical school, and it’s pretty difficult to get by. Dr. Lindsay’s support means I have to take out fewer loans, and I’m very grateful for that.”

But the students are perhaps equally grateful for the mentoring component of the program. Sponsors meet with their “adoptees” several times during the year to act as a sounding board and share their expertise.

Lindsay has quite a bit to share. He earned his MD from Yale, but after practicing at Grady, decided

to return to school for his MPH. “I felt I lacked the skills I needed to conduct quality clinical research, and I thought an MPH would give me those skills,” says Lindsay. “It turned out to be an important career

toward specializing in ob, but having the support of a faculty member of Dr. Lindsay’s stature definitely pushed me in that direction.”

Deigni, who entered his public health year this fall, is studying epidemiology—Lindsay’s area of concentration at the RSPH. “I’m hoping Dr. Lindsay can help me decide

The Adopt-a-Scholar Program is “a great use of resources—investing in the education of young physicians who are pursuing additional training in public health.”—Michael Lindsay, 91MPH, chief, gynecology and obstetrics service, Grady Memorial Hospital

move for me. It has enabled me to conduct clinical research I would not be able to do otherwise.”

Lindsay’s research focuses on adverse pregnancy outcomes, primarily HIV transmission from mother to infant. He has gained an international reputation for his expertise, and he weighs in on public policy advocacy for reproductive health locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally.

Woods had already begun working on a project to develop a new practice model for ob/gyns called obstetric hospitalists. These hospitalists would work only in the hospital, on shifts much like nurses, to relieve the often unpredictable work hours for obstetricians. “Since ob/gyn is Dr. Lindsay’s field, he was able to give me a lot of perspective,” says Woods, now an ob/gyn resident at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. “I was already leaning

what to focus on and what type of research projects to get involved in,” says Deigni, who hopes to return to his home in West Africa to do research and clinical practice.

For his part, Lindsay is happy to have a chance to give back. “I got scholarships to get through college and medical school,” he says. “I quickly realized that people who made the investment in my education didn’t know me. They were supporting the concept of investing in young people. I’ve adopted that concept. The Adopt-a-Scholar Program helps fulfill one of my goals in life, which is to make a positive contribution in terms of improving health care. I try to do that in my personal actions but also in investing in future health care providers.” ■

To learn more about the Adopt-a-Scholar Program, visit www.alumni.emory.edu/annualfund/adoptascholar.



During his MPH year, Demetrius Woods developed a practice model for obstetric hospitalists with Lindsay’s guidance.



Michael Kutner and Donna Brogan “grew up together” after joining Emory in 1971.

ONE STEP LEADS TO ANOTHER

Biostatistician Donna Brogan endows the lecture named in her honor

By Pam Auchmutey

Donna Brogan didn't plan to earn a doctorate in statistics, teach at a major university, found a women's caucus to advance equality in her profession, or chair the biostatistics department in the RSPH. Each step led to another as she sought a way to work in a field once outside the prescribed role for women.

“I followed my interest in mathematics, no matter what,” says Brogan, an internationally recognized

sample survey expert who taught at Emory for 33 years.

Retired since 2004, Brogan continues to think of ways to advance the professional development of biostatistics students and faculty in the RSPH. Instead of contributing annually to the school as in years past, she chose to endow the annual Donna J. Brogan Lecture in Biostatistics, established by department faculty, staff, students, and friends in 2006 to honor her contributions to biostatistics and women's issues. Brogan's gift ensures that the lecture continues.

“The lecture was an appropriate way to honor Donna,” says Michael Kutner, Rollins professor and chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics. “We raised enough money to support the first two lectures. Donna came to me to ask how to make the lectures go on indefinitely. She supported the lecture as a way to thank the department after her retirement.”

Colleagues describe Brogan as an accomplished “rabble-rouser” with numerous honors, including the Unsung Heroine Award from

the Emory Women's Center, alumni awards from her alma maters, and an award from the American Statistical Association (ASA) for advancing women in the field.

The daughter of a Baltimore auto worker, Brogan was the first in her family to attend college, earning a mathematics degree in 1960. A few years later, when she turned down a secretarial position in the statistics department at Iowa State, the program offered her a slot in its PhD program. She became the first person in the department to win a coveted university fellowship.

“‘Endowed’ goes on forever. I knew that the donor base for the lecture would need a boost over time. And I’m grateful to my department, the school, and the university for spending my career here.”—Donna Brogan, professor emerita of biostatistics

Her professional and societal views widened considerably at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she taught biostatistics, participated in a women's consciousness-raising group, and formed a women's caucus with the American Statistical Association to advocate for greater opportunities for female students and colleagues.

In 1971, she joined the Department of Biometry at the Emory School of Medicine and became only the fourth woman to be promoted to full professor in that school. When the department moved to the RSPH in 1990, Brogan was the only female full professor for several years and served as the school's first female department chair during the early 1990s. “We grew up together as faculty mem-

bers,” says Kutner, who joined the biometry department the same year as Brogan and served as RSPH biostatistics chair before her.

During her tenure as chair, Brogan hired several female faculty members to increase the representation of women in the department. In growing the department, she helped broaden its research base to help gain national visibility in biostatistics methodology.

“She gave qualified recruits a chance—male or female. There were no double standards,” says Professor Amita Manatunga, whom Brogan

hired in 1994. “She served the faculty. She had a gift for encouraging them and stating their strengths and shortcomings in a positive way.”

Brogan's mentoring seed was planted early when an elementary school teacher tutored her in junior

high and high school mathematics. “This guy stayed after school with me every day the whole year I was in 6th grade,” Brogan says. “I often think about that.”

She also thinks about her father, grandfather, and others like them who spent their lives working at jobs they hated. “I wanted to do something that I enjoyed,” says Brogan. “Education was the vehicle for doing that.”

By endowing the Donna J. Brogan Lecture in Biostatistics, she is helping faculty and students at the RSPH and across Emory deepen their knowledge. Annual lectures to date have included nationally known biostatisticians in tobacco (Scott Zeger from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health), cancer (Mitch Gail from the National Cancer Institute), and genetics (Nan Laird from Harvard School of Public Health). Guest lecturers take away something as well. “It gives them an opportunity to learn and spread the word about the department and the school,” says Brogan.

“‘Endowed’ goes on forever,” she adds. “I knew that the donor base for the lecture would need a boost over time. And I’m very grateful to my department, the school, and the university for spending my career here.” ■

A name change for biostatistics

The biostatistics department is now the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, reflecting a commitment by the Woodruff Health Sciences Center and Emory to expanding computational and statistical expertise. As a result, the RSPH will increasingly collaborate with the medical and nursing schools and Georgia Tech to help quantify the vast amounts of data generated through biomedical studies. Biostatistics professor Lance Waller leads a strategic effort to help the department grow best in bioinformatics. DuBois Bowman directs the Center for Biomedical Imaging Statistics, formed last year to help researchers advance disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and public health.



Benjamin Druss and Beverly Long share a commitment to changing policy to improve mental health services for vulnerable patients.

THE MIND MATTERS

A longtime advocate and an RSPH researcher give mental health and physical health equal billing in the public health arena

By Valerie Gregg and Pam Auchmutey

Petite and polite, Beverly Long accepted her honorary doctorate from Emory in 2007 with quiet grace. But her gentle demeanor belies her stature as a public health leader.

“Her vision brought mental health into the purview of public health at Emory,” says Benjamin Druss, who holds the Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health at the RSPH. “She has worked tirelessly as an advocate for mental health care since the 1970s,

when she worked with Mrs. Carter at the state level, and later, on the global stage with the World Federation for Mental Health. Throughout those years, Ms. Long has been passionate about bringing mental health into public health.”

When Long made the initial proposal and contribution to endow the Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health several years ago, she was making a statement. The chair provides a professorship and program

focused on prevention of mental disorders and the promotion of mental health. It also honors Mrs. Carter for bringing national and world attention to mental health issues.

“Prevention is the key,” says Long, a civil rights advocate who has worked with President and Mrs. Carter for more than three decades. “It’s taken people a long time to catch on, but they’re starting to understand that mental health means more than just mental illness.”

The chair that Druss holds is the first of its kind in the nation—a mix of academic research in the RSPH with The Carter Center’s action-oriented agenda. A physician with an MPH from Yale University, Druss holds appointments in health policy in the RSPH and psychiatry in the Emory School of Medicine and works with The Carter Center as a member of its Mental Health Task

Force and Mental Health Journalism Fellowship Advisory Board.

Integrating mental health care into public health is challenging but crucial, says Druss. Medicine in general has long considered the mind to be separate from the body, and psychiatry has been something of an outlier among medical specialties. But now, public health is playing an increasingly important role in bringing psychiatry and medicine together.

The Carter Center's Mental Health Program is oriented toward changing public policy, not just studying it. This uncommon mix is what brought Druss from Yale to Emory in 2003.

"My position as the Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health is unique," he says. "It allows me to serve as a bridge between public health and clinical care, research and mental health policy, and The Carter Center and Emory."

Falling through the cracks

Druss's research examines care for people on the primary care/mental health interface in the public sector, where many of the most vulnerable patients receive care. Most are poor and have limited or no insurance. Patients may fall through the health care cracks on either side—primary care or psychiatry.

The system is now oriented more toward treating disease than keeping people well. Druss offers the example of a male patient who receives regular treatment for schizophrenia at a community mental health center. He takes an anti-psychotic drug to control his symptoms, and he is stable.

The patient's psychiatric symptoms are well controlled, but he doesn't have a primary care doctor—he goes to the emergency room for basic care. When he visits the ER for back pain, the doctor sees his psychi-

atric history and refers him to an inpatient psychiatry unit. Only later do the doctors learn that he has a kidney infection and is also diabetic. He is not taking good care of himself, and his weight gain is partly a side effect of his psychiatric drugs.

"People with serious mental illnesses often fail to receive the medical services they need," says Druss. "Alternatively, people who are treated in the public sector often fail to obtain needed mental health services in primary care."

Consider the patient who visits her primary care doctor with several complaints. During her visit, the doctor asks her if she has been feeling sad, and she admits to feeling very down. The doctor prescribes an antidepressant. The woman begins taking the drug, experiences a few side effects, and stops taking

fourth leading cause of disability in the world.

Much work remains to be done on both sides of the primary care/mental health interface. People with mental illnesses continue to face great stigma and discrimination. Insurance companies often do not provide coverage for mental health treatment equal to that for physical health. And mental disorders affect one in five Americans.

Yet as a subject for public health research, mental health remains wide open. "The public health view considers whether one is using resources wisely," Druss says. "It is about reducing the burden of disease."

More information provided by public health research should encourage physicians to take mental illnesses more seriously. After the rise of psychoanalysis in the early 1900s, the

"My position allows me to serve as a bridge between public health and clinical care, research and mental health policy, and The Carter Center and Emory."—Benjamin Druss, Rosalynn Carter Chair of Mental Health

the medication within a week. She doesn't call her doctor or follow up.

Thus treatment for her depression is short-lived. Each year, approximately 19 million American adults suffer from a depressive disorder, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. The most prevalent of these illnesses is clinical depression, the leading cause of disability in the United States and the

treatment of mental illness remained mind-focused for much of the past century. Now physicians must learn to take a more holistic view.

"The medical system in general is oriented toward treating disease rather than treating a person with a disease," says Druss. "For people with more than one condition, it's critical that the system remember it is treating a whole person."

Still, patients with problems stemming from the brain are receiving more attention than ever. Through new technologies, scientists have learned the importance of brain chemistry and genetics in mental illnesses. New knowledge continues to yield new treatments.

Primary care physicians treat more than half of the people in the United States with mental illness, says Druss. A major reason is the development of newer antidepressants such as Prozac, which have fewer side effects and are easier for general internists to prescribe. However, effective follow-up is challenging in these settings. Primary care visits are brief and need to address not only depression but also the patient's other medical needs. Primary care providers rarely have the time or clinic infrastructure to check for side effects and the effectiveness of treatments for depression once they have been started.

Building critical mass

For the past two years, Druss has organized a "Mental Health Concentration," which provides a home for RSPH students with an interest in mental health. The concentration allows students to focus their elective time, thesis, and practicum on topics related to mental health. A monthly seminar draws up to 100 students and professionals from Emory, The Carter Center, local and state agencies, and the CDC to hear experts discuss clinical and policy issues.



Rosalynn Carter leads a session of The Carter Center's Mental Health Journalism Fellowship Advisory Board. She recently spoke to RSPH students and faculty interested in mental health.

These meetings have built a critical mass in mental health expertise that can further help recruit faculty and students at the master's, doctoral, and postdoctoral levels.

"I'd like to see the RSPH become a premier place for expertise in mental health and public health," Druss says. "That involves continuing to knit together the resources we already have and building new partnerships."

In his research, Druss is working to move mental health policy and practice in new directions. One question he is exploring is how men-

tal health consumers can use information technology to manage their care. Through a new study funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Druss and a team of consumers and providers will develop and test an electronic personal health record (PHR) for use by people with serious mental disorders.

Consumers will manage their password-protected PHR via the Internet to provide a central record that patients—and when authorized, health care providers—can access anywhere, anytime.

Druss's team will adapt a PHR developed by information technology experts and now widely used in Seattle. The Shared Care Plan, currently the primary interface for Microsoft's new HealthVault PHR platform, allows users to store and retrieve medical

and medication information online. The record also prompts patients for upcoming preventive services and allows secured email communication with medical providers.

A PHR for mental health consumers would provide a central repository for mental health information that is often fragmented, says Druss. "A mental health PHR is a potentially important tool that takes advantage of the latest information technology to help coordinate and improve care for this vulnerable population." ■

To learn more about Benjamin Druss's work in mental health, listen to the podcast at www.whsc.emory.edu/r_druss.html.

The Rollins School of Public Health would not have become one of the nation's top schools in its field without our friends and donors. Because of you, faculty are making water safer and improving sanitation, preventing diabetes, cancer, and HIV/AIDS, teaching adolescents to avoid risky behaviors, improving nutrition for families, detecting disease using bioinformatics, determining how air pollutants trigger chronic illness, shaping health policy, and protecting the public from bioterrorism.

Just as important, your gifts make education more affordable for students and allow them to gain real-world experience by conducting research around the world. And you are more than doubling our physical capacity and our global reach by helping build the new Claudia Nance Rollins Building.

Thanks to all of you for creating the future of public health.

Dean James W. Curran, M.D., MPH



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Eugene and Rose Gangarosa

SAFE WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

For Eugene and Rose Gangarosa, access to clean water and sanitation is a basic human right. Without it, communities lack the essentials on which quality of life rests: good health, nutritious food, education, and political and economic stability.

Gene, professor emeritus and an expert on waterborne diseases, and his wife Rose have lived in countries where unsafe water and sanitation fatally sicken children and adults every day. To help prevent these deaths, the couple established a charitable remainder unitrust to create the Rose Salamone Gangarosa Chair in Environmental Health. Once funding is complete, the chair will support a researcher in sanitation to complement the Eugene J. Gangarosa Chair in Safe Water and Sanitation, held by RSPH professor Christine Moe.

With these chairs, the Gangaros are nurturing the network of researchers at the RSPH, Emory, the CDC and other partners intent on improving the safe water and sanitary infrastructure in the global community.

To learn more about planned giving opportunities, contact Kathryn Graves (404-727-3352 or kgraves@sph.emory.edu) in the RSPH Office of Development or Stephanie Frostbaum (404-712-2155 or stephanie.frostbaum@emory.edu) in the Emory Office of Gift Planning.

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*William H. Foege is the RSPH Presidential Distinguished Professor Emeritus of International Health. William A. Foege is his father.

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Stan Jones and Bobbi Cleveland presented Kathryn Graves, 93MPH (left), with a new friend during the Campaign Emory gala.



L-R: Matthew Biggerstaff, 06MPH, is secretary of the RSPH Alumni Board. Lisa Carlson, 93MPH, and Johanna Hinman, 98MPH, are former board presidents.

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Nurturing the future

Colleagues Michelle James (left) and Jean O'Connor, 01MPH, welcomed daughters Ansley and Laura in recent months. Michelle directs alumni and constituent relations for the RSPH, while Jean leads the Alumni Association Board as president. Jean also helps oversee policy for the Office of Critical Information Integration and Exchange with the CDC's National Center for Zoonotic, Vector-borne, and Enteric Diseases.

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Upcoming Events

Public Health Career Fair

Friday, February 6, 2009

10:00 AM–2:00 PM, Emory Conference Center Hotel

Information: careerservices@sph.emory.edu

Visit Emory

March 26-27, 2009

8:00 AM–5:00 PM, RSPH

Information: sshe101@sph.emory.edu

Public Health in Action Reception Honoring Alumni and Faculty Achievements

Thursday, April 16, 2009

6:00–8:00 PM, Miller-Ward Alumni House

Information: alumni@sph.emory.edu

Spring Diploma Ceremony

Monday, May 11, 2009

10:30 AM, RSPH

Information: amcmah2@sph.emory.edu



Commencement 2008

Stan Foster (left with Dean James Curran) had three words for the 220 MPH graduates of the RSPH: "Prevention, Prevention, Prevention." A professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health, Foster used this placard to make his point in a world where 133 million Americans have at least one chronic disease and 809 million people worldwide live on less than \$2 per day.

Alumni honors for 2008

Recipients empower women, populations in need

A global health leader and a CDC nutrition expert received this year's alumni awards from the RSPH.

Taroub Harb Faramand, 95MPH, was honored with the Distinguished Achievement Award for her efforts to empower women in communities and guide the development of institutions to improve health nationally and globally. As senior vice president for global health programs with Project HOPE, Faramand oversees a network of core and field staff responsible for more than 80 programs in 36 countries. Trained as a physician in Russia, she has 25 years of clinical and management experience in reproductive health, maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS.

"She is a visionary leader and strategic thinker who puts ideas into action," said Dixie Snider, 84MPH, last year's Distinguished Achievement Award recipient. While Faramand is known for her international leader-

ship, she never lost sight of the value of working with communities. From developing a microcredit program for women in rural Egypt to designing literacy booklets in local languages, Faramand has a gift for "lifting up those most in need," said Snider.

Leisel Talley, 00MPH, has helped make a difference in the lives of people affected by human catastrophe. For these efforts, she received the Matthew Lee Girvin Award, presented to young professionals who have improved the lives and health of others. The award honors the memory of Girvin, a 1994 graduate who died in 2001 during a U.N. surveying mission.

Since Talley joined the International Emergency and Refugee Health branch of the CDC eight years



Taroub Harb Faramand, 95MPH, oversees programs in 36 countries with Project HOPE.

ago, she has assessed the nutritional needs of populations in Sudan, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Tanzania. In 2006, working with UNICEF, the World Food Program, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, and the ministries of health and agriculture in Sudan, she completed an emergency food security and nutrition assessment in war-torn Darfur, which informed government and humanitarian assistance in that region. Talley also developed culturally appropriate mental health interventions for Karenni refugees in Thailand who fled there from Burma to escape civil war and persecution.

In the course of her work, she often heeds the advice of global health professor Stan Foster. "He taught us to expect the best but be prepared for the worst," said Talley, upon accepting her award. And like Foster, she shares lessons learned with her own students in the RSPH, where she teaches the course "Food and Nutrition in Humanitarian Emergencies" as an adjunct faculty member. ■



Leisel Talley, 00MPH, joined the CDC in 2000 as a nutritional epidemiologist with the agency's International Emergency and Refugee Health branch. She also teaches at the RSPH.



Jim Jarboe, 82MPH, and wife Mary



Robert J. Davis, 90MPH



Astrid Koziel Dretler (left), Tracy Bidwell McMillan, Amy Pine, and Wendy Katz Walsh, all 94MPH, with their children in Boston

1980s

JIM JARBOE, 82MPH, was named one of the Top 15 Producers of the DeKalb Board of Realtors in Atlanta. "I can't believe it's been 20 years since I left the administrative side of health care," he says. Jarboe's wife Mary retired in 2002 as the registrar for Agnes Scott College. Jim has no plans for retirement. "I would be too bored," he adds. The Jarboes have two children and two grandchildren.

1990s

ROBERT J. DAVIS, 90MPH, published *The Healthy Skeptic: Cutting through the Hype about Your Health* (University of California Press, 2008). The book identifies common myths and half-truths about prevention and wellness. Davis is a health journalist who has worked for CNN, PBS HealthWeek, WebMD, and *The Wall Street Journal*. An adjunct faculty member at the RSPH, he teaches the course "Mass Media and Public Health."

BORN: To **TINA RIZACK, 93MPH, 98M**, and her husband, Christopher Langlois, a son, Holden Martin, on Feb. 3, 2007. The family lives in Providence, RI.

ASTRID KOZEL DRETHER, TRACY BIDWELL MCMILLAN, AMY PINE, and WENDY KATZ WALSH, all **94MPH**, met in Boston last April with their children. Dretler has three children and lives in Natick, MA. McMillan has a son and owns PPH Partners consulting group in Flagstaff, AZ. Pine has a daughter and is director of the Communicable Disease Prevention Unit in the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Walsh has a son and is educational programs manager with UpToDate in Waltham, MA. She lives nearby in Norwell, MA.

ARLENE M. LESTER, 94MPH, was promoted to the rank of captain in the U.S. Public Health Service. She currently serves as a regional minority health consultant in the Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region IV-Atlanta.

BORN: To **CHANDA NICOLE (MOBLEY) HOLSEY, 96MPH**, and Eric Demond Holsey, a daughter, Savannah Nicole, on March 1, 2008. The family now lives in San Diego, where Chanda serves on the faculty at the University of Phoenix and as an adjunct professor at San Diego State University and Nova Southeastern University.

KATHERINE DEAVER ROBINSON, 96MPH, and her husband, **BRIAN ROBINSON, 90C**, moved to Pretoria, South Africa, last January. Katherine is the CDC global AIDS program surveillance coordinator for South Africa. They will be posted there for two years.

ISAM VAID, 99MPH, received his PhD from the Department of Health Behavior at the School of Public Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He wrote his dissertation on "Self-efficacy to resist smoking as a mediator between nicotine dependence and quit attempt in adolescents in Alabama."



Savannah, daughter of Chanda Nicole Holsey, 96MPH



Holden, son of Tina Rizack, 93MPH, 98M



Arlene M. Lester, 94MPH



Dean Brian Noe, Isam Vaid, 99MPH, and Connie Kohler



Lawrence Bryant, 01MPH

2000s



Lt. Brett Harrison Hicks, 02MPH

LAWRENCE BRYANT, 01MPH, received his PhD in adult education from the University of Georgia. He also accepted a tenure-track position in the Division of Respiratory Therapy with the School of Health and Human Services at Georgia State University. He writes, "My first research project is looking at establishing a cancer survivor network here in Georgia, in collaboration with the State of Georgia. This research involves smoking-related cancers."

to the multinational Security Transition Command in Baghdad. Under the Health Affairs Directorate, Hicks is the medical logistics officer for the Iraqi Ministry of the Interior. The Directorate helps train and equip health care providers in the Iraqi Security Force and oversees clinics throughout Iraq.

DAVID A. BRAY, 04MSPH, 08G, successfully defended his dissertation on "Knowledge Ecosystems: Technology, Motivations, Processes, and Performance," thus graduating a year early

from the Goizueta Business School. He began a postdoctoral fellowship in May at the MIT Center for Collective Intelligence. Bray plans to conduct additional research with the Kennedy School of Government's Leadership for a Networked World Program. He served as a doctoral researcher with the U.S. Department of Energy and the CDC on knowledge ecosystems and interorganizational knowledge transfer strategies.

MARRIED: KRISTA YORITA, 04MPH, to Adam Christensen, on May 10, 2008, in Wood-

AURA LOUISE COFFEE, 01MPH, received her doctor of veterinary medicine degree from the University of Georgia in May.

KENDOLYN SMITH, 01CMPH, received her doctorate in pharmacology from Creighton University in May. She was the first graduate of the Career Master of Public Health Program in the RSPH.

LT. BRETT HARRISON HICKS, 02MPH, serves with the Medical Service Corps of the U.S. Navy. He is assigned

Alumni Deaths

HARRIETTE DAVIS, 87MPH, on March 10, 2008, in Oxford, GA.

REBECCA GERRARD LIBERMAN, 89MSN/MPH, of Atlanta, on April 25, 2008. She died unexpectedly at age 53. Formerly of Louisville, KY, she is survived by her husband, Henry Liberman, and her stepdaughter, Heather Liberman.

JENNIFER R. GRAHAM, 96MPH, of Minneapolis, at age 41, on March 6, 2008. She died peacefully, surrounded by family and friends, after battling cancer for a year and a half. She is survived by her parents, Winifred and George Grizzle.

PAMELA DENZMORE, 99MPH, of College Park, GA, on Dec. 24, 2007. She is survived by her husband, Arthur Justus Nwagera.



David A. Bray, 04MPH



Krista Yorita, 04MPH, and husband Adam Christensen



Curt Gobely, 05MPH and Monica Chopra, 05MPH



Shauna Rowland, 05MPH



Melody Moezzi, 06MPH, with Georgia novelist Anthony Grooms

stock, IL. Christensen's family is from nearby McHenry, IL. Krista is an RSPH doctoral student in epidemiology. Adam is a PhD student in mechanical engineering at Georgia Tech.

MONICA CHOPRA and **CURT GOBELY**, both **05MPH**, are engaged to be married in August 2009. Monica works as a health care consultant with Thomas Reuters in Cambridge, MA, while Curt is a senior consultant with EMPATH, a health care operations consulting company based in California.

BORN: To **ASHLEY WATERS GORDON, 05MPH**, and her husband, Brad Gordon, a daughter, Isabella Waters Gordon, on Feb. 22, 2008, in Washington, DC.

Would you like to see your news and photos on these pages? You can mail, fax, or email your latest developments. Address: Alumni Records, RSPH, PO Box 133000, Atlanta, GA 30333-9906. Fax: 404-727-9853. Email: alumni@sph.emory.edu.

SHAUNA (ALEXANDER) ROWLAND, 05MPH, was crowned Mrs. Georgia America in June. Rowland, who won the physical fitness category, competed in the national pageant in Tucson, AZ.

MELODY MOEZZI, 06L, 06MPH, won the Georgia Author of the Year Award in the "Creative Nonfiction: Essay" category for her first book, *War on Error: Real Stories of American Muslims* (University of Arkansas Press, 2007). Moezzi and her husband, Matthew Lenard, live in Decatur, GA.

BENJAMIN SILK, 08G, received the Anoop Sharma Award for 2008. The award is given in memory of Sharma, a first-year PhD student in epidemiology who died in 2005. "Ben knew Anoop, and they were both on the 'same wavelength,' as they both used their education to work for the elimination of health disparities," wrote RSPH Professor Ruth Berkelman in her nomination letter. Silk now serves as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer with the CDC.

Faculty Deaths

DR. DAVID HILTON, of Clarkston, GA, on July 27, 2008 of complications from non-Hodgkins lymphoma at age 76. A longtime advocate of empowering communities through faith and health, Hilton served on the adjunct faculty in global health. Early in his career, he and his wife Laveta served as Methodist missionaries in Nigeria. For nine years, he performed surgery six days a week and trained nurses, pharmacists, and midwives to care for clinic outpatients. He returned to Nigeria for seven years to establish a self-sustaining community health service in the mountains bordering Cameroon. He applied the same skills to strengthen health services for Seminole Indians in Florida.



A licensed pilot, Hilton often flew to remote areas to care for those in need. He also served as assistant director of the World Council of Churches' Christian Medical Commission and as chaplain for international students at Emory.

Even after retiring, Hilton remained a dedicated teacher, inspiring global health students to engage communities in sustainable health and encouraging medical students to explore the connection between spirituality and health. "Whenever I had David teach a class, he never lectured. He posed a question and broke the class into small groups to wrestle with the questions," said Stan Foster, professor of global health.

Hilton is survived by his wife, two daughters, a son, a brother, and a granddaughter.

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A New Era

Richard Hubert joined other friends of the Rollins School of Public Health to launch Campaign Emory, designed to transform society at home and abroad—a principle that naturally encompasses public health. To learn more about Campaign Emory and the RSPH, see page 7.

