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Emerities Newsletter, Summer 2013

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Blending the Arts and Academics: Revitalizing East Atlanta

By John Habermen, professor emeritus, School of Music

One of the central pillars of the revitalized East Lake Community is the Drew Charter School, which opened in 2000 as Atlanta Public Schools' first charter school. Five years earlier, East Lake had a \$35 million annual drug trade, a crime rate 18 times higher than the national average, chronic unemployment that left 59 percent of adults relying on welfare and a failing school where only 5 percent of fifth-graders were able to meet state standards for math. Tom Cousins, an Atlanta visionary, inspired community leaders and residents to help families break the cycle of poverty and use a holistic approach to revitalize the area.

Now, after 12 years of operation, more than 95 percent of Drew Charter School students in grades 3-8 meet or exceed state standards in all subject areas. Realizing the importance of the performing and visual arts in education, the Cousins Family Foundation (CFF) provided Georgia State's School of Music with a three-year grant in 2006 to provide "music ensembles-in-residence" whose performances would connect with academic lessons in language arts, science, geography and math.

CFF Director of Academic Achievement Cynthia Kuhlman, who earned a Ph.D. from the Georgia State University College of Education,

provided the inspiration for the Georgia State School of Music (SOM) to submit two subsequent successful proposals designed to continue the advancement of the arts at Drew. As the director of the SOM, I recruited Georgia State music students and faculty members to provide instruction on band and orchestra instruments.

My experience as a rock drummer, professional timpanist and conductor of choral activities for 25 years at Georgia State provided me with the expertise to work with the arts at Drew. The school also hired master teachers to give chorus, string and dance instruction and to explore sculpture design. The performing arts program grew to three bands, five choruses, two dance troupes and an orchestra. Later, I established summer music and dance camps to provide focused instruction on composition, improvisation and performance techniques. The partnership also featured a full year of string instruction for all third-graders. An SOM graduate student taught music classes for students aged 2-4 in the pre-kindergarten program, supporting the Drew concept of cradle-to-college educational opportunities.

Two years ago the state of Georgia recognized Drew's commitment to excellence by awarding a \$1 million Race to the Top grant supporting the



Chorus at Drew Charter School

academically challenging STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) curriculum, as well as project-based learning that stresses strategies based on critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, innovation and problem-solving. The school developed a fifth-grade iPad Band with this in mind. Katie Carlisle, who joined the SOM faculty in fall 2008 and is director of the Center for Educational Partnerships, has taken an active role along with other Drew partners in using the Race to the Top grant to develop the STEAM concept as a model for other schools in Georgia.

I retired in 2008 after 10 years as director of the SOM and have maintained the partnership by

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A warm welcome to the association's new board chair and committee.

2 FY2013 REFLECTIONS

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3 CHAIR'S COLUMN

New board chair, emerita Missy Cody, gives a sneak peek at what the upcoming year will hold for the Emeriti Association.

EMERITIES

Events & Activities

2013 Upcoming Events:

Emeriti will receive invitations with complete information about each event as the event gets closer. Updated information will also be available on the Emeriti website event page, emeriti.gsu.edu/events.

■ AUGUST

Author Series: Josh Russell, Professor of English and Co-Director of the Creative Writing Program

Aug. 28 • 11 a.m. • Colloquium Room, 8th Floor, Library South

Book: *A True History of the Captivation, Transport to Strange Lands, and Deliverance of Hannah Guttentag: A Novel*



■ Benefits Presentation by Corrin Sorteberg

Oct. 30 • 10 a.m. • Rialto Center for the Arts Meeting preceded by continental breakfast and followed by lunch

■ NOVEMBER

Author Series: Leslie Marsh, Assistant Professor of Modern and Classical Languages

Nov. 12 • 11 a.m.
480/485 University Center

Book: *Brazilian Women's Filmmaking from Dictatorship to Democracy*

This event held in conjunction with Brazil Week, Office of International Initiatives



■ OCTOBER

Annual Address by Provost Palm and Welcome to New Emeriti Reception

Oct. 2 • 1 p.m. • Colloquium Room, 8th Floor, Library South

Georgia State Homecoming

Oct. 12 • 2 p.m.

Join Georgia State for Homecoming festivities including college events, tailgate and football game against Troy University at 2 p.m. For more information go to:

homecoming.gsu.edu

Carlos Museum Program, Ancient Roman Maps; lunch at museum with group on your own

Oct. 8 • Noon lunch followed by tour • Carlos Museum



■ DECEMBER

Emeriti Holiday Party

Dec. 8 • 1 p.m. • Rialto Theater, SunTrust Suite

After the holiday reception, guests are invited to attend the 16th annual Georgia State Music Department Holiday Concert. Tickets can be purchased at www.rialtocenter.org or by calling 404-413-9849.



Attendees of the June Author Series Presentation by Emeritus Ralph LaRossa



The annual Georgia State School of Music Gala Holiday Concert

EMERITIES

Events & Activities

RECAP: AUTHOR SERIES

RALPH LAROSSA

JUNE 6, 2013

By Anne Page Mosby, professor emerita, University Library

Book: *Of War and Men: World War II in the Lives of Fathers and Their Families*



On the date we remembered the 69th anniversary of D-Day, and just in time for Fathers' Day, Ralph LaRossa, professor emeritus of sociology, discussed his study of fathers from the war years into the start of the Cold War and the 1960s.

LaRossa explained how *Of War and Men*, which drew upon his extensive research about fatherhood, was a continuation of his first book, *The Modernization of Fatherhood: A Social and Political History*, about fathers earlier in the 20th century, especially during the age of mechanization in the 1920s and '30s. He listed a variety of materials he had analyzed, including books, articles, propaganda posters, letters and even comics.

LaRossa's research uncovered the complexity of fatherhood and demystified simplistic social portrayals of fathers. The audience had many questions, comments, interactive reminiscences and continuing conversations after this engaging discussion.

In Memoriam

Stuart Schwarzschild, 95, professor emeritus of Risk Management and Insurance (RMI), died on June 24. After Schwarzschild's first career in the military, he returned to school at age 40 and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He then joined Georgia State as faculty in the RMI Department. Bruce Palmer, professor emeritus of RMI and Schwarzschild's colleague, says, "Stuart was very instrumental in the early development of the RMI Department and helped lay the foundation for what today is one of the largest and most highly recognized programs of its type in the world."

Schwarzschild was known as exceedingly bright and inquisitive. "Even up until his death, he was as sharp as a tack and continued to adopt new technology as he managed his investment portfolio and conducted research on the internet on topics that interested him," Palmer says. Earlier in 2013, Schwarzschild made a generous donation to Georgia State and established the Stuart Schwarzschild Scholarship to benefit students in the J. Mack Robinson College of Business.

Fitness and the Fountain of Youth Program Recap

By Missy Cody, chair and emerita, Nutrition Department

Charles M. Williams, Ph.D., professor emeritus of computer information systems, shared his mission to promote wellness as a lifestyle for seniors in his May 14 presentation.



Through pictures and stories of world-class athletes aged 60 to almost 100, he demonstrated that fitness is earned by challenging your body to move and improve instead of adopting a sedentary lifestyle. Charles, a competitive race walker, reminds us that "medicine will not bail you out. Fitness is earned every day." His consistent message is that wellness, not athleticism, is the focus of aerobic exercise, but his stories also show that athleticism comes in all ages. Members described the presentation as "inspirational" and "engaging."



Emeriti mingle before the start of the Fitness and Fountain of Youth Program

Cody New Coordinating Board Chair

Mildred Cody, better known as Missy, was elected as FY2014 chair of the Coordinating Board of the Emeriti Association at the June board meeting. Missy, who was vice-chair for FY 2013, is associate professor emerita of the College of Health and Human Services and has chaired the Emeriti Association's Activities Committee for several years.

Missy and her committee have planned a number of fun activities, luncheons and learning experiences for emeriti to remain intellectually, creatively and socially connected to Georgia State. She accepted the reins of leadership from FY2013 Chair Rankin Cooter, professor emeritus of the College of Education. Missy and Rankin worked closely during the past year to coordinate the Emeriti Association's 10th Anniversary Celebration, which was begun under the leadership of Professor Emeritus Yezdi Bhada of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business. The Emeriti Association has continued to grow in strength and the members continue to provide service and leadership to Georgia State as it celebrates its centennial.

Other Coordinating Board officers elected at the June meeting are Vice-Chair Harry Dangel, associate professor emeritus of the College of Education; Secretary Lynn Hogue, professor emeritus of the College of Law; and Treasurer John Hogan, professor emeritus of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business. Rankin Cooter will serve the board as immediate past chair.

Past Chair Dave Ewert represents the board with GAHero and the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education. Glenn Abney continues as bylaws chair, Anne Page Mosby as chair of the author series, Sandra Owens as website chair and Marti Singer and Pat Sartain as co-editors of the *Emerities* newsletter. Harry Dangel continues to serve as membership representative.

Harvey Newman, who recently retired as professor emeritus of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, is the newest member elected to the Coordinating Board.

FY2013 REFLECTIONS

By Rankin Cooter, professor emeritus, College of Education, immediate past chair

As I reflect on the Georgia State emeriti organization and functions during FY2013, I am truly thankful for the outstanding total support the emeriti faculty/staff have given the university but also the support that our organization has received from the university administration.

During this past year I have had the opportunity to observe Georgia's various university/college retiree (emeriti) organizations and have concluded that comparatively we have a strong viable emeriti with excellent and varied strengths-- an Emeriti organization of which we should all be proud. President Mark Becker and Provost Risa Palm have been extremely supportive and willing to participate in several emeriti functions. A very special thanks is extended to Dave Fraboni (associate vice president for Development) and Wanja Ngugi (development coordinator) for their outstanding guidance, counsel and assistance.

The chair's function and role has been truly simplified by our outstanding Emeriti Coordinating Board's work, organization and planning of the various annual educational and social functions. Our annual functions (Valentine's

Luncheon, Author Series and Holiday Party) have been successful, but

I personally think our Tenth Year Celebration in conjunction with Homecoming festivities was the year's highlight activity. There was excellent fellowship, a luncheon and program, and an induction of new emeriti. President Becker provided a welcome

and comments to the 100 attendees on behalf of the university and Dr. Sherman Day provided a historical reflection of Georgia State.

We should all thank the organizational leaders of the past who had the vision and foresight to form the Emeriti Association and provided the impetus for its current status. Our Coordinating Board is a strong, viable and dedicated group who provide outstanding leadership and programming. The future is bright for the Georgia State emeriti but we need your continued active participation, attendance and financial support. Lastly, I thank all of my emeriti colleagues for your active support during the past year. I have enjoyed the affiliation and working with each of you.

Best wishes to Missy Cody, our newly elected chair, who will provide outstanding leadership. The emeriti are in great hands.



Coordinating Board top row, l to r: Rankin Cooter, Glenn Abney, Harry Dangel, Anne Page Mosby, Dave Ewert, John Hogan. Bottom row, l to r: Pat Sartain, Missy Cody, Sandra Owen and Lorene Pilcher. Not pictured: Lynn Hogue, Marti Singer and Dave Fraboni



CHAIR'S COLUMN

MISSY CODY • mcody@gsu.edu

Happy new (school) year, everyone! Yes, I still celebrate the start of the school year as my new year. Sixty-year-old habits are hard to break.

We're headed into what we hope will be an engaging year. Our program year will begin with an author series presentation in August, followed by Provost Palm's State of the University Address and New Emeriti Welcome. Our traditional benefits meeting will feature any changes to our health insurance and answer questions about our benefits. We will also have hospitality integrated with the School of Music's holiday gala this year. We will continue to feature our popular author series and relaunch our museum series, and we have new events for spring that are still

in the planning stages. There is a preliminary program calendar in the newsletter, and you will be notified of events through invitations via e-mail and postal mail. As always, you can find up-to-date information on our programs at the emeriti website.

You may have noticed that the university has introduced a new website for Georgia State. You may need to reset your bookmark to emeriti.gsu.edu. We are working with the new site, and if you have problems navigating it or find any errors, please contact Sandra Owen at sowen2@gsu.edu or send an e-mail to emeriti@gsu.edu.

I hope you will all come to mix and mingle with colleagues and that I will have the pleasure of seeing each of you at our events this year.

SPOTLIGHT: Awards and Recognition

Congratulations to **Stanley Smits**, professor emeritus, Managerial Science, J. Mack Robinson College of Business, for winning one of the 2013 Awards for Excellence from Emerald Literati Network.

Each year the Emerald Literati Network sponsors awards for outstanding papers published in its featured journals. Stanley was named a Highly Commended Award Winner. His article, *Managing in the Context of Healthcare's Escalating Technology and Evolving Culture*, was published in the Journal of Health Organization Management.

According to the spokesperson for the Emerald Group Publishing Limited, "The award-winning papers are chosen following consultation amongst the journal's editorial team, many of whom are eminent academics or practitioners. Your paper has been selected as it was one of the most impressive pieces of work the team has seen throughout 2012."

More information about the Awards for Excellence can be found at www.emeraldinsight.com/literati.



SPOTLIGHT: Publications

Robbie Friedmann, professor emeritus, Criminal Justice Department, published a memoir titled *28 Letters – The Short Life of Renee (Baba) Friedmann on Not-So-Calm Waters* (May 2012). An e-version was released in April. This



profile of Friedman's mother reveals, in his words, "the horrors of the Holocaust" and how people who lived through this period (1941-47) in Eastern Europe coped with "tyranny" and the "challenge of living beyond surviving." He describes the book as a "testament to the victory of humanity and the human spirit over evil."

Congratulations to **Lu L'Abate**, professor emeritus, Psychology, whose book, *Research on Pre-Para-Post-Therapeutic Activities in Mental Health: Prevention, Promotion, Psychotherapy and Rehabilitation*, was featured on the home page of the Nova Science Publishers website. This book was published in May.



Duane M. Rumbaugh, professor emeritus, Psychology/Biology, co-founder of the Arts and Sciences Language Research Center and highly acclaimed primatologist, has published *With Apes in Mind: Emergents, Communication and Competence ... So That Together We Might Learn*. Rumbaugh tells the story of his groundbreaking research with Lana, the first chimpanzee to communicate with humans using a keyboard. The book is described as fun, highly information, insightful and entertaining.



COORDINATING BOARD

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Revitalizing East Atlanta *continued from page 1*

supervising the grant and providing general mentoring. My interaction with the Drew administration, teachers and students has been extremely fulfilling to me personally. It is apparent (and supported by research) that music and the arts in young children's lives will help them develop spatial recognition and math skills, as well as self-confidence and poise, and we believe that music, dance and the visual arts are enhancing the ongoing academic successes of the Drew Charter School. It has been a special joy of my retirement chapter to be a part of the Drew team as we continue to establish a culture of excellence and become a national model for comprehensive neighborhood revitalization.



Students dancing at Drew Charter School

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