

Emory College

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ECIT tames technology for professors

Many of the professors Sandra Butler meets are strangers to technology. They use a computer to check email, maybe for some word processing, and that's about it. Still, technology has the power to transform everyone's lives—at least that's the word around campus, if not in every TV commercial or newspaper ad. So when faculty members step into [Emory's Center for Interactive Teaching](#) (ECIT), Butler's first responsibility is to put technology in perspective. "We tell them that technology is only a tool," said Butler, educational analyst for the professional schools. "It's another method of delivery for your course materials." ECIT, which is part of the [Information Technology Division](#), consists of three areas: a series of web development stations, a digital content production suite, and an interactive classroom. Faculty members are welcome to use ECIT's state-of-the-art equipment as well as reserving the interactive classroom. "In the classroom we partner with faculty to experiment with teaching methods and use it to 'teach the teachers' about technology as a part of pedagogy," said ECIT Director Wayne Morse.

The center provides a series of ongoing seminars for faculty interested in

incorporating technology in their teaching. The [Emory College Online](#) Summer Training Program is now in its fifth year and showing no signs of slowing down. The center's analysts also sit down one-on-one with individual faculty members and train them in various aspects of technology, such as digitizing audio and video files or building course-centered web pages. "The students are the beneficiaries, because classes seem to be moving away from being solely instructor-centered to more learner-centered," Butler continued. "The students are engaged more, and they take control over their learning when they have web-enhanced interactive modules." To make the creation of these interactive modules easier, ECIT utilizes a course management system called Blackboard. It allows faculty members to place materials online without needing to know HTML (Hypertext Markup Language), the programming language for the web. Blackboard is password-protected, giving professors a secure environment with which to conduct online testing and offer students easy access to materials that once were either remarkably difficult to obtain or frustrating to access. For instance, an English class can view eight different versions of scenes from Hamlet, including a ballet. A medical student can see, in real time, the proper procedure for testing the flexibility of an infant's hip bones—complete with instructor narration. Other examples include digital audio and video technology allowing students access to Arabic speech and music, and a website construction project that teamed history graduate students with a university in Augsburg, Germany.

For more, see the [Emory Report](#).

Emory and Georgia Tech collaborate for dual degree programs in engineering

In cooperation with the Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory College offers two dual degrees. The "3-2" program is a five-year dual degree program leading to 1) a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree awarded by Emory College and 2) a bachelor of science in engineering degree in one of thirteen fields, awarded by the [Georgia Institute of Technology](#). Students usually spend their first three years in Emory College, during which time they enroll in a pre-engineering curriculum including courses in mathematics and physical sciences. During that period, students fulfill their [general education requirements](#) and major requirements, which may be in any field including the humanities, social sciences, mathematics and natural sciences. Upper-level courses in the engineering major are completed at Georgia Tech during the last two years of the program.

In the new "4-2" program beginning this fall, students complete their undergraduate degree at Emory, then pursue a master of science degree in mechanical engineering or electrical & computer engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. While at Emory, a student satisfactorily completes the undergraduate curriculum, including several Emory [physics](#) and [mathematics](#) courses, and Georgia Tech's two mechanical engineering or two electrical & chemical engineering undergraduate course requirements as well as other general achievement prerequisites required by Georgia Tech. Once at Georgia Tech, students also have the opportunity of pursuing higher degrees.

The Dual Degree in Engineering programs offer students the opportunity for well-rounded knowledge in the liberal arts while preparing them in science and math for a

pre-engineering (or "Pre-E") background leading to study at one of the nation's premier engineering institutions. Students pursuing these degrees may major in any field offered at Emory, as long as they complete the required prerequisites for the program. Careers in engineering include computer science, business, biotechnology, industry, government, electro-optics, engineering management, mechanical design, communications teaching, nanotechnology, and instrumentation.

For more information, contact the office of [Sally Wolff King](#), Associate Dean of Emory College, by phone 404-727-0674 or by email gmcclra@emory.edu.

Former student creates Gay Robins research fund

Last fall, Gay Robins, chair of [art history](#), got a call from former student Brian Winterfeldt. It wasn't an uncommon occurrence; she and Winterfeldt had remained friends since his graduation from Emory in 1994. His news, though, went far beyond small talk. Although Winterfeldt had majored in art history, he did not pursue a career in the humanities. Instead he attended and graduated from law school and was now practicing with the Washington, D.C., firm of Dow, Lohnes, and Albertson. Still, he kept his interest in art and art history. To honor Robins, whom he called a true role model, Winterfeldt planned to create the Gay Robins Fund for Egyptological Research.



Gay Robins

In January, the fund became a reality as the first money from Winterfeldt's \$10,000 pledge over the next three years came in. The money comes with no restrictions, and Robins is free to use it in whatever way she sees fit. "To have a research fund is something you dream of but never think will happen," Robins said. "I wanted to give back to someone who has served as such an incredible role model for me," Winterfeldt said. "Dr. Robins stands out for so many reasons. She is an amazing scholar and an incredible teacher. But also she is caring, honest, and hard working. She always took time from her intensely busy schedule to meet not only with me, but all of her students. Since Dr. Robins did so much for me, I wanted to do something for her."

For more information, see the [Emory Report](#).

Daniel Levy and Andrew Young discover the price of the 'Real Thing'



Over the past few decades, fluctuations in consumer prices have become as American as baseball, apple pie—and Coca-Cola. But not so long ago (1959, to be precise), thirsty citizens



Daniel Levy and Andrew Young

nationwide could enjoy a Coke and a smile for the very same price the soft drink carried at its introduction in 1886: a nickel. It's an achievement in price stability that is not likely to be surpassed in the U.S. (or any other) economy anytime soon, and now it's been documented by an Emory [economics](#) professor and doctoral student in the paper, "The Real Thing: Price Rigidity of the Nickel Coke, 1886-1959." The paper has been presented several times, including at a conference of the American Economic Association and at the University of Michigan.

The study began a few years ago when Daniel Levy, associate professor of economics and director of graduate studies for the department, took his children to the World of Coca-Cola museum in downtown Atlanta. There he learned of a product whose price and quality remained stable throughout two world wars, the Great Depression, a couple federal lawsuits and numerous supply hiccups and shortages. Levy returned to work and recruited the aid of his graduate assistant, Andrew Young, now a PhD student in economics, and the two began researching the how—and, especially, the *why*—of the long, happy life of the nickel Coke. "There were huge volatilities in the economy," Levy said. "You'd expect markets to react, so it was a big puzzle. As economists, we wanted to explain it."

For more, see the [Emory Report](#).

Theater Emory anchors Atlanta festival for emerging playwright

Seldom has an entire theater community come together around the work of a lesser-known playwright, but 12 theater companies in Atlanta are joining forces to celebrate the work of American playwright Naomi Wallace. Spearheaded by Theater Emory Artistic Producing Director Vincent Murphy, the festival will be anchored by full productions from [Theater Emory](#), Synchronicity Performance Group, and PushPush Theater from early October through mid-November 2001. Recipient of a 1999 "genius" grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wallace has found great acclaim in England, receiving several commissions from the Royal Shakespeare Company, while remaining relatively unknown in her homeland. A native of Kentucky and winner of the Susan Smith Blackburn Award, Wallace's work has been praised for its lyricism, sensuality, and willingness to tackle difficult subjects. "I think Naomi Wallace is potentially the most



*Naomi Wallace
Photo by Sonja de Vries*

important emerging writer, yet no one knows who she is," says Vincent Murphy, associate professor of the [theater studies department](#). "This is an amazing thing to have 12 companies come together to share with our audiences her special voice. She's a writer not only for our time, but for all time."

Theater Emory will produce "The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek" Oct. 24-Nov. 10. The two-act, Depression-era play centers on two sexually-charged young people in a town so dull that the only excitement comes from playing chicken with the 7:10 train. Wallace weaves her tale with a thread of humor and mystery in this "lovely, strikingly poetic play" (New York Times) while considering how society continues to blame its ills on the young. Admission is \$15 (except the Nov. 1 pay-what-you-can performance) at the Mary Gray Munroe Theater, Dobbs University Center, 605 Asbury Circle, Emory University, 404-727-5050. The performance schedule follows: 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 24, followed by an opening reception; 8 p.m. on Oct. 25-27, Nov. 1-3 & 8-10; and 3 p.m. on Nov. 4 & 10.

In addition to the theater events, Wallace will give a reading and discussion of her works for Emory's [creative writing program](#) on Monday, Oct. 22 in the Jones Room of the Robert W. Woodruff Library. The event is free and open to the public. For more information about the reading, call 404-727-4683.

For more, see the [Naomi Wallace Festival](#) information.

2001 Summer Writers' Festival features Pulitzer Prize winner, E. Annie Proulx



E. Annie Proulx

In July, the [Creative Writing Program](#)'s 2001 Summer Writers' Festival celebrates the work of E. Annie Proulx. Annie Proulx's second novel, *The Shipping News*, won both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, and was described by the New York Times as a work which "displays Ms. Proulx's surreal humor and her zest for the strange foibles of humanity....Her inventive language is finely, if exhaustively, accomplished." She was the first woman to be honored with the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction, which she won in 1993 for her first novel, *Postcards*. Recent works by Proulx include *Accordion Crimes* (1996) and *Close Range* (1999).

Festival-goers will hear Proulx read from her work and talk about her research techniques ("The need to know has taken me from coal mines to fire towers, to hillsides studded with agate, to a beached whale skeleton, to the sunny side of an iceberg...to death masks with eyelashes stuck in the plaster.") as well as her methods of writing ("I write anytime, anyplace-- in the middle of the night, by the side of the road, on airplanes, at home, anywhere.") A highlight of the two-day festival will be a spontaneous conversation between Annie Proulx and Jim Grimsley, Senior Resident Fellow in Creative Writing at Emory. On the final morning of the Festival, Proulx

will conduct a public Master Class on the craft of writing. The festival schedule follows:

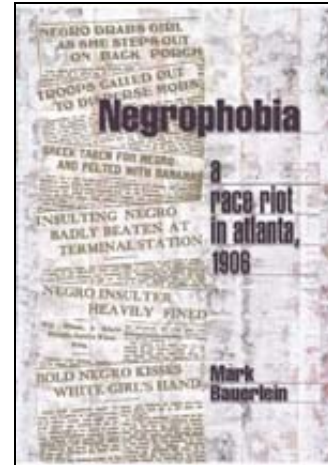
Thursday, July 26: 4 p.m. Conversation with Annie Proulx and Jim Grimsley; 8 p.m. Reading by Annie Proulx, reception and booksigning to follow the reading. Friday, July 27: 10 a.m. Master Class with Annie Proulx. All Festival events are free and open to the public. The festival is part of the Summer Writers' Institute.

Mark Bauerlein writes narrative history of 1906 race riot

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Atlanta was regarded as the gateway to an enlightened and racially progressive South. White business owners employed black workers, while black leaders led congregations, edited periodicals, and taught classes. But in 1906, in a bitter gubernatorial contest, Georgia politicians used race to polarize voters and white supremacists trumpeted a "Negro crime" scare. Seizing on rumors of black predation against white women, they launched a campaign based on fears of miscegenation and white subservience. Atlanta slipped into a climate of racial phobia and sexual hysteria that culminated in a bloody riot, which stymied race relations for fifty years.

In his new book, *Negrophobia: A Race Riot in Atlanta, 1906*, Mark Bauerlein, professor of [English](#), draws on new archival materials to trace the origins, development, and brutal climax of Atlanta's descent into hatred and violence in the fateful summer of 1906. The book recreates this moment in history as a suspenseful narrative, focusing on figures such as Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois; author Margaret Mitchell and future NAACP leader Walter White; and an assortment of black victims and white politicians who witnessed and participated in this American tragedy.

"When it comes to race relations in this country, everything--no matter how shameful or horrifying--ought to be revealed," Bauerlein told the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in an interview published May 27, 2001. "No more whitewashes. Tell the truth, and let's have a full picture of our history. Beyond that, the riot is a very important chapter in Atlanta's history. Racial hysteria ruled the streets. Nothing like it had happened before, and nothing like it has happened since."



Michael Bellesiles receives 2001 Bancroft Prize for book on American gun culture



[History](#) professor Michael Bellesiles has received the [2001 Bancroft Prize](#) in American History and Diplomacy, which is presented annually by the trustees of Columbia University to authors of books of exceptional merit and distinction in the



Michael Bellesiles

field of American history. Two other books, one a depiction of the social world of the California Gold Rush and the second a biography of William Randolph Hearst, also were honored. The Bancroft Prizes were established at Columbia in 1948 with a bequest from Frederic Bancroft, the historian, author, and librarian of the Department of State.

Bellesiles' book, "Arming America: The Origins of a National Gun Culture," explores how and when Americans developed their obsession with guns. The book asks the question: is gun-related violence so deeply embedded in American historical experience as to be immutable? The currently accepted answers to these questions are "mythology," says Bellesiles, an expert in American Colonial history.

According to Bellesiles, the national passion for gun ownership did not begin in America's frontier days. Through sophisticated research, Bellesiles has put together probate reports on what people owned in the 18th and early 19th centuries, government surveys of gun ownership, and records of the number of guns produced in America and imported from abroad. Contrary to the romantic idea that the frontiersman relied upon his weapon, Bellesiles establishes the fact that up until 1850, fewer than 10 percent of Americans owned guns, and half of those weapons were not functioning. Bellesiles received his Ph.D. in history from the University of California, Irvine, in 1986, and has published extensively on early American history, including his book "Revolutionary Outlaws: Ethan Allen and the Struggle for Independence on the Early American Frontier." He has taught at the University of California, Los Angeles, and served as director of undergraduate studies in history at Emory from 1991-98, where he also is founding director of the [violence studies](#) program.

Bill Gruber wins 2001 Bakeless Creative Nonfiction Prize

The [Bread Loaf Writers' Conference](#) of Middlebury College recently announced the winners of the 2001 sixth annual Bakeless Literary Publication Prizes. The Bakeless Prizes, named for Middlebury College supporter Katharine Bakeless Nason, are an annual book series competition for new authors of literary works in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. Bill Gruber's collection of essays, "On All Sides Nowhere," was chosen by William Finnegan for the creative nonfiction award. Gruber's book-length manuscript will be published by Houghton Mifflin in its distinguished Mariner Original Paperback line. In addition, he will receive a fellowship to attend the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in August 2002.

Bill Gruber received a Ph.D. from Washington State University, an M.A. from the University of Idaho, and a B.A. from Yale University. Since 1980, he has taught drama and theater history at Emory, where he is Professor of [English](#) and chairs the department. Before becoming a college teacher, Gruber was a journalist. He has also co-authored a number of stories



Bill Gruber

for children with his wife. Bill Gruber is currently completing a book on visual theory and "offstage" action in drama as well as translations of the Austrian playwright, Thomas Bernhard.

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