Opportunity. It has been said that wise persons will make more opportunities than they find. If that is the case, the coming time will give those of us in DAR many occasions to display our wisdom and, as an added bonus, sometimes without having to do anything really smart on our own! As the School of Medicine and University embark upon the implementation of mutual strategic plans to focus institutional resources in areas of opportunity where we can make a distinct impact, the DAR will have "wisdom" fall into our laps. This will be in the form of 500,000 square feet of new research buildings constructed in the next 3-5 years. Although unconfirmed, most likely these will contain animal research facilities. If that is the case, the DAR will be asked to run these facilities and deliver services in a way that enables the recruitment of 100 new faculty scientists. All of this obviously will converge on a practical level to create opportunities for employment and career advancement in the DAR. While this situation will drive us to proliferate and expand, we will, at the same time, also be expected, rather given the opportunity, to engage in conservation. More is already expected of us now in the way of saving money, preventing unnecessary animal losses, preserving cage and facility longevity, avoiding wasteful practices, and using our resources sensibly. While a pessimistic person would see difficulty in such case, as Churchill observed, an optimist finds the opportunity in every difficulty. The challenge to remain a conservationist in the face of continued growth will make our work interesting, but finding the opportunity and succeeding will make work and our contributions to Emory all worthwhile.

Relay For Life
Join the fun - Help in the fight against cancer!

DAR is once again getting a team together to participate in Relay For Life - a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate survivorship and raise money for research and programs of the American Cancer Society.

Participating in Relay is a wonderful way for the DAR to connect with others in the Emory community, as well as the local neighborhoods surrounding Emory. We work with animals that are used in many types of research, including cancer research. This is a way to make the connection from caring for animals every day to the benefits that come from the research done using them. Research which benefits all of us in one way or another.

What is Relay For Life? Teams come together to build community spirit, to honor loved ones and fight cancer - and have fun in the process. This year, the Relay event will be held at Adams Stadium from May 13-14. During the event, team members take turns walking or running laps. Each team tries to keep at least one team member on the track at all time.

Our team is called All Creatures Great and Small. Last year, the Creatures came in 4th in raising funds for cancer. This year, let's see if we can make it to the top 3!!!

There's still time to join the team! To do so, see Sylvia Banks to sign up. If you can't join the team, consider supporting one of the team members as they come around asking for your help in the fight against cancer. You can make a difference!
Birthdays
Jennifer Pullium 4/1
Rashidat Ayantunji 4/2
Marlene Barnes 4/17
Erik Thurman 4/26
Lashay Cobb 5/1
Sharmyn Gipson 5/3
Gueorgui Petkov 5/6

Milestones
Congratulations to Daniel Amankwah and Franklin Velasquez for passing his LAT certification exam!
Congratulations to Natalie Thorn for passing her ALAT exam. You go Girl!!
Congratulations to Tulasi and Kumari who had a baby boy, Ryan Ghimirey, who was born on January 30, 2005, after a harrowing trip to the hospital during the ice storm.
Congratulations to Sloane Presley who had a baby boy on March 16th.
Congratulations to Marsha Howard as her and her wife, Carol Seege, are celebrating their one year wedding anniversary May 2nd. They are going back to Hawaii to celebrate.
Congratulations to several technicians who have been promoted or reclassified. They include Thomas Jackson, Bryant Shelton, Marlene Barnes, Gideon Usifoh and Kirk Hubbard. Way to go, everybody!!!
Congratulations to Montarris Fowler on becoming a permanent member of the DAR staff. He is an Animal Care Trainee at RLS.

Anniversaries
Lashay Cobb April 1, 2002
Claude Reese April 8, 2002
Gary Menefee April 8, 2002
Erik Thurman April 8, 2002
Karen Lieber April 9, 2001
Quinton Harrison April 12, 2004
Franklin Velasquez April 12, 2002
Greg Kable April 22, 1996
Nancy Miller April 24, 2000
Yi Li May 5, 2003
Gary Roesinger May 15, 2001
Sylvia Banks May 17, 1999
Sloane Presley May 19, 2003
Gideon Usifoh May 19, 2003
Tulasi Ghimirey May 27, 2003

Welcome
New faces: Welcome to two new temporary employees; Kesha Hunter who has joined the Winship staff and Russell Neal who has joined the administrative staff.
We will soon be joined by two other new faces, Yvette McEwen and Stefan Micko. They will both join the animal care staff at Whitehead.

Perfect Attendance
Bi-Weekly Employees
Special Kudos goes out to Rashidat Ayantunji and Kathy McCormack for having perfect attendance for the months of February and March. Keep up the good work.
Kudos to the WBRB team and the DAR from Dr. Tom Genetta (Pediatrics) who remarked to Dr. Huerkamp: "The animal facilities and the staff attending them here are the best overall that I have ever encountered. It is not an easy thing to pull off so hats off to you and your excellent staff!"

Kudos to the sleuthing talents of Yi Li and Tina Engle from Dr. Huerkamp for helping him track down a person inappropriately allowing others into the animal research facilities.

Kudos to Beatrice Salako from Lynne Morelock-Roy for keeping the cost accounting on a monthly schedule this year!

Kudos to Neville Whitehead from Lee Alderman for his professionalism, great pride in his work, and caring for the WBRB as if he owned it. Mr. Alderman commended Neville and his team for the impeccable condition of the facility during the IACUC inspection on February 4, 2005.

Kudos to Cisco & Gary our crack transport team from Michelle Kulasiwicz for moving equipment to the new Pediatrics Building in a moments notice. Great job guys!

Kudos to the whole office staff from Michelle Kulasiwicz for keeping up with the reception/secretary duties during Marilyn’s maternity leave.

Kudos to Beatrice Salako from Christopher Rhoden and Roger Dixon for your constant encouragement and kind words. You always seem to have a smile that makes things better. We thank you for constantly listening to our concerns and pointing us in the right direction. You are a vital part of our DAR experience.

Kudos to Dr. Tasha Gray from Dr. Curtis Schondelmayr for being such a great friend and "resident mate!"

Kudos to Dr. Jennifer Pullium from Dr. Curtis Schondelmayr for all her guidance and help with my research project. We are on the home stretch!

Kudos to Rashidat Ayantunji from Marsha Howard for all her help in the facility and for making all the cage cards.

Kudos to Gary Menefee from Marsha Howard for always coming through for me and doing anything and everything that has been asked for you to do.

Kudos to all those who braved the elements during the inclement weather we had the last week of November. Several people gave up their weekend and stayed on campus Friday and Saturday night to ensure that the animals would be cared for if the roads proved impassable. They include Neville Whitehead, Tasha Gray, Ann Griffey, Agnes Nanje, Gideon Usifoh, Carlos Rhodriguez, and Char Reese. A special kudos to Tasha Gray and Neville Whitehead for their professionalism and devotion for volunteering without the prospect of getting compensated. Kudos also to those who did brave the elements and drove in on the perilous streets: Alex Giazkov and Shemsa Nuri came in both Saturday and Sunday. LaShay Cobb and Gary Menefee were able to make it on Sunday. Job Well Done!

Kudos to Jennifer Pullium from Kim Benjamin for being so helpful with everything over the past few months.

Kudos to Kim Benjamin from Jennifer Pullium for working hard to set up the Charles River quarantine deal.

Kudos to Karen Lieber from Jennifer Pullium for taking such great care of my beasts :)

Kudos to Beatrice Salako from Lynne Morelock-Roy for tremendous 'behind the scenes' work that keeps the HR side of our operations going smoothly.

Kudos to Quinton Harrison and Monetris Fowler from Kasie Moore for doing an excellent job on the floors in the RLS OR room. Your work is truly appreciated.

Kudos to the entire WBRB Staff from Ann and Neville for taking on extra work loads due to staff shortage /illness) during the week of Feb 20th /March 12th, 2005 and for getting the facility ready for a very successful IACUC inspection in Feb.

Kudos to Eric Thurman from Ann and Neville for assisting animal care technicians with euthanizing rodents during our staff shortage even though handling rodents is not his forte.

Kudos to the entire RLS staff from Marsha Howard for pitching in and working together to get things done during recent staff shortage.

Kudos to Neville Whitehead from Marsha Howard for still being my mentor and "Go To Guy" after all these years.

Kudos to Michelle Kulasiwicz from Lynne Morelock-Roy for being a caring supervisor and for working for the good of the team!
Service Award Luncheon

Larry Finch, with a 35-year career at Emory, and other employees with 25 or more years of service will be honored by President Wagner and other leaders of the university at a Service Award Luncheon on April 13, 2005. Many of us in the DAR had the opportunity to honor Larry at a retirement fete back on September 1, 2004. Larry, of course, has been affiliated with Emory since his birth at Grady Hospital, but formally joined the university community in 1970 when he was hired by the Pharmacology Department. In 1981, Larry transferred to the DAR where he served at various times as an animal care technician and supervisor. In 1985, he was one of 15 Emory employees recognized by Dr. Laney with an Emory Award of Distinction. Larry continues to cherish this award and the DAR takes great pride in its conferral. He is one of three DAR employees to have been so honored over the past 19 years having been joined by Lynne Morelock-Roy and Michelle Kulasiewicz. Larry is a positive person who always found a way and gave that extra effort to get things done. No inclement weather day could ever keep him from his duties. He was such a solid worker and steady influence that Dr. Lehner once tried to sing of him in the lyrics of Bob Seger and the jingle of a Chevy commercial as being “Like a Rock”. On the topic of singing, few of us that were there will ever forget the poignant a cappella rendition of “Silent Night” that Larry did several times. From his retirement party, some of us might remember that Larry’s nickname as a child was “Bird” in some part because of his surname, but also due to his skinny appearance. What many don’t know was that this moniker revisited him later on when “Larry Bird” was recognized as a silky smooth jump-shooting forward on an otherwise abysmal DAR intramural basketball team back in the late 80s. The DAR takes great pride in Larry and his passionate dedication and loyalty to us and to Emory.

AWARDS OF DISTINCTION

Congratulations to Greg Kable! Out of 19,000 Emory employees, our own Greg was one of 10 persons (the top 0.08%) recognized with Awards of Distinction by President Wagner at a dinner celebration on March 23, 2005. Greg, a DAR employee since 1996, was recognized for impacting the whole university through innovation resulting in increased efficiency, decreased costs and improved customer service. We also know and appreciate Greg as being humble and yet confident in his own abilities; bringing together different units to meet common needs; extending goodwill to all; and loving Emory so much he almost refuses to take vacation. We are proud of his achievement and recognition joining Larry Finch, Lynne Morelock-Roy and Michelle Kulasiewicz in the pantheon of DAR Award of Distinction recipients.
We are excited to announce that Emory and LA Fitness have joined together to offer a special membership rate for Emory employees (University and Healthcare). Below you will find a brief outline of the program and contact information.

We are in the process of planning some on-campus information/sign-up days with Representatives from LA Fitness as well as a flyer for you to post. In the meantime, please feel free to forward this to your constituents. Should you or an employee have any questions about the program, please call Keith Hammond at (404)248-2998 - he is the General Manager at the Toco Hills LA Fitness.

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**Cool Stuff for Hot Times:**

**Emory 2005 Summer Camps**

Emory hosts a variety of summer programs for children of all ages. To learn more about each program, stop by one of the Faculty Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) Summer Camp InfoStops on campus or contact the camp directly by phone (404-727-WELL) or by visiting the website [http://emory.hr.emory.edu/summercamps/index.htm](http://emory.hr.emory.edu/summercamps/index.htm)

For information on other summer programs, Emory employees can contact FSAP at (404-727-WELL) to obtain a list of summer camp referrals.

InfoStops will be held at 11 a.m. from March 8th through April 7th at various locations at Emory.

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**Under The Scope**

**Name:** Daniel A. Amankwah  
**Position:** Animal Care Technician III  
**Longevity:** 6 years and 8 months  
**Personal Background:** The 6th born of 8 siblings (7 men and 1 female). I am originally from Ghana in West Africa.  
**Most Rewarding Aspect of your Job:** Is to get to work as early as possible to meet all my colleagues. I love to house newly arrived animals and learn about the different strains that come in.  
**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go:** To South Africa or Botswana where I once lived and worked. The weather is superb and it’s fun to go on Safari to see the wild “animals” in their natural habitat.  
**If you could have any luxury item in the world, what would it be:** I have got it already. A house with a happy family is enough for me. Materialistic things do not excite me.  
**In your free time, what do you enjoy doing:** Being with my girls at home playing, sharing jokes to make them laugh, or going out with them just to have fun, especially at the Stonecrest Mall.
Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Mark your calendars for the following events:

Thursday, April 14, 2005 - 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. - Technician Appreciation Breakfast - bring your appetites and join the fun at the DUC Food Plaza. Following breakfast, we will move to the Winship Ballroom (behind the Food Plaza).

Thursday, April 21, 2005, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - Employee Information Session on Performance Management - Stephanie Lanoue and Jeanne Thigpen of Human Resources will lead a discussion on changes in the Universities approach to the evaluation of work performance.

Thursday, April 21, 2005, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Mouse Breeding 101, presented by Minida Dowdy.

Thursday, May 12, 2005, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - DAR Monthly Training Session. Dr. Michael Huerkamp will discuss "Zoonosis and Animal Allergies."

Friday, April 29, 2005, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Relay For Life Bake Sale. As a fundraiser for the Relay, DAR will once again hold a bake sale. We'll take all donations of goodies, whether you are an official team member or not. And of course, come by the booth with your spare change and pick up desert! We'll be out in front of the Whitehead building.

Friday & Saturday, May 13 & 14, 2005, 6:30 p.m. through 9:00 a.m. - Relay For Life event at Adams Stadium. All are welcome! whether or not you are on the team. Lots of fun activities to participate in! All proceeds go to the fight against cancer.

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**Editor's Squak:**

*Excellence is the result of caring more than others think is wise, risking more than others think is safe, dreaming more than others think is practical, and expecting more than others think is possible.*

*Anonymous*

**Editor: Kasie Moore**