Leader of the Pack
Dr. Michael Huerkamp, Director

“Think globally, act locally” and “Waste not, want not”. We’ve read these proverbs on bumper stickers and many of us heard them from our grandparents. As Lynne and I participated in the annual DAR budget review and planning with the Dean’s Office on May 11, these adages of conservation, one contemporary and one perhaps harkening back to the great depression and war rationing of the 1st half of the last century, began to resonate with me. Shortly thereafter I recalled a conversation I had with Gary Roesinger where he encouraged me to address the issue of energy conservation through this column. So, back on May 11, while I was heartened to hear the average annual merit raise had increased from 3% to 3.75%, I also clearly heard Dean Schroeder lament that the utility bills for the School of Medicine were increasing 9% and overhead was going up 10%. As I reflected on that 3.75% raise figure and how it might be higher if only the utility bills and overhead were lower, I was also mindful that inflation for the year was averaging 4.25% meaning that most of us were going to lose ground financially. Anyone still driving alone to work and paying over $3 for gas knows that already. It seems pretty hopeless, but does it have to be? As with so many things, whether it involves financial wizardry, forward-thinking regarding disasters, or merit raises based upon real performance, we in the DAR have the chance both as a group and personally to take a leadership role at Emory and to set an example. For one, we can do our part to reduce overhead by caring enough to avoid careless errors. This will be critical in the forthcoming year when our budget will be as lean as last year’s, but still manageable (don’t freak-out on me vet staff!). Let’s meet standards of good care and not compromise quality, but not waste food, bedding, lab supplies, or clinical materials. If we think beyond preventing mistakes and are creative and resourceful and imaginative, there may be no limit to the hidden potentials we may reveal, the satisfaction we may obtain, and the money we may save. As a start, let’s do our part to preserve energy and turn off computers when not in use and turn off lights in labs, offices, clinical areas, the warehouse and locker rooms when they are unoccupied. I have to admit that I have found commuting to and from work in a car pool actually fun, not to mention lucrative on several levels (as young Dr. Taylor has found out winning $100 in gas cards in less than a year). I recommend carpooling to all. When the long-planned pedestrian bridge gets built across Lullwater Creek, I will be able to make a difference even more by taking a nice stroll through the woods to get to the VA rather than drive a car. Beyond our individual contributions, the DAR, mostly led by Wes Thompson, is exploring with Campus Services personnel how we might be less wasteful of water, how we might be able to power down hallway lights during times the animal facilities are not occupied, how waste might be better managed, and other initiatives in line with the university’s plan for conservation and sustainability (found at: http://www. finadmin. emory.edu/policies/SustyReportFinal.pdf). Symmetrically getting back to our budget, Lynne’s analysis suggests that we saved $1,100 in a year by substituting a golf cart for personal vehicles. You have my pledge that we will continue to use technology in this way to conserve not only energy, but also our valuable human resources. Colleagues in DAR, as Edward Abbey said, “God bless America. Let’s save some of it”.
Birthdays

Lashay Cobb      May 1st
Sharmyn Gipson   May 3rd
George Petkov    May 6th
Alyssa Kairdolf  June 3rd
George Eshun     June 11th
Wes Thompson     June 20th
Hanson Achesampong June 22nd
Alex Glazkov     June 23rd
Carol Westbury   June 25th
Mike Shelton     June 30th
Antonio Mack     June 30th
Neville Whitehead July 15th
Grace Shim       July 16th
Mike Hatchet     July 22nd
Jeanna Landeck   July 22nd
Agnes Nanje      July 26th

Anniversaries

Ellen Adams       May 1st (1)
Gary Roesinger    May 15th (6)
Gideon Usifoh     May 19th (4)
George Eshun      May 22nd (1)
Tulasi Ghimirey   May 27th (4)
Lynn Collura      June 14th (1)
Tina Engle        June 15th (4)
Lynne Morelock-Roy June 16th (26)
Wes Thompson      June 17th (11)
Mike Hatchet      June 19th (2)
Daniel Amankwah   June 29th (9)
Dizk Dillehay     July 1st (19)
Doug Taylor       July 1st (1)
Calvin Dunkley    July 3rd (2)
Christin Veeder   July 5th (1)
Deb Mook          July 9th (6)

Welcome

There are a few new faces floating around the DAR.
Shannon Baker: Animal Care Trainee at Woodruff
Antonio Mack: Animal Care Trainee at Winship
Danny Sledge: Animal Care Trainee at Pediatrics
April Wiles: Animal Care Tech II at Rollins
Mikelyn Batiste: Animal Care Tech II at Whitehead

Congratulations

Congratulations to Daniel Duah on passing his ALAT!
Congratulations to LaShay Cobb on her recent reclassification to Animal Care Tech III!
Congratulations to Rashidat Ayantunji on her recent promotion to supervisor of Winship, Eye Center, and Pediatrics.
Kudos to Selma Yarney from Karen Lieber for knowing the definition of "thigmotactic!"

Kudos to Christin Veeder from Kendall Flint for all of her help. She has been so helpful in surgery. Thanks for weathering through all the crazy stuff with me! I would not have kept my sanity without you.

Kudos to Dr. Taylor from Tina Engle for his expert advice and reassuring, kind words for people’s beloved pets!

Kudos to Erik Thurman and Daniel Duah from Neville Whitehead for spotting the wrongly manufactured wire bar lids which were delivered to us. If these wire bar lids were put into circulation we would have had a major dehydration problem.

Kudos to Cisco Calderon and Gary Roesinger from Tina Engle for letting me catch you any and every day to get the latest counts on warehouse items and deliveries!

Kudos to Neville Whitehead from Kendall Flint for showing the vet tech students Oscar and Felix. It was great help to me that day.

Kudos to Dr. Mook from Tina Engle on her on-the-spot recall powers...only you would/could remember the specifics on a special diet like Cydecin!

Kudos to Karen Lieber and Tony Favoloro from Kendall Flint for all of their help in the Saturday Sheep Course. You guys were excellent! Thanks again, I could not have done it without you guys.

Kudos to Dr. Huerkamp from Tina Engle for gathering us all together for a wonderful breakfast of appreciation!

Kudos to Lynn Morelock-Roy from Kendall Flint for helping me fix my monetary problems. It means a ton to me!

Kudos to Rashidat Ayantunjni from Tina Engle for letting me and Marsha lean on her knowledge of facility issuances when coding those monthly packets! We appreciate your getting it (i.e. cost centers packets) done... and done RIGHT!!!

Kudos to Cisco Calderon and Gary Roesinger from Neville Whitehead for helping at such a short notice relocating bio safety cabinets to another room and free up space for housing animals. I think I can speak for all the supervisors and managers in saying how efficient these two guys are. They put UPS, FedEx yellow and all the other delivery companies to shame.

Kudos to our terrific facility supervisors: Neville Whitehead, Anne Griffey, Rashidat Ayantunjni, and Marsha Howard from Tina Engle for your endless help and availability in everyday issues and questions. I know how busy you are and can’t tell you how much I appreciate your quick turn-around times, follow-ups and follow-throughs on requests, as well as immediate replies to emails! :)

Kudos to Doug Taylor from Kendall Flint for his smiling personality.

Kudos to Wes Thompson from Tina Engle for not making us sick when driving back from lunch-runs.

Kudos to the Gwinnett Tech students from the Vet Staff for all of their hard work and dedication. We could not have survived the April Course without you guys!

Kudos to Ellen Adams and Karen Lieber from Tina Engle for their continual help and answers in the world of Diagnostic Test names, prices, forms, etc!

Kudos to Russell Neal from Tina Engle for stepping right up and IN to warehouse inventory territory! The unknown frontier is sure to bring you much adventure...

Kudos to Darlene Wyche-Alda-De from Tina Engle for keeping hundreds of invoices so perfectly organized every month! You have always made our jobs easier by providing us with our necessary supplies ~ AND especially for me now....with every month’s batch of invoices complete with its backup for coding! How do you do it all? :)

Kudos to Alyssa Kairdoll, Sharyn Gipson, Michelle Kulawicz, and Kathy McCormack from Tina Engle for keeping me and Russell so well-informed ALL the time with the on-goings up front!

Kudos to Kathy Troyer and Greg Kable from Tina engle for absorbing all the computer- and security issues, not to mention everything else we don’t and never will know about because you keep us up and running so smoothly each and every week!

Kudos to Gideon Usifoh from Daniel Amanakh for going the extra mile to help in areas of much concern.

Kudos to Calvin Dunklin and Eric Thurman from Daniel Amanakh for working around the clock and even skipping lunch to make sure cages came through early enough.
Kudos

Kudos to Lynne Morelock-Roy from Tina Engle for answering my never-ending list of miscellaneous questions every week at meeting time!

Kudos to Nancy Miller from Tina Engle for giving me all the needed information/answers, even when the questions go back many weeks and months!

Kudos to Dr. Dillehay from Tina Engle for being a human-medical dictionary. Thank you for providing me with examples on top of definitions!

Kudos to Kasie Moore, Kendall Flynt, Lynn Collura, and Christin Veeder from Tina Engle for your mental back-tracking abilities! One day I will only ask you about the past month’s expenses, invoices, and orders as opposed to last year’s! :)

Kudos to George Eshun and Tulasi Ghimire from Sharmyn Gipson and Michelle Kulasiewicz, who saved the day! They discovered errors with a Jackson Labs mouse shipment. Instead of housing the animals anyway and just crossing their fingers and hoping for the best...they came straight to Michelle and me with the discrepancies. Together we were able to solve the mystery, contact the vendor, straighten the orders out and house the mice properly. They saved D.A.R. and Jax Labs money, the P.I. their research, and the administrative staff a whole lot of paper work. Thanks guys! What a shining example you are!

Kudos to Gary Roesinger, Cisco Calderon, Wes Thompson, and everyone else from Doug Taylor involved with managing the "Big Pig".

Kudos to All Whitehead Animal Care Technicians who were here on June 6&7, 2007 from Daniel Amankwaah for their unwavering performance when the robot was down and also short staffed."

Under the Scope

Name: Kendall Smith Flynt
Position: Surgery Veterinary Technician
Longevity: Approximately 1.5 years

Personal Background: I was born and raised in New Orleans, La. I have a younger brother. I recently graduated from Huntingdon College with a Bachelor’s in Biology. In college, I met my new husband, Rob, who I married last October. We have one very fat cat named Tuck. I am currently applying to UGA Veterinary School with hopes of starting in the Fall of 2008. I have wanted to be a veterinarian since I was nine years old. I would like to return to lab animal medicine once I have graduated.

Most Rewarding Aspect of your Job: It has always been the animals. I love them all! I also love being a part of ground breaking research that is a big part of modern-day medicine.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go: I would love to go to Ireland. It is a big part of my heritage. I think Italy and Australia would be incredible to visit as well.

If you could have any luxury item in the world, what would you get: Another horse! I really miss horseback riding.

In your free time, what do you enjoy doing: I love spending time with my husband. I also enjoy hanging out with friends and family. I enjoy going out on the town and finding the latest event around Atlanta.
On Friday, May 18th, the annual Emory Staff Fest was held on the quadrangle. All Emory University employees and retirees were welcome to come and join in the food, fun, and entertainment.

The food was a wide variety of cold and warm dishes. Assortment of cookies, chip, fruit and drinks were also available. There was plenty for everyone to eat.

Among the fun was the rock climbing wall, bungee trampoline, and assortment of games. Tony Favaloro represented the DAR with his tumbling act and reaching for the heavens on the bungee trampoline. Karen Lieber had a lucky day playing the games and racking up tickets for the fine prizes from which to choose.

The DJ kept everyone entertained throughout the afternoon. There were several familiar faces from the DAR on the dance floor breaking it down. The hula hoop contest kept everyone in suspense, as Russell Neal and Roger Dixon competed for the men’s hula hoop championship. Unfortunately, their hips were sadly defeated.

Roger Dixon tried his luck at the next contest along with Tony Favaloro in the game of Simon Says. Victory was closer for the DAR, but still fell short of the championship. Tina Engle and Tulasi Ghimery joined the guys to try to bring home a championship for the DAR in the relay race. After hula hoping and bouncing on a blown up horse, among other challenges, the DAR was sadly defeated again.

Even though the DAR was unsuccessful in hula hooping and such, overall Staff Fest 2007 was a success. Even the primates at Woodruff benefited from Staff Fest with the left over bananas!
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<tr>
<th>Birthdays</th>
<th>Anniversaries</th>
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<td>Lynne Morelock-Roy</td>
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<td>Greg Kable</td>
<td>Ann Griffey</td>
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<td>Michelle Kulasiewicz</td>
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<td>Kendall Flynt</td>
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Milestones

Congratulations to Alex Glaskov on his 5 years of service at DAR!

Congratulations to Roger Dixon on his 5 years of service at DAR!

Congratulations to Shemshu Nuri on his 5 years of service at DAR!

Congratulations to Kendall Flynt on passing the LAT exam!

Welcome

Please welcome the following employees that has joined the DAR team!

Kathy Troyer - Secretary of Systems and Operations
Dr. Sherrie Jean - Veterinary Resident
Dr. Vanessa Lee - Veterinary Resident
Lisa Copeland - Information Analyst
Kaja Alford - Animal Care Tech I at Pediatrics
Claude Pitt - Animal Care Tech II at Whitehead