Honoring teaching—past, present, and future

If you ask Carter Smith Jr., 56C, 60M, what he values most about the School of Medicine, he comes to the point quickly: “Teaching.”

As a medical student and cardiology resident, Smith “learned from the best,” including Evangeline Papa- george, J. Willis Hurst, Bruce Logue, Robert Schlant, J.D. Martin, and Edgar Fincher.

“They emphasized the personal care of patients and being available to meet their needs,” says Smith.

So did his father, Carter Smith, 24C, 26M. Carter Smith Jr. followed in his father’s footsteps by serving on the clinical faculty at Emory, teaching at Grady Hospital, and practicing at Piedmont Hospital. He was also responsible for establishing the Carter Smith Sr. Chair in Medicine in honor of his father and funded by a gift from Reunette Harris. Carter Smith was physician to Mrs. Harris from the mid-1950s until 1980; his son then cared for her until her death in 1994.

Carter Smith Jr. also took cues from his father in serving his profession and community. The younger Smith, for instance, served on Emory’s Board of Governors and chaired Emory’s Board of Visitors. And like his father, Smith was president of Emory’s Medical Alumni Association.

Now retired from teaching and private practice, Smith serves on the boards of the Piedmont Foundation and the Emory Medical Alumni Association. He also co-chairs the medical school’s annual fund and serves on the Emory Annual Fund Board with Thomas Schoborg, 73M.

Smith is a huge fan of the new School of Medicine Building. Teaching lies at the heart of the facility, which is designed to support the new medical education and the Emory Medical Alumni Association. He also co-chairs the medical school’s annual fund and serves on the Emory Annual Fund Board with Thomas Schoborg, 73M.

Smith is a huge fan of the new School of Medicine Building. Teaching lies at the heart of the facility, which is designed to support the new medical education curriculum and which incorporates the historic Anatomy and Physiology buildings. “The new structure is very meaningful to alumni, many of whom took anatomy and biochemistry in these buildings,” he says.

The building and its importance to teaching are among the reasons Smith chose to give to the medical school. For the past two years, Smith has made several charitable IRA rollover gifts, making Carter and his wife, Laura, 77L, Supporting Sponsors of the building. “The charitable IRA rollover appealed to me because the money goes directly from your IRA to Emory and you’re not taxed on it,” he says.

A by-product of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, the charitable IRA rollover provision allows otherwise taxable distributions of up to $100,000 per person made to a charitable organization from a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA to be excluded from gross income. The amount rolled over can satisfy the required minimum distribution. IRA owners must be 70½ to qualify for the IRA rollover. This limited opportunity remains in effect through December 31, 2007, unless Congress extends the provision.

Smith sees the charitable IRA rollover as a practical way to support medical education, whether by contributing to the building, student scholarships, or other programs. “The tax advantage makes it easy to give out of your IRA,” he says. “It’s a great way to show your loyalty and devotion to the school and reach out to the next generation of Emory-trained physicians.

“We are all grateful to the Woodruff family and foundation for helping shape and grow the school,” he adds. “But it will take alumni giving to help Emory reach the top tier of the nation’s medical schools.”

To learn more about the charitable IRA rollover and other planned giving opportunities, contact Stephanie Frostbaum (404-712-2155 or stephanie.frostbaum@ emory.edu) in the Emory Office of Gift Planning or Heather Pharris (404-727-5932 or heather.pharris@ emory.edu) in the School of Medicine Office of Development and Alumni Relations.

Improving donor organ awareness and outcomes

For many Georgians with end-stage liver and kidney disease, transplantation is the only treatment option. But donor organs are scarce, and nearly 2,000 patients are on the waiting list. Those who do receive transplants face a different battle: Their immune systems treat the new organs as foreign objects and work overtime to reject them. Two major gifts totaling more than $2 million from the Carlos and Marguerite Mason Trust are helping Emory and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta tackle both of those problems.

With $975,000 from the Mason Living Donor Program, the Mason Living Donor Program will support the Emory Transplant Center at Emory and Children’s has created the Mason Living Donor Program. The new initiative will help educate the public about living organ donation to encourage more Georgians to donate a kidney or liver segment during their lifetime. The program also makes becoming a living donor easier and identifies more eligible donors.

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Safeguarding health for Georgians

The Emory Vaccine Center has a long history of developing vaccines to protect against diseases. It is one of the leading centers in the world for research on vaccines. In 2015, the center received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to further its research on vaccines for tropical diseases. The center is also involved in research on vaccines for cancer and other diseases.

In addition to the centers, Emory has a strong tradition of providing healthcare to underserved communities. The Emory University Hospital is one of the largest hospitals in the state and provides care to patients from all over the state. The Emory Healthcare System is also one of the largest healthcare systems in the state, with more than 1,000 physicians and 1,000 nurses.

Emory University has a strong commitment to research and education, and its efforts are supported by a variety of donors. The university has received millions of dollars in grants from federal agencies, foundations, and other sources. In 2015, Emory received a grant from the National Institutes of Health to support research on cancer vaccines.

Emory is also known for its strong partnerships with other organizations. The university has partnerships with a variety of organizations, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and the Department of Defense.

Emory is committed to providing high-quality care to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay. The university has a strong program for providing financial assistance to patients who need it. In 2015, Emory provided more than $10 million in financial assistance to patients.

Emory is dedicated to improving the health of the communities it serves. The university has a strong commitment to outreach and education, and it works closely with community organizations to improve health outcomes.

In summary, Emory University is a world-class institution with a strong commitment to research, education, and service. The university is home to some of the best minds in medicine and science, and it is dedicated to improving the health of the communities it serves.