

Photos by W. Pettus

# A New Focus

n 1978 the Departments of Biology and Chemistry at Georgia State University developed an interdisciplinary program for scientific research and instruction, the Laboratory for Microbial and Biochemical Sciences. The research programs of Dr. Eleanor B. Smithwick, Assistant Professor of Biology and of several others of the Laboratory faculty required transmission electron microscopy.

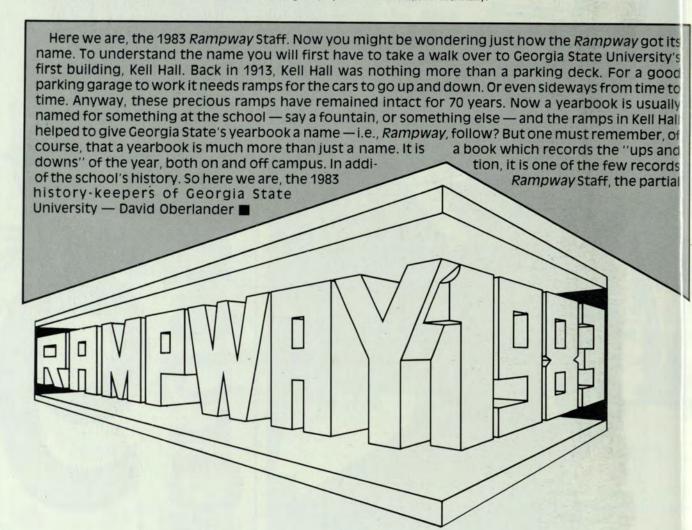
Dr. Smithwick, an experienced electron microscopist, and a consortium of these scientists were awarded a Biological Instrumentation Grant from the National Science Foundation toward the purchase of a high resolution transmission electron microscope costing \$137,000. The University provided matching funds to complete the purchase and renovated the laboratory housing this instrument.

The new JEOL electron microscope is housed in Dr. Smithwick's laboratory in 484 Kell and will be under her supervision. Instruction will include methods to prepare specimens for electron microscopy, operation of the instrumentation, and high resolution electron- and photomicrography printing. Dr. Smithwick has already begun collaborative research with several of the faculty of Biology and Chemistry and will be training and supervising the students and staff involved in these projects. The first formal course (Bio 452/652) will be offered this spring. As the only electron microscope on campus, this instrument constitutes a significant contribution toward instruction and research at GSU.

The research interests of the faculty and students using the electron microscope are diverse and encompass many areas of national concern, including mechanisms of mammalian flagellar motility, microbial degradation of petroleum hydrocarbons, environmental effects on plant metabolism and photosynthesis, application of genetic engineering to enzyme regulatory mechanisms, host-virus interactions, molecular probes of biological membranes, steroid hormone-cell interactions, and various analyses of chromosomes, plasmids, nucleosomes and DNA. This state-of-the-art transmission electron microscope is a valuable research tool, capable of providing the correlative fine structural/functional data essential to many current research commitments.



First row: Felecia Travis, Michael J. Baxter, Sharon Blalock, Anita Martin, Tracye Hill, David Oberlander. Second row: Golfo Gianna kopoulos, Wesley Pettus, Besa Trenova, Rick Rodriguez, Cynthia Sinkfield, Jim McAnally.



## College of Arts and Sciences



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### Anthropology

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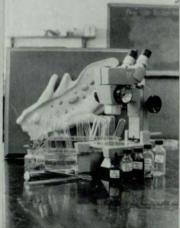
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Ms. Mary Low Andretti
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Dr. Eleanor Smithwick Dr. Kristina Wright



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