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How Auburn
Stacks Up

Number of Auburn
employees, 2003-07

Back in school
After a late December lull, students returned by the
thousands to campus last week for start of spring
semester. One of the busiest places on campus
was the AU Bookstore, as seen here, where stu-
dents stocked up on books for their classes.

How Auburn
Stacks Up

Number of Auburn
employees, 2003-07

Pulitzer-winning
poet with AU ties
to discuss works

Nathasha Trethewey, a former AU faculty
member who won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize
for poetry, will join two other published
poets with Auburn ties in a Jan. 24 sym-
posium at the Jule Collins Smith Museum.

At the 4 p.m. public symposium, “Ekphrasis:
Word and Image,” Trethewey will join Dan Alber-
gotti, who is a former Auburn instructor, and Jake
Adam York, a 1994 Auburn graduate. All three
taught in the English Department at Auburn in the
late 1990s and early in this decade.

“Ekphrasis” is a term used to define poetry that
takes as its subject visual arts, art objects or highly
visual scenes. Ekphrasis has been a principal com-
ponent of the work of Trethewey as well as Alber-
gotti and York.

Trethewey, who holds the Phillis Wheatley
Distinguished Chair in Poetry at Emory University,
won a Pulitzer Prize last year for the poetry volume
“Native Guard,” which pays homage to black Union
soldiers in Louisiana during the Civil War. Houghton

Trethewey’s first two poetry collections, “Do-
meric Work,” and “Bellocq’s Ophelia,” written or
published while she was on the Auburn faculty, also
garnered awards. Her work has appeared in many
anthologies and journals, and she has received
fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the
Rockefeller Foundation, the Bunting Fellowship
Program of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced
Study at Harvard University and the National En-
dowment for the Arts.

Albergotti’s first full-length collection, “The
Boatloads,” won the 2007 A. Poulin Jr. Poetry Prize
and will be published in March by BOA Editions.
His poems have appeared in Mid-American Review,
Shenandoah, The Southern Review, The Virginia
Quarterly Review and other journals. He has been
a scholar at the Sewanee and Bread Loaf writers’

For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

Upcoming event to focus
on impact of world hunger

Auburn will host its third annual Empty
Bowls Banquet on Saturday to call attention
to the plight of 850 million people around
the world who face hunger and the threat of starva-
tion on a daily basis.

The Empty Bowls Banquet is an activity of the
War on Hunger Initiative, a partnership between
AU and the World Food Programme of the United
Nations to enlist higher education institutions
across the United States in accelerated efforts to im-

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See Empty Bowls, page 3
AU faculty, alumnae design model pharmacy for complex medications

Ken Barker

Pharmacy researchers at Auburn and an AU alumna have designed a model pharmacy to make certain complex medical treatments available to patients outside of hospitals for the first time.

Over the past year, Kenneth Barker and Betsy Flynn of AU’s Harrison School of Pharmacy led a multidisciplinary team in designing a fully operational structure that will be built for Vital Care Inc. in Meridian, Miss. AU pharmacy graduate Johny Bell, who owns Vital Care, asked the AU professors to help design the facility.

The 13,000-square-foot building will be used to prepare, dispense and administer the medications.

“This was a perfect opportunity for us to design a new facility from scratch for a rapidly growing industry,” said Barker, director of the Center for Research on Pharmacy Operations and Designs in the School of Pharmacy. “Most often, architectural plans must work within existing buildings, whereas we were to start from a clean slate.”

Bell, a 1971 AU pharmacy graduate and former president of the AU Pharmacy Alumni Association, contacted the team in 2006 to develop the plans.

“Well with Auburn’s help, we are building the model facility to show pharmacists how they can provide this much-needed service, especially in rural areas,” said Bell, who, along with his staff, participated in the design process. “We combined our knowledge of high technology therapies and experiences in opening home-infusion franchises. Home infusion is a growing trend among pharmacies in which they dispense complex medications to patients with chronic illnesses who, themselves, can administer in their homes.

“Auburn’s work of poetic history, “The Architecture of This World,” can help us to design treatment suites for patients who need to receive treatments at the facility, rather than at home. Patients will be able to receive treatment while having Internet access, listening to music or watching television in the suite’s audio-video systems,” said Barker. “Dr. Bell has devoted his career to designing better layouts for hospitals and pharmacies, so we wanted to use his center’s expertise,” said Bell. “We wanted an ergonomic design with an efficient and safe operational flow. They also helped determine the amount of space needed, which would also allow for future expansions by franchisees.”

“Auburn alumna Bell founded Vital Care in 1986 and has expanded the company to 75 employees in Meridian and 140 franchise holders in 18 states. In addition to assisting franchise holders with their business startup, Vital Care conducts various business and clinical functions and it offers expertise about reimbursement from Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance companies.

The company provides information about construction of medication preparation areas to comply with the National Fire Protection and Design and EMS. Also, it assists the travel to the areas of franchise holders to train local nurses who work with home-infusion patients.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 15
BROWN BAG LECTURE “Sex Trafficking in America: New Developments in Law and Society,” Carrie Barker of Berry College, noon, Foy 208

MEETING University Senate, 3 p.m., auditorium, Broun Hall

Wednesday, January 16
BROWN BAG FORUM “Sheroes in Action,” panel discussion about campus and community women activists, 11:45 a.m., Foy 203

Thursday, January 17
MULTICULTURAL PROGRAM Poems inspired by Martin Luther King and viewing of film “The Boy King,” 11:45 a.m., Foy 203

PUBLIC LECTURE History Professor Larry Gerber, author of “The Irony of State Intervention: American Industrial Relations Policy in Comparative Perspective,” 3 p.m., Special Collections and Archives Library

PUBLIC LECTURE “Monument: Images,” views of Selma, photographer Jerry Siegel, 5 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum

Friday, January 18
MULTICULTURAL PROGRAM Interfaith prayer service, 11:45 a.m., University Chapel

Saturday, January 19
EMPTY BOWLS BANQUET Silent auction at 5:30 p.m., “dinner” and live auction at 6:30 p.m., cost $19, Jule Collins Smith Museum

Monday, January 21
HOLIDAY No classes, no AU Office, offices closed for observance of Martin Luther King Day

Wednesday, January 23
MEETING AU Staff Council, 9:30 a.m., Foy 217

DANCE PERFORMANCE “Daunce,” 7:30 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre; also Jan. 25-27; box office 844-4154

March 3 deadline

Scholarships available for children of faculty, staff members at Auburn

be Office of University Scholarships is accepting applications for the 2008-09 AU Employee Dependent Waiver application.

In 2007-08, AU awarded 1,000 scholarships to 11 dependencies of faculty and staff under the Employee Dependent Children Scholarship Program, and officials expect a similar number of scholarships to be available for eligible students in the 2008-09 academic year.

“it is important to us that employees are aware of this scholarship opportunity specifically available to employees’ children,” saidelda Rooker of the Office of University Scholarships.

Priority consideration will be given to applications that are postmarked or received by March 3, 2008. A parent or guardian eligible for consideration must be a full-time, regular continuing employee in any employee group in any division of Auburn University and be employed for a minimum of 12 months immediately preceding the application deadline. To be eligible for consideration, a dependent child must be an admitted undergraduate student enrolled at the Auburn main campus, be a dependent child as documented by an IRS tax return for the most recent filing period and have a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average in high school, as a transfer or at AU, depending on current enrollment status.

Students who demonstrate financial need through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid application will receive prior consideration, but Rooker said AU employees should apply if the dependent is otherwise qualified and the family does not fall within those guidelines. “In the event fewer students with financial need apply than the number of scholarships we plan to award, those without financial need will also receive consideration,” she said.

Application forms are online at www.auburn.edu/University Scholarships/employee dependent scholarships. The forms are also available at the Office of University Scholarships at 115 Quad Center. Employees must complete a separate application for each eligible dependent.

The Employee Dependent Children Scholarship Program is separate from the Employee Dependent Waiver application. Direct questions regarding the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the Employee Dependent Waiver application to the AU Office of Financial Aid, 844-6534 or finaid@auburn.edu.

Note: questions regarding the Employee Dependent Children Scholarship to the Office of University Scholarships at 844-7570 or scholar@auburn.edu.

Empty Bowls continued from page 1

prove conditions for people facing a daily challenge of fighting off hunger and starvation.

The Auburn University team, which is the largest in the state, will take place at the Jule Collins Smith Museum, starting at 5:30 p.m. with a silent auction of bowls crafted by artists from across the Southeast. At 6:30 p.m., participants will receive a light meal of soup and bread and take part in a live auction of handcrafted bowls. The cost is a $19 donation per person, and each participant will receive a bowl for their efforts.

Additional information is available by phone at 844-3790 or by e-mail at jkucera@auburn.edu.
Recovered painting has historical significance for Art Department

Patrick Huddleston never thought he would rely on his affinity for art history in his job with Auburn’s Contracts and Grants Accounting office. But a recent “discovery” during the department’s move gave him the opportunity.

While preparing to move from their offices in Samford Hall to M. White Smith Hall last year, Huddleston and his colleagues were packing some items and discarding others when a certain painting caught his eye.

“No one really wanted it except me,” he said of the artwork that had previously hung in the department’s reception area.

Featuring a modern-looking bookcase stacked with books, the painting’s focus is a vase containing a single Canna lily. Huddleston said he was drawn to the painting’s muted colors and was intrigued by how the artist skillfully used light and shadows to create dimension in the piece.

With the painting slated to be left behind, perhaps banished to a closet or surplus property, Huddleston quickly tagged it for the move. During the transition, Huddleston resurrected the piece from the trash pile twice before it was safely delivered to his new office.

Because of the textured brush strokes, signature and date in the bottom left corner, he concluded that the work was an original oil painting and wanted to find out more about the artist, who signed the painting F. W. Applebee ’35.

“I did a Google search for ‘F. W. Applebee’ and I learned that the artist was Frank W. Applebee, who also founded the art department at Auburn,” Huddleston said.

Applebee’s daughter, Gloria Ollice, said her father moved to Auburn after graduating from the Massachusetts School of Art. He initially taught painting and drawing to architecture students and a few home economics and education students. He formed the art department in 1928, became department head in 1930 and served as dean of the School of Architecture and Arts in 1961-62. Applebee retired in 1969 and was named professor emeritus.

Noting Applebee’s importance to AU’s history, Huddleston turned the painting over to AU’s Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

“Patrick rescued part of our visual arts legacy,” said Marilyn Laufer, director of the JCS Museum. “That legacy is much greater than one painting from a former faculty member. It is the idea that here we have something tangible that reflects Applebee’s creative expression in addition to our increased understanding of the important role this man played in Auburn University’s history.”

Applebee was influential in Auburn’s purchase of several paintings in 1948 known as the Advancing American Art Collection.

The paintings Applebee purchased in 1948 had been collected by the United States State Department and were to be auctioned as war surplus. Hearing of the auction and recognizing a historic opportunity, Applebee gathered funding from the art department to enter the auction. He was able to purchase 36 paintings for $1,072. Described as the art bargain of the century, many of these paintings represent very fine examples of works by such luminaries of the American art scene as Ralston Crawford, Ben Shahn, Georgia O’Keefe, John Marin, Jacob Lawrence, Arthur Dove and Romare Bearden.

Applebee’s work now joins those he purchased nearly 60 years ago. And Huddleston’s find brings the museum’s Applebee collection to five – three paintings from the 1930s and two from the 1940s.

Laufer said as an artist Applebee worked with a variety of styles and textures. “But he seemed to be interested in giving us a strong sense of place and time.” The particular painting that Huddleston found, a still life titled “Cannas,” is different from the styles evident in the other work by Applebee in the collection, which are more expressive. “This painting is more structured,” she said. “It is much more delineated and controlled.”

She added, “It would be worth a goodly amount because he is a regional artist from the ‘30s and not many of his works are available,” she said. “But its true importance for us is all about representing Auburn’s artistic legacy.”

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