

AU REPORT

For the faculty, professionals and staff of Auburn University

Vol. 36 No. 1 January 20, 2003



On top of things

Facilities workers braved cold winds and freezing temperatures last week to make roof repairs on Langdon Hall. The job was one of dozens of maintenance and construction projects under way this winter across the Auburn campus.

SACS moves accreditation visit to fall

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools has delayed an accreditation review team's visit to Auburn from spring until fall.

As of last week, SACS had not scheduled a new date for the site visit, which was originally scheduled for late March and early April, but AU President William Walker said he expects the SACS team to visit in October.

The visit is part of the process that SACS follows once per decade for each member institution for continuation of accreditation.

The delay by SACS will give the accrediting agency more time to separate the regular 10-year review of the university from a special review of university governance that is in its fi-

nal stage. That review was the subject of a report in December by an independent investigator appointed by a U.S. District Court judge in settlement of a lawsuit against SACS by Auburn.

The report by special investigator Richard Y. Bradley, a Columbus attorney, concluded that the AU administration and Board of Trustees are in compliance with accreditation guidelines related to governance.

Walker told the University Senate on Tuesday that SACS has asked Bradley to obtain additional information and the university agreed to the request. The timetable for that step had not been determined late in the week.

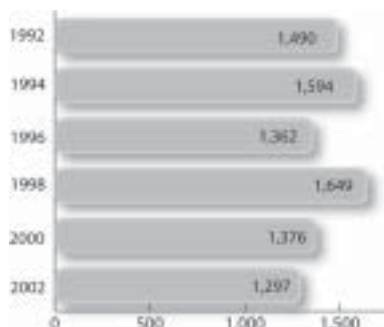
Earlier, Walker said he is encouraged by progress toward resolving the governance issues raised in the SACS review. "The report reinforces my belief that the university is headed in the right direction," he said.

"Both the Board of Trustees and the administration have been working diligently to keep the institution on course and to make improvements where necessary," he added. "The report is proof of a growing cooperative spirit among the Auburn family to create a stronger academic institution."

In 2001, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools announced that it would (See *Accreditation*, page 4)

How AU Stacks Up

New Transfer Students at AU



Note: Admission of transfer students often varies inversely with numbers of new freshmen.

Source: Planning & Analysis: www.pand.auburn.edu/newstu.htm

AU studying possibility of placing research park on main campus

AU has launched a study to assess the feasibility of establishing a research park on the main campus.

Research parks — occupied by commercial tenants working collaboratively with the university — serve to promote research and development, technology transfer and economic development. There are 26 research parks at land-grant universities nationwide.

Under the auspices of AU's Office of the Vice President for Research, the feasibility study includes the review of several proposed site locations and cooperation with local gov-

ernments. It also includes discussions with on-campus groups who will be major stakeholders, and the development of a proposed business plan to include a cost-benefit analysis and bench-marked strategies for development phases, park governance, financing options and marketing.

"Research parks have burgeoned on land-grant university campuses over the last 20 years and represent the future of converting knowledge into revenue," said AU President William Walker.

(See *Research Park*, page 7)

From the editor

Look for changes in the AU Report this semester

By Roy Summerford, Editor

This issue of the AU Report marks the start of the 36th year for this publication. The AU Report arose during the Philpott presidency in response to complaints of poor communication between the administration and faculty.

Thirty-five years later, the complaint is still frequently heard, although it is no longer limited to those two groups. For every faculty complaint about communication from the administration, there is a complaint from staff members about communication from faculty; for each of those complaints, there is one from support staff about communication from professional staff; and for each of those complaints, some administrator is scratching his head wondering why no one ever tells him about anything. Thus, there is probably more communicating about communications than any other subject on campus.

During the coming year, you will see changes in the AU Report. Some of those changes will be minor, but they will carry major significance for some people, especially those who dislike change of any kind. Other changes will be major in appearance but will have little impact on content. Some are forced by circumstances, such as the closure of University Printing in February, but that circumstance presents the opportunity to improve the quality of campus communication through the AU Report. As we outsource printing of the AU Report, we will have to adjust the format to better accommodate the printing presses at most commercial printers. The success of Auburn Commons, an external newsletter produced by the University Relations staff offers hope for a smooth transition.

In late February or early March, the AU Report, another product of

University Relations, will take on a brighter, more modern look. The new format will have more in common with the Chronicle of Higher Education than the glossy dailies, however. We are also exploring ways to provide more timely coverage of campus news either through more frequent issues or greater use of other means of communication or a combination of the two.

The purpose of a faculty-staff newsletter is to provide campus constituencies with news that they cannot get through daily and weekly newspapers. Content should include news of record and should keep the campus informed about major issues, but it should also include stories about campus and discussions of higher education issues that the mass media do not deem important enough to carry. That philosophy is behind a change that you will see in this issue. Campus Forum succeeds Campus Views as a means of presenting faculty and staff opinions. In the past some potential contributors have failed to differentiate between the op-ed page of a daily newspaper and the forum section of a newsletter, but that difference is significant. Simply put, the model for opinion columns is found in the Chronicle, not daily newspapers. That should make no difference in what you see in print; columns printed over the past year already met that standard.

Decisions on acceptance of columns are a matter of editorial discretion — even for a newsletter. However, to reassure all parties, we are exploring the possibility of setting up a panel of faculty and staff to evaluate columns for the Campus Forum. Look for more on this subject in coming weeks.

There is no way to achieve perfect communication in any complex organization, but these efforts should lead to improvements.



Morning at Auburn

One benefit of the cold temperatures of early January was an abundance of mornings with the campus painted in bright sunlight against dark skies at sunrise, as in this picture from Photo Services.

Business Office announces changes in travel policy, payments for Auburn faculty, staff

The AU Business Office has announced the following changes in the university's travel policy:

- Mileage rate decreased from 36.5 cents per mile to 36 cents per mile.
- Maximum allowable reimbursement for out-of-state meals increased to \$34 per day without receipts; \$60 per day with receipts. Former limits were \$26 and \$45, respectively.
- Maximum allowable payment/reimbursement for Guest Meals increased to \$60 per day from \$35.
- Business meal limits (actual expenses) are now: \$10 for breakfast, \$20 for lunch and \$30 for the evening meal.

Business meals are considered apart from meals for AU employees while on travel status. Business meals are those which are incidental to a business meeting that involves substantive business discussions and includes primarily AU employees.

The web site for the travel policy is: www.auburn.edu/administration/iss/business_office/policy_manual/travel.html

The web site for the entertainment policy is: www.auburn.edu/administration/iss/business_office/control/acctpay/entertainment.html

AU REPORT

Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors: Bob Lowry and David Granger. Other contributions by college and school staff writers. Photography by Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, AU Photo Services. Executive Director, University Relations: John Hachtel.

The AU Report is published by the Office of University Relations at Auburn University. Issues appear every two weeks during academic terms. Official distribution by campus mail includes free distribution to fulltime faculty and staff at campus offices.

Deadline for receiving items is 4 p.m. on Wednesday before publication date. The date of the next issue is posted in the Upcoming Events section of each AU Report. Direct inquiries, suggestions and news items to AU Report, 23 Samford Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-5109. Telephone 334/844-9999. Electronic mail address: summero@auburn.edu



Dedicating new center

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond was keynote speaker for dedication of AU's New Center for Diversity and Race Relations on Jan. 14. The center is centrally located on campus in Foy Union.

Ag, Forestry, ACES faculty win awards

Four faculty members from the College of Agriculture and the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences have received the College of Agriculture's and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station's top awards for teaching, advising and research for 2002.

The four — Mary Miller-Goodman, Bob Nelson, Daowei Zhang and D. Allen Davis — were honored at an awards ceremony near the end of fall semester.

Miller-Goodman, associate professor of agronomy and soils at Auburn since 1993, received the Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence. She was cited for her innovative classroom techniques and leadership in the department's curriculum development.

Nelson's commitment to advising students, his leadership as undergraduate coordinator and his role in founding and advising the National Agri-Marketing Association earned him the Dean's Award for Excellence in Advising 2002. Nelson is associate professor of agricultural economics and rural sociology.

Zhang, professor of forestry and wildlife sciences, received the Director's Senior-level Award for Research, in recognition of his research program and leadership in Forestry and Wildlife Sciences' Peak of Excellence program, the Center for Forest Sustainability.

For his research programs in aquatic animal nutrition and physiology, Davis won the Director's Junior-Level Award for Research. He is an assistant professor of fisheries.

Survey to assess campus climate on matters related to diversity

AU has begun a survey of faculty, students and staff to assess the climate of the campus on issues related to diversity.

The survey is a component of efforts by AU's Diversity Leadership Council, which was appointed by President William Walker last year and charged with developing a comprehensive plan to establish diversity as a core value at Auburn.

Surveys went by campus mail last week to professionals, clerical staff and nontenure track faculty last week.

"The assessment of the current campus climate is essential to the Diversity Leadership Council's fulfillment of its charge," Walker said. "These surveys present everyone here at Auburn with a chance to make a difference in this institution's future."

Survey forms for the campus climate assessment were devised by the Diversity Leadership Council's assessment subcommittee with

the assistance of AU's Center for Governmental Services and its director, Jim Seroka.

Seroka said protecting the anonymity of respondents was a primary concern. "We have no way of knowing who responds to the survey," he said. "There are no hidden numbers or codes, etc. As a result, there will be a follow-up letter going to everyone because there is no way of knowing who has responded.

"Also, no one on the DLC sees the raw data. The surveys are removed from the envelope, scanned for information and put in a file. At every level possible, anonymity is protected."

Other groups to be surveyed include faculty, students, administrators and maintenance workers and skilled craftsmen. Faculty and administrators should receive surveys in early February, students during the first half of March and maintenance workers and skilled craftsmen in April.

Keystone program in Education will bring in visiting executives

The AU College of Education has named nationally prominent healthcare executive Wayne T. Smith as the college's first Keystone Leader-in-Residence.

Smith, who is board chairman, president and chief executive officer of Community Health Systems, Inc., will be on campus on Feb. 7 to meet with the college's students and faculty. He will present a public lecture, the inaugural Keystone Leader-in-Residence Lecture, at 2 p.m., in the Learning Resources Center, 3472, Haley Center.

The AU College of Education has established the Keystone Leader-in-Residence program to introduce the College's students to individuals who are proven leaders in the fields of education, human services, health services, community services and government, said interim Dean Frances Kochan.

The Keystone Leader-in-Residence program is named for the new keystone icon on the college's logo. Keystone Leaders will each spend a day on the Auburn campus sharing their experiences, their concepts of leadership and their perspectives of current happenings in their respective fields.

Smith is a 1968 College of Education graduate and has spent more than 31 years as an executive in the healthcare industry.

Community Health Systems is the largest non-urban provider of general hospital healthcare services in the United States in terms of the number of acute care facilities and the second largest in terms of revenue.

Smith joined the company in January 1997 and became president and CEO the following April. He was elected chairman of the board of Community Health Systems in 2001.

Under his leadership, CHS has strengthened the senior management team in all key business areas; standardized and centralized operations across key business areas; expanded and improved the services and facilities at their hospitals; recruited additional physicians to their hospitals; and instituted a company-wide regulatory compliance program.

Before joining Community Health Systems, Smith served in a variety of leadership positions for Humana Inc. during 23 years of service. Some of his past positions include president, chief operating officer, executive vice president of Health Care Operations, president of the Health Care Division, president of the Group Health Division and executive vice president of the central region.

In 1966, Smith and Humana generated more than \$1 million to establish the Wayne T. Smith Distinguished Professorship Endowment, the Humana-Germany-Sherman Distinguished Professorship Endowment and the Humana Endowment for Scholarships.

Smith is also a former member of the College of Education's National Advisory Council and received the college's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1996.

UA official to give poetry reading

Hank Lazer, a poet who is also vice president for Undergraduate Programs and Services at the University of Alabama, will give a public reading at 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at Pebble Hill.

Lazer is the author of books of poetry and criticism.

Bradley named to Mosley professorship

James Bradley, a professor of biological sciences in the College of Sciences and Mathematics, has been named the W. Kelly Mosley Professor of Sciences and Humanities.

"Dr. Bradley has done an excellent job in conducting the Human Odyssey Program for the past several years," said AU President William Walker. "That program reflects the interests of the late W. Kelly Mosley in exposing our students to the fundamental elements of science and the humanities. I can think of no person more deserving of being named the Mosley Professor."



Bradley

The professorship was established to recognize academic leadership at the interface of science and the humanities. Mosley was an AU alum-

nus and major benefactor, and chair of the Atlanta-based John and Mary Franklin Foundation. He was also instrumental in establishing AU's first and most prominent lectures series, the Franklin Lectures in Sciences and Humanities, which is now known as the Littleton-Franklin Lecture Series in Sciences and Humanities. As part of the professorship, Bradley will oversee the Littleton-Franklin Lecture Series.

Bradley is a former chair of the University Senate. A member of the AU faculty since 1976, Bradley is a professor of cell biology in the Department of Biological Sciences and is the director of the AU Human Odyssey Program. The program is an interdisciplinary program for undergraduate students that examines the connections between sciences and the humanities through human kind's history.

Bradley holds a doctorate in zoology from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Faculty named to professorships in Education

The AU College of Education has named Randall McDaniel as Wayne T. Smith Professor of Education and Bonnie White as a Humana-Germany-Sherman Distinguished Professor.

Frances Kochan, interim dean of the College of Education, said McDaniel and White have established exceptional records in teaching, research and outreach over more than two decades at Auburn. In addition, she said, the two have demonstrated professional leadership at the national level and made notable contributions in their academic areas.

McDaniel, a professor in the Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education, is nationally prominent in rehabilitation services. A member of the AU faculty for 26 years, he has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for leadership in his field and has re-

ceived the Outstanding Service to Disability Award of the National Rehabilitation Association.

White, a professor in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching, served for more than 10 years as chair of the Computer Education Task Force of the National Business Education Association. A member of the AU faculty for 27 years, she is a former recipient of the Alabama Outstanding Business Educator Award of the Alabama Business Education Association.

The professorships are endowments established with gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Wayne T. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Gordy Germany and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sherman.

Accreditation

(continued from page 1)

conduct a review of Auburn after receiving a letter of complaint filed by an ad hoc group regarding a number of campus issues. However, Walker and Auburn's legal counsel determined that SACS was not following its own procedures, thereby depriving the university of due process. A federal court in 2002 agreed with Auburn and ruled that SACS must adhere to its own policies and provide due process.

U.S. District Court Judge J. Owen Forrester then approved a plan by Auburn University and SACS that provided for the independent examination of issues related to Auburn's accreditation. Forrester appointed Bradley to conduct the examination.

In his 45-page report, Bradley detailed the result of his investigation into three key issues: 1) whether the Auburn University Board of Trustees failed to meet SACS Criteria for Accreditation in the past; 2) whether the criteria were being met when the SACS complaint was filed; and 3) whether Auburn was in compliance at the time of the investigation.

The special investigator said Auburn's Board of Trustees was in compliance when it approved, in 1988, new standards for admission, retention and student graduation. He also said the board had no undue role in denying tenure to a faculty member in 1990 and that the board was within its policymaking role when it pushed the adoption of a grade forgiveness policy in the 1999-2000 academic year.

Bradley said he could find no evidence to substantiate allegations that the board engaged in micromanagement in the merger of the Journalism and Communications departments.

Regarding the role of individual board members and the Auburn University Athletic Department, the special investigator noted there was no proof of trustee involvement in decisions by the athletic department. The report states that the president is fully in control of intercollegiate athletics at Auburn and that the university is in compliance with the standards that govern intercollegiate athletics.

Additionally, the special investigator looked into allegations that a minority of its membership controls the Board. Bradley found no evi-

dence that any one Trustee or group of Trustees have influence or control resulting from the use of power or intimidation. He also noted that the decision to dismiss former AU President William Muse was within the Board's authority, and that no undue influence was brought to the situation by a minority group of Trustees. Bradley also states that Auburn University is in compliance regarding standards that address prohibited financial interests in the institution.

In one instance, the report says, the board overreached its policymaking authority in 1999 when it recommended, over the decision of then-President Muse, the elimination of a terminal degree in Economics. The special investigator found the board overstepped its authority when it disagreed with the president and, acting on the recommendation of the dean, eliminated the College of Business option for the Ph.D. in economics. The investigator found no other example or instance of noncompliance.

Auburn University has until late February to submit a response to the investigator's report, which will be presented to the SACS Committee on Criteria and Reports. The SACS committee may accept or reject the findings of the investigator, and must make a recommendation to the executive council of the Commission of Colleges. The executive council then makes a recommendation to the full commission of Colleges, which must then make the final decision as to whether Auburn University is in compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation.

Auburn Board of Trustees President Pro Tempore W. James Samford Jr. says the positive report is the result of a cooperative effort from many members of the Auburn family. "This indicates what we have said all along — there are many people, from the Board of Trustees to our university employees, who have played by the rules and worked hard under difficult situations to put Auburn in its best shape ever. We are very pleased with the results of this report in clearing the board of the charges that were made, and it is my sincere hope that all parties can join together and work for Auburn's best interests."

The full report is available on AU's web site at www.auburn.edu.

College of Education

AU receives grant for transitions partnerships

The Transition Leadership Institute, which was established within the Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education in the summer of 2000, and two local special education coordinators have been awarded more than \$700,000 in a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The grants are for four years to implement the RSE project "Local Transition Partnerships for Systems Change."

The Auburn-Opelika community received one of only three grants given nationwide to serve as a model for the state — and perhaps the nation — to prepare young citizens with disabilities for the roles and responsibilities of young adulthood. The grant will establish partnerships among the Opelika and Auburn communities, their school systems, agencies, municipal organizations and employers. These local partnerships will act as support systems to prepare and assist high school students in finding jobs, continuing education, and preparing for more independence as they exit school and embark upon maturity.

Community leaders and others interested in the future of youth and young people with disabilities launched the project on Nov. 21.

"We're celebrating an exciting happening in our communities," said Philip Browning, head of RSE and director of the Auburn Transition Leadership Institute. "This grant belongs to all of us who elect to be partners in achieving its goals."

"Our goal is to enable our students to be self-managing, employable and happy," said Ottis Stephenson, director of special education for Opelika City Schools. "To facilitate this outcome we need to form strong bonds with the people in the community who will be working with our kids long after they have left the classroom. Through this grant we hope to secure more effective access to the means by which our students can become self-reliant, self-sufficient, contributing members of society."

State Director of Special Education Mabrey Whetstone said the project's importance can best be measured by the more than 1,800 high school students it will reach.

Weaver Lecture to feature expert on pandas

Jianguo "Jack" Liu, associate professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University, will present a Weaver Lecture at 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 23, at the AU Dixon Conference Center.

Liu's lecture, entitled "Pandas, People, and Policies," will outline the interactions between China's giant pandas, one of the world's most recognized endangered species, and the human race. The public lecture will address interactions among panda habitat, people and policies.

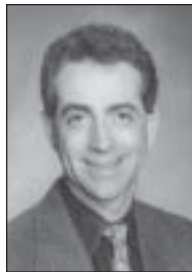
Campus Forum

Don't confuse a captive audience with lab rats

By **Herbert Jack Rotfeld, Professor of Marketing**

Comedian and filmmaker Woody Allen is credited with having said that "Life is 90 percent showing up." In the introductory psychology class I took as an undergraduate, it was 5 percent.

As is still a common practice at many universities, students enrolled in that course were required to show up for a few hours of noncoercive participation in faculty or students' research experiments. At least the activity made sense in the context of those classes. As we studied how organisms responded to stimuli, we got to experience the life of a lab rat. But over the years, the practice has expanded to many other social science departments, making it a classroom constant way beyond a few course points in basic psychology.



Rotfeld

There exist university controls and government regulations for protecting the rights and welfare of human research subjects. Some academic departments also have rules on using students for research purposes. Sometimes the research is part of the course learning experience; in some courses a questionnaire has logical ties to the lecture materials. But students are increasingly research subjects in which the only "lesson" is that they learn to be frequent guinea pigs for the research whims of their teachers.

As a doctoral student decades ago, I did it, too. Teaching a section of the introductory course in the department, my officemate provided a test of creative ability on which the students' answers provided a springboard for lectures on how advertising is written. Their answers were used for our research, too, when we took the completed forms, compared the data with other information, and eventually, produced an academic journal article. But a week after we did the in-class exercise, a faculty member asked if we'd have the students fill out a questionnaire for his study.

A day later, I got another request, then another. I say "request," but they were faculty and we were graduate students, so our compliance was presumed. As a new teacher, a part of me felt relief in that it was a few minutes of lecture I didn't have to write. Yet by the third "request" I appealed to the department head, who stepped in with a

policy limiting faculty research access to classes and students. However, his desire was to limit pressures on the GTAs, not to limit the time taken away from education activities.

Last spring I was assigned to teach my first large-section introductory course in over a decade and requests came in from faculty and graduate students in departments all over campus to use "just a few minutes at the start of class" to have students fill out surveys or respond to sample advertising messages. (All such requests were refused.)

It is not uncommon at any university for some faculty ask to teach large section classes whenever they need a group of subjects to complete research questionnaires during the upcoming term. In extreme cases, students in certain faculty members' sections of classes who are in danger of failing the course eagerly sign on for supposedly non-coercive extra credit research "experiences" to turn the F grade into a C.

For the academic researcher, the modern large-sized classes make it convenient to gather more student subjects in a single sitting. With greater convenience comes greater use, so increasing amounts of class time are spent with students filling out questionnaires.

This growth of available student subjects for research has not gone unnoticed by social science journal editors, and some of their editorials note that the result is a decline in the quality of published work. The usual convenience sample collections of undergraduate students often are not valid surrogates for the "real people" that would be more appropriate for study. The traditional college students are adults, but they are children compared to the population at large. They are "young," but they are not children.

But I pose a more basic issue: why are the students there in the first place? Educators should be more sensitive to when someone wants to turn the classroom into a captive setting for numerous research projects. I doubt that any class has based 90 percent of the student's grade on his or her showing up for irrelevant experiments. But sometimes, even 5 percent is too much.

* * *

Campus Forum is so named because it provides a forum that is generally unavailable in the mass media for faculty and staff to discuss issues related to higher education and Auburn University. Views expressed in the column are those of the contributor.

Judicial scholar says appointments will complete shift in U.S. courts



Americans will see one of the most dramatic reversals in the nation's courts in U.S. history over the next two years, and most won't be happy when they see the results a decade from now, says an AU judicial scholar who has authored several prominent books on the federal courts.

While many white Southerners will either welcome or ignore an expected surge of judicial appointments by President George W. Bush, over the long term they could be very disappointed and even hurt by them, says Ted Becker, Alumni Professor of Political Science at AU.



Becker

Becker, author of several books on political struggles over the courts, says he expects the federal judiciary within two years to look like it did in the early days of the Great Depression of the 1930s. He said the courts at that time were the final line of defense for a very small and plutocratic segment of society against President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal legislation.

The political science professor said President Bush signaled a major change in government in early January when he announced plans to nominate 30 prospective judges whose nominations that had stalled last year in the Senate. With the Senate now under Republican control, Becker said Bush chose nominees seemingly with the intent of undoing the New Deal.

"Most of the people who actually experienced the Great Depression have passed from the scene, so most Americans today do not realize how distorted the social and economic conditions had become in this country at that time in our history," said Becker, whose books include "The Impact of Supreme Court Decisions" and "Government Lawlessness in America," both published by Oxford University Press.

A leading scholar of the federal courts for four decades, Becker during the 1960s and '70s pioneered studies of the interplay of law and politics in such books as "Political Behaviorism and Modern Jurisprudence" (Rand McNally), "Comparative Judicial Politics, (Rand McNally), "Political Trials," (Bobbs Merrill Co.), " and "Government Anarchy" (Stein and Day).

Becker said he expects the new judiciary, from top to bottom, to be politically partisan and radical rather than conservative. "Conservative judges try hard to adhere to well-established judicial precedent," he said.

"They stick with precedent unless the economic and political situation of the nation has so drastically changed that great social turmoil is likely without some judicial retooling of the law," he added. "This is

what occurred between the 1930s and 1970s, when major calamities like the Depression and the Second World War prompted the judiciary to accept drastic new laws and regulations to protect the public from abuses by a ruling elite."

Those laws, regulations and court rulings squared with new social, economic and political realities that faced this country in the mid-20th century, Becker said. "The world had changed drastically and the federal courts had to revise the laws of the land accordingly or lose their legitimacy in the eyes and hearts of the people."

In the 1980s, the pendulum swung back to the right. One sign of the "Reagan Revolution" of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush was their appointment of more free-market, "states' rights" ideological judges, especially on the Supreme Court. "The second Bush presidency will consolidate their position," Becker said.

"The 'Reagan Revolution' was dedicated to reversing all this precedent and bringing America back to the 1920s — when corporations, sexists and racists roamed freely," he said. "The word 'conservative' is simply camouflage."

Becker said a more activist, rightward-moving court system could please people who want to give the police more power, those who want to curtail government regulation of business and those who want to further restrict abortions. Those concerned about restrictions on personal liberties, a trend toward government-abetted plutocracy in America and loss of regulations to protect society will be the likely losers in this shift in the courts, he added.

The political science professor noted that many people today support judicial activism when it promotes a cause they favor, such as restricting abortion or affirmative action, but he predicted that they or their children will become disenchanted with judicial activism when it goes against many other interests.

"Many Americans don't realize how much their grandparents and great-grandparents suffered under the political system that was in place throughout the 1920s and earlier," Becker said.

"The primary role of government then was to serve a small group of extremely wealthy families, and virtually no one in government looked out for the interests of the American public," he said. "The role of the courts was to protect privilege in this country, and we are headed back to that time."

The South benefitted from the New Deal as federal dollars poured into the region to spur industrial development and vast public works projects. Southerners also benefitted from a host of federal regulations that led to improvements in health, safety and working conditions. Those protections will disappear if the courts take the approach he expects, Becker said.

"The changes in the courts will have consequences for just about everyone in the nation," Becker said. "The judiciary that takes shape over the next two years will have a profound impact on this country for at least a generation."



Spirit of Excellence

Each month AU recognizes four professional and support staff members with Spirit of Excellence Awards. Recipients for December, from left, were Leanne Fuller of Human Resources, Marie Cox of Facilities, Donna Lofaso of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures and, not pictured, Ron Ramsey of the Space Research Institute.

Library adds computers, extends hours

Draughton Library is adding 20 more computer terminals and extending its hours in response to requests from patrons.

The new computers will be located near the present terminals on all four floors.

The library also has added 19 computers that operate as "AUBIECat kiosks" to aid in searches of AUBIECat, Auburn's online catalog. These kiosks are placed throughout the library stacks on all floors and do not require the user to login to the Auburn University system.

The kiosks are intended for those individuals needing to quickly search for a call number of a book or journal. They are also intended to prevent library patrons who do not have an AU login from having to return to the second-floor reference area to search the catalog.

The library's new hours are listed online at www.lib.auburn.edu/

National Geographic

Show about West Point has AU connection

"Are you tough enough to survive a workout led by former West Point drill instructors?"

That's the question that appears on the web site of the National Geographic television channel, which is expanding its coverage to New York this weekend.

AU's connection to National Geographic's

Hartmann to speak at Auburn on status of women in 2003

The AU Women's Studies Program will sponsor public lectures on Monday, Jan. 27, by Heidi Hartmann, founder and president of the Institute for Women's Policy Research in Washington, D.C.

Hartmann will speak on "The Status of Women in Alabama," at 11 a.m. in Foy 213 and "The Status of Women in 2003: A Policy Perspective," at 2 p.m. in the Foy Exhibit Lounge.

Hartmann, an economist, received a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship in 1994 to continue her work. She holds a Ph.D. from Yale and has specialized in women's employment issues for more than 25 years.

Achievements

William Sauser, a professor of management in the College of Business and associate dean for Business and Engineering Outreach, received a certificate of appreciation on Jan. 10 from outgoing Gov. Don Siegelman for his service on the Alabama Board of Examiners in Psychology. Sauser served on the board, which regulates the practice of psychology in Alabama, from 1998 to 2003. He was chair of the Board of Examiners in 2002.

Henry Thompson of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology organized eight sessions in November at the meeting of the Southern Economics Association in New Orleans. At the conference, AU graduate students presented five papers, including two that were coauthored by Curtis Jolly, a faculty member in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology. Seven other papers were coauthored by Auburn Ph.D. graduates, including Thompson and fellow AU faculty member John Jackson.

Ruth Crocker, alumni professor in the Department of History, was a member of the advisory committee to the Institute for Women's Policy Research in its preparation of the report, *The Status of Women in Alabama*, which examines women's progress in politics, economics, healthcare and human rights. The University of Alabama at Birmingham released the 120-page report in November. Crocker, a faculty member at Auburn since 1982, specializes in American history, especially the history of women and gender.

"Surviving West Point" program is Bonnie Stauffer, the 5-foot-3, 125-pound dynamo that some called "Dr. Bouncy" because of her buoyant, bubbly personality and approach to physical fitness.

But Stauffer, now associate director for AU's Outreach Program Office and Elderhostel Coordinator, was for 14 years the director of upperclass physical education at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

West Point is where she earned another nickname — "Dr. Death."

"Bonnie Stauffer is one of the most energetic and fit people at Auburn," said David Wilson, associate provost and vice president for University Outreach at AU. "When she was at West Point, she was quite renowned for putting cadets through a very rigorous physical fitness regimen."

Kraska, Miller honored at conference

Marie Kraska, a professor in the College of Education, and Wil Miller, assistant vice president for development at AU, received honors at the Association for Career and Technical Education conference in Las Vegas in December.

Kraska received the Distinguished Service Citation from Epsilon Pi Tau, an international professional honorary society in technical and technology education. The award, Epsilon Pi Tau's highest honor, was limited to 23 of the organization's more than 1,800 members.

The citation goes to individuals who have exceptional achievement in teaching, research and service and who are recognized nationally and internationally for their professional con-

"I'm told she was very deserving of her nickname, 'Dr. Death.' We are proud of Dr. Stauffer's involvement in this national event. My advice to her is to take it easy on the participants."

New Yorkers tested their strength and endurance as Stauffer and her husband Bob, another former West Point physical education instructor, conducted a military-style workout to promote the National Geographic Channel's series "Surviving West Point" last week.

Bob Stauffer, who served as a visiting assistant professor in AU's Department of Health and Human Performance from 1996 to 2002, was a full professor and director of research in the department of Physical Education at West Point from 1970 until 1994. He was the first civilian in the academy's history to be appointed full professor.

tributions to technical education in this country and abroad.

Kraska, a faculty member in the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology, was recognized for research, publications, conference presentations, and her service as an officer in international professional organizations.

Also during the conference, Kraska and Miller were guests of honor at a publisher's reception to celebrate release of the third edition of their textbook "Instructors and their Jobs." The book has become the most widely used textbook in the field of technical teacher education.

Research Park

(continued from page 1)

Walker noted Auburn's recognition as a leader in scientific research and stressed that the university can use a research park to become a stronger leader in economic development in the state.

"Through its tenants, research parks provide a direct link between the university and the marketplace in the transfer of intellectual properties and technology developments," said Vice President for Research Michael Moriarty. "They also provide extremely beneficial collaborative opportunities for university faculty and students, and they generate millions of dollars in revenues for the companies located in the parks, and for the universities and communities where they are located."

Economic indicator summaries, such as the PriceWaterhouseCoopers "Money Tree Report," suggest that the focus of future business investments is on developing a knowledge-and-information-based economy. The most significant investments will be in such areas as computer networking and equipment,

healthcare services, energy, biotechnology, software development, telecommunications and consumer products services.

According to that same report, the state of Alabama is ranked only in the areas of telecommunications and medical devices and equipment. According to a 2002 "New Economy" survey by the Progressive Policy Institute — a nonprofit research institute based in Washington, D.C. — Alabama ranks 47th nationally. The report ranks Alabama 47th in patents issued, 44th in workforce education, 42nd in high-tech jobs and 33rd in the number of scientists and engineers in the workforce.

"These statistics suggest compelling reasons for developing a research park at Auburn University," Moriarty said.

The consulting firms of Sasaki Associates, which is developing the university's master plan, and Hammer Siler George, a financial consulting firm based in Washington D.C., are conducting the feasibility study.

Partnership brings dance company to campus

Auburn University Outreach, AU's Theatre Department and the Opelika Arts Association bring the dance company Ailey II to campus this week.

Ailey II, an offshoot of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, will perform at Telfair Peet Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

"If you've never seen this group perform, you have missed a seventh wonder of American cultural experiences," said David Wilson, vice president for University Outreach. "They are world class in every respect, and to see

them perform their signature piece, "Revelations," which will be a part of their program here at Auburn University, will leave you breathless."

This is not the first time the Opelika Arts Association has been associated with the Alvin Ailey dance experience, according to Phillip Preston, director of programs.

"The Opelika Arts Association hosted Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater as part of its 1991-92 performance series season — a memorable performance enthusiastically cheered by our subscriber audience," said Preston.

"In the decade since," said Preston, "the Ailey company has continued to grow in stature as one of the world's most important cultural institutions. The main company is now in such demand that their appearances are almost exclusively in large urban areas."

Created by Alvin Ailey in 1974, Ailey II began as the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble to aid talented individuals in making the leap from studio to stage. Under the artistic direction of Sylvia Waters, Ailey II has world class coaching and an expansive performance schedule.

The performance company emphasizes a balance of repertoire, technique and perfor-

mance and has won numerous honors, awards and proclamations in recognition of its performance and community outreach programs.

For ticket information, call Telfair Peet Theatre at 844-4154.

Speaker to discuss bioterrorism

Veterinary Professor Corrie Brown of the University of Georgia will present a public lecture on "The Role of Veterinary Research in Bioterrorism and Agroterrorism Preparedness" at 4 p.m. Feb. 5 in Overton Auditorium at the AU College of Veterinary Medicine.

She is the keynote speaker at the annual research forum sponsored by AU's Epsilon Chapter of the Phi Zeta veterinary honor society.

Brown is a professor of pathology and the coordinator of international affairs at the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of California-Davis and her doctor of veterinary medicine degree from the Ontario Veterinary College. She served six years as head of the pathology section in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory.

Campus Roundup

OIT fellowships available

The Educational Technology Advisory Council, a group of faculty members that provides direction to the educational technology services unit of AU's Office of Information Technology, has established instructional technology fellowships for faculty with awards of \$15,000 each. The fellowships are designed to provide faculty members with the time to design and construct enhanced courses. Details of the ETAC fellowships and guidelines for application are available from Nick Backscheider (backsni@auburn.edu) and are posted on the IMG web page (www.auburn.edu/img/).

What if AU is closed on payday?

A snow storm caused the unexpected closing of the university last January. A few years ago, Hurricane Opal forced the closure of the university for several days. If the next storm comes on payday, will your bills wait until the campus reopens? The Office of Payroll and Employee Benefits provides automatic, direct deposit of paychecks to your bank on payday even when the university is closed. For more information or to have forms mailed to you, call 844-4183.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, January 21

• Littleton-Franklin Lecture: Science writer Ray Kurzweil, 4 p.m., Dixon Conference Center.

Wednesday, January 22

• Minority Peer Mentoring: Faculty-Student lunch, 11 a.m., Foy 213.

Thursday, January 23

- Weaver Lecture: "Pandas, People and Policies," wildlife expert Jianguo Liu, Michigan State, 3 p.m., Dixon Conference Center.
- Poetry Reading: Poet and author Hank Lazer, 4 p.m., Pebble Hill.
- Dance Performance: Dance company Ailey II,

7:30 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre. Also Friday and Saturday. Ticket information: 844-4154.

Friday, January 24

- Step Show: NPHC Unity Step Show, noon, Foy Ballroom.
- Pageant: Miss Auburn University, 7 p.m., Student Activities Center.

Monday, February 3

- Next AU Report.

Friday, February 7

- Meeting: Board of Trustees, 1 p.m., AUM. Committee sessions start at 8:30 a.m. See Trustees web site for board scheduling changes.

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Survey examines diversity climate



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