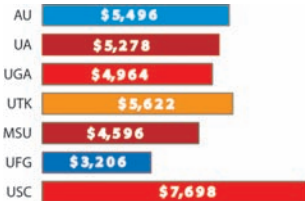


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How Auburn Stacks Up

Resident tuition and fees at AU and its SEC neighbors, 2006-07



Source: Institutional Research and Assessment

[www.ocm.auburn.edu/au\\_report/aureport.html](http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html)

**AU** FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY  
**report**



Library coffee

Makeysha Finley, in background, assists Matt Pitts, a freshman from Memphis, at Betty and Chet's, the new coffee bar at Draughon Library.

Presidential search panel, AU Board to meet this month, consider finalists

The AU Presidential Search Advisory Committee will meet at 2 p.m. March 19 at the AU Hotel. Charles McCrary, chair of the advisory committee, has announced that John Kuhnle, search consultant from Korn/Ferry International, will meet with the committee to provide an update on the search. McCrary said it is anticipated that Kuhnle will present names of candidates for the advisory committee to consider, and possibly forward to the Board of Trustees.

Candidates selected as finalists will be invited to visit the campus following the committee meeting. At the request of Earlon McWhorter, president pro tempore of the Board of Trustees, Gov. Bob Riley has called a special meeting of the AU Board for 4 p.m. March 22 at the AU Hotel. McWhorter said this meeting of the board was called with the anticipation that the Presidential Search Advisory Committee meeting will enable the selection process to progress to the Board of Trustees for consideration of presidential candidates on March 22.

High-achievers gain new boost in AU admission

Starting June 1, Auburn will implement new admissions procedures for the 2008 and later freshman classes. The changes in AU's admissions process will shift the advantage from early applicants to the most qualified applicants.

Wayne Alderman, AU's dean of enrollment services, said the changes will help high-achieving students gain admission and enable the university to raise the overall quality of its freshman class. "In order for the university to shape our freshman class, we will give priority to the best students, even if they apply later in the year," he said.

"Auburn continues to experience growing numbers of applicants each year," Alderman added, "but we can only enroll a limited number, so we want to make sure that we are not turning away the best-prepared students."

In the past, the earliest applicants who met eligibility requirements were the first ones considered for admission, even if later applicants had better credentials. Although all students had to meet AU criteria for ACT or SAT scores and high school grade point average, this practice made planning difficult and sometimes led to the university turning away persons with relatively high ACT or SAT scores who applied after the freshman class had been filled.

Prospective freshmen who apply early will still be among the first group considered for admission, but their grades and ACT or SAT scores will be considered in the fall, in competition with a larger pool of applicants.

The ACT composite average for the 4,092 students in the 2006 freshman class, was 24.3, compared to a national ACT average of 21.1 and a statewide average of 20.2. High achievers, who are considered for Spirit of Auburn Scholarships, are those who have an ACT score of at least 28, with the top awards going to students with ACT scores of 33 to 36 or

See Admissions decisions, page 3

## University Faculty Secretary-Elect Nominee

## Mary Sue Barry in her own words

Consider it a great honor and privilege that my colleagues have asked me to serve as a candidate for the position of secretary-elect of the University Senate and University Faculty.



Barry

As a member of the Senate leadership team, I realize that I will be only one individual within a group whose main purpose will be to facilitate an orderly process and to work united in a common effort.

As secretary of the University Senate, I will work diligently to record faithfully and without bias the monthly meetings of the University Senate and Faculty and to take the lead role in running the meetings of the Rules Committee. With a new president about to be named, committee appointments take on an even greater significance. Through Senate and University committees as well as with any ad hoc committees established during this critical period, we, the faculty, will have an opportunity to have our voices heard.

I pledge to stand up for the faculty during the bi-weekly meetings with the provost as a member of both the Executive and Steering Committees, while simultaneously taking precise notes of all discussions. Since the agenda for the monthly meetings of the University Senate is decided during Steering Committee meetings, it will be imperative to solicit input from all sides in order to be even-handed

when dealing with contentious issues. I respect shared governance and will work painstakingly to see that it is implemented.

I believe that for Auburn to move forward we need to work collegially with all partners in the dialogue. This means bottom-up as well as top-down collegiality where we can all be allowed to disagree without being labeled as disagreeable. Sensitivity to the feelings of others is always in season. Finally, diversity must be a core value for any university worthy of distinction. Diversity of every hue, perspective, and orientation must find representation at the table as well as at all levels of administration. Therefore, I will work to see that this becomes a reality.

In sum, I promise to faithfully discharge my duties as secretary-elect and then as secretary of the University Senate and Faculty and to work with administration, faculty and staff to elevate the role of shared governance at Auburn University.

\*\*\*

*Editor's Note: Mary Sue Barry is unopposed for the position of secretary-elect of the University Faculty and its representative organization, the University Senate. She is an associate professor in the College of Education. Candidates for chair-elect issued statements last week in the AU Report for Feb. 26. That issue, with more information about the candidates, is available electronically on the AU Report's 2007 Archives Web site. Faculty will vote electronically Thursday through Monday for chair-elect and secretary-elect. The University Senate will notify faculty about voting procedures.*

## Farmers Federation, Alfa contribute \$1 million for agricultural research

The Tennessee Valley Research and Extension Center in Belle Mina, one of 12 active research facilities operated throughout the state by the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, will be getting a much-needed facelift thanks to a financial pledge from the Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance.

Jerry Newby, president of the Federation and Alfa, announced that his organization has committed \$1 million, to be paid over a five-year term, toward a \$1.8 million facility upgrade at TVREC.

"The Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance are glad to support farming by renovating and upgrading the Tennessee Valley Research and Extension Center in Belle Mina," Newby said. The contribution is part of Auburn University's "It Begins at Auburn" campaign and will count toward the College of Agriculture's \$27.7 million goal in the \$500 million overall campaign.

"When the College of Agriculture approached us about making a contribution to its campaign, we

looked for a project that would benefit Alabama farmers both now and in the future," Newby said. "Improving the facilities at the Tennessee Valley center will meet this goal by providing researchers and Extension personnel the tools they need to serve rural Alabama.

"The TVREC is involved in research that benefits farmers, not just in the Tennessee Valley, but also throughout the state," he said. "In addition to being our state's premier cotton research facility, it is home to projects that focus on livestock, horticulture, grain crops and much more."

Newby added, "In years to come, research being done there on irrigation, pest management and cropping practices should improve the profitability of agriculture."

The remaining \$800,000 needed for project completion will be sought through state and federal funding sources. The total \$1.8 million renovation will include laboratories, offices, a new auditorium and a 150-seat meeting room.

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 6

**FACULTY SEMINAR** "The AU Academic Honesty Code and Preventing Academic Dishonesty," noon-1:30 p.m., Foy 208; open to all faculty, staff and graduate students; bring your lunch

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

**NEW PERSPECTIVES LECTURE** "William Christenberry's Klan Tableau," art historian Allen Tullos, 4 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum

Thursday, March 8

**ELECTION** University Faculty, electronic voting for chair-elect and secretary-elect, through March 12

Friday, March 9

**DAVIS LECTURER** Pulitzer Prize-finalist Jerry Mitchell of *The Jackson (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger*, 5 p.m., auditorium, AU Hotel

Monday, March 12

**NEXT AU Report**

**TRANSITIONS CONFERENCE** 17th annual conference on issues related to transition into adulthood of young persons with disabilities, AU Hotel, through March 14

Tuesday, March 13

**MEETING** University Faculty, installation of officers, 3 p.m., auditorium, Broun Hall

Wednesday, March 14

**HEALTH EXPO** AU Lifetime and Fitness Expo, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Haley Center and Foy Union, includes free health screening, information seminars and fitness activities

Thursday, March 15

**BENSON MEMORIAL LECTURE** Trudier Harris of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, "Seeping into the Twentieth Century: Fear of Slavery in Phyllis Alesia Perry's *Stigmata*," 3 p.m., AU Hotel

Monday, March 19

**MEETING** AU Presidential Search Advisory Committee, 2 p.m., AU Hotel



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## Campaign team

AU will launch the 2007 Faculty-Staff Campaign on Thursday. The campus campaign is part of the "It Begins at Auburn" campaign to raise \$500 million in private support for the university. The leadership team for the 2006 Faculty-Staff Campaign recently received a Spirit of Excellence team award in recognition of the success of last year's campaign. Several of the leaders are shown here.



## Admissions decisions

continued from page 1

equivalent SAT scores. Students must also have and maintain a high grade point average. Students with lower scores may still qualify for other scholarships or financial aid.

Prospective freshmen will have to complete their junior year of high school before they can apply to Auburn. The university will begin receiving applications for the 2008 freshman class on June 1 but will wait until Oct. 1 to begin mailing letters to applicants informing them of their status.

Decisions, which normally follow a review period of four to six weeks, will be announced on a rolling basis after Oct. 1. Also in October, AU will mail housing information to accepted students who have

made their tuition deposit. In addition, information regarding Camp War Eagle will go out in the spring only to students who have made a tuition deposit.

Students who apply by Dec. 1 will receive priority consideration for scholarships, with the first scholarship offers being extended on Oct. 15. March 1 will be the priority deadline for financial aid. Another important date for the 2008 freshman class will be Feb. 15, when admissions decisions for deferred applicants will be mailed. Applications received after Feb. 1 will be considered on a space-available basis.

Accepted students will face a May 1 deadline to submit an enrollment deposit, but, unlike in the past, the deposit will be non-refundable.

## Different offices maintain admissions, student data

Under a reorganization that began last fall, programs and offices related to AU enrollment are grouped in three main areas, with the heads of those areas reporting to the president.

All activities directly related to admissions are under Dean of Enrollment Services Wayne Alderman. Under the dean are directors of recruitment, operations and scholarships. Among activities in those areas are recruitment, admissions processing, scholarships and related functions for their respective areas.

Enrollment Services handles records of applicants, and the Office of the Registrar handles records for students once they are enrolled. The registrar reports to the associate provost for undergraduate studies, who reports to Provost John Heilman.

After scholarships are awarded through Enrollment Services, disbursements are handled through Student Financial Services, which reports to the assistant vice president for business and finance, who reports to Executive Vice President Don Large.

## Benson lecture to examine novel on legacy of slavery

Trudier Harris, an international authority on African American literature and folklore, will present the 2007 Benson Memorial Lecture at Auburn next week.

Harris, a professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will speak at the AU Hotel at 3 p.m. March 15 on "Seeping into the Twentieth Century: Fear of Slavery in Phyllis Alesia Perry's

*Stigmata*." The public lecture will examine the attempt of a prominent modern author to deal with the heritage of slavery more than a century after it was abolished in America.

Harris has written extensively on African American writers, and she has lectured on the subject across Europe and the United States. The Benson Lecture honors a former head of AU's English Department.

## Profiles in Excellence

# Teaching shy students showed way for professor to overcome shyness

**L**eanne Lamke did not set out to have a career that involved teaching. "It never occurred to me that I would be able to get up in front of a classroom and teach," she said. "I didn't plan to do it and I didn't believe that I could actually survive."

Lamke hasn't just survived in the classroom; she's thrived, teaching and mentoring hundreds of students as a professor of Human Development and Family Studies in AU's College of Human Sciences. An inaugural recipient of AU's Gerald and Emily Leischuck Endowed Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2005, she has also been recognized many times for her teaching abilities.

Lamke initially entered graduate school with plans of becoming a marriage and family therapist but soon discovered a love of research and, eventually, teaching. It began when the faculty in Lamke's graduate program at Texas Tech assigned her to teach interpersonal skills to a class full of self-identified shy students as part of a larger research project.

"It was difficult to tell who was more shy – the students or myself," she said. "Teaching was something that I had to work at and that I was anxious about. But I also discovered that I had an energy for it and I was committed to doing everything I could to help students learn."

**"For me, what is most exciting about teaching is when I see it making a difference in students' lives..."**

"For me, what is most exciting about teaching is when I see it making a difference in students' lives, whether it's a doctoral student describing the success of a new teaching strategy, or new graduate students becoming excited and confident about their research capabilities or discovering that students in the undergraduate 'Development of Interpersonal Skills' class are actually taking what they learn in class and applying it to their personal lives."

The interpersonal skills course focuses on helping individuals better meet their interpersonal needs and goals by teaching them the skills necessary to function more effectively in interpersonal interactions. The class serves as a foundation for many different types of relationships from marriage and family to employer-employee.

In addition to the undergraduate course, Lamke served as the instructor for the research methods course in HDFS for more than 10 years and, as a result, helped more than 100 students develop their thesis or dissertation proposals.

She has also served as director of the AU Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program and at one time chaired the Institutional Review Board among other leadership positions throughout the university.

Last August, Lamke became head of the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. For the first time in many years, she is not teaching so that she can focus on her administrative duties. She hopes, however, to return to the classroom. "I truly miss teaching this semester."

Earlier in her career, Lamke was an associate professor at the University of Arizona and also taught at Arizona State University.

She received a bachelor's degree from the University of North Dakota and a master's and Ph.D. degrees from Texas Tech. Beyond the classroom, her research has focused broadly on issues that impact the relationship development process, particularly during late adolescence. She has also published works regarding effective teaching strategies.

In addition to the Leischuck Award, Lamke received the Alumni Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award and has been honored by both the National Council on Family Relations and the International Association for Relationship Research for her teaching effectiveness.



Lamke

## Reporter to speak here on killings during Civil Rights Era

**A** reporter whose work helped lead to the arrest of several Klansmen will be this year's speaker for the Neil and Henrietta Davis Lecture Series.

Jerry Mitchell of the *Jackson (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger* will speak at 5 p.m. Friday at the AU Hotel.

Among his most recent successes, Mitchell's articles helped lead to the arrest of James Seale in connection with the 1964 abduction and killings of two African-American teenagers, Henry Hezekiah Dee and Charles Eddie Moore.

"Jerry Mitchell is an ideal speaker for this lecture series," said John Carvalho, director of Auburn's journalism program.

Carvalho added, "We seek to commemorate the Davises' courageous support of civil rights as Alabama newspaper publishers in the 1950s and 1960s. Jerry's work carries on the tradition established by journalists like Neil and Henrietta Davis."

Mitchell was a 2006 Pulitzer Prize finalist in the beat reporting category. The Pulitzer committee noted his "relentless and masterly stories on the successful prosecution of a man accused of orchestrating the killings of three civil rights workers in 1964."

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