

March 8  
2004

## Inside

Page 3

Symposium to  
discuss Asia,  
Middle East

Pages 4-5

Candidates  
respond to  
Senate query

Page 7

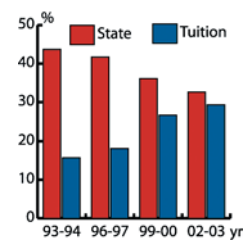
Dean discusses  
changing role  
of disciplines

Page 8

CNN executive  
to present  
Davis Lecture

### How AU Stacks Up

State appropriation  
and tuition as percent  
of AU revenues



Source: Planning & Analysis

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

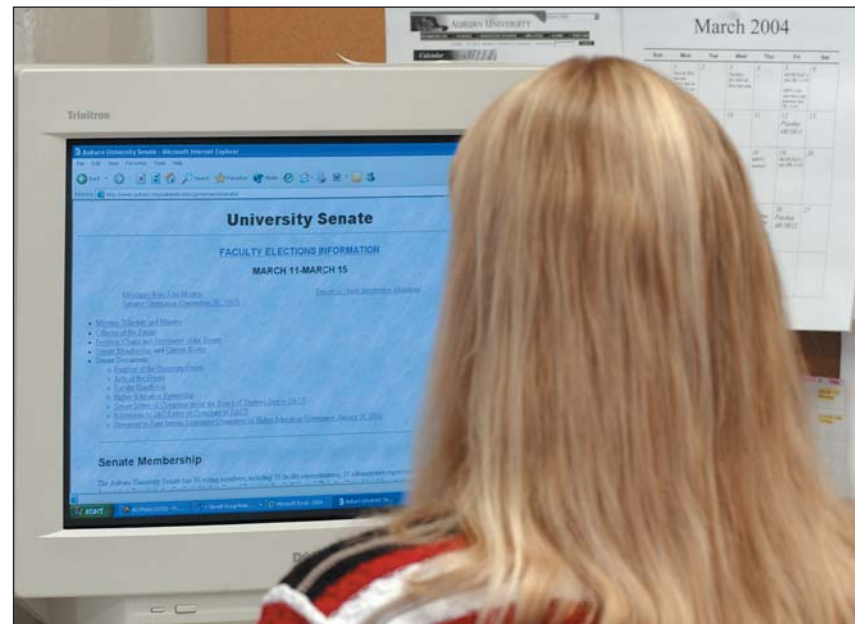
# AU report

For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

Vol. 37 No. 8

## Faculty election

For the first time, AU faculty will elect officers for the University Senate by computer. The voting period starts Thursday and runs through Monday, March 15, as faculty choose a chair-elect and secretary-elect for 2004. The winners will be announced at the spring meeting of the University Faculty on March 16. They will assume office as chair and secretary, respectively, in March 2005.



## Faculty vote electronically this week

AU faculty will go to their computers this week to vote for University Faculty leaders for 2005.

The faculty will cast electronic ballots from Thursday through Monday, March 15, for chair-elect and secretary-elect of the University Faculty and its representative body, the University Senate. The winners will be announced at the spring meeting of the University Faculty at 3 p.m. March 16 in Broun Hall auditorium.

The election is the first in which faculty choose officers by electronic ballots, although students have voted electronically in recent Student Government Association elections.

Candidates for chair-elect are Conner Bailey and Mark Nelms. Candidates for secretary-elect are Patricia Duffy and Jim Gravois. Before rising to the top posts in March 2005, the winners of this week's balloting will assist 2004-05 Faculty Chair Willie D. Larkin of the Cooperative Extension System and Secretary Debra Cobia of Counseling and Counseling Psychology, who take office on March 16.

Bailey, a professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, has been an

AU faculty member since 1985. He was University Senate secretary in 1994-95 and was president of the campus AAUP chapter in 1999-2000.

Nelms, a professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering has been an AU faculty member since 1984. He has authored or co-authored approximately 70 publications in his discipline and has been faculty coach for AU's student Solar Decathlon team.

Duffy, a professor in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, has been an AU faculty member since 1985. She served in the University Senate from 1991-94, is co-author of a textbook in her discipline and has received several awards for teaching.

Gravois, a reference librarian, represents AU Libraries on the University Senate. In Draughon Library, he is a specialist in foreign languages, philosophy and religion.

On pages 4-5 of this AU Report, the candidates discuss how they would present views of the faculty to the administration and Board of Trustees.

Details on eligibility and voting procedures are online at [www.auburn.edu/administration/governance/senate/vote\\_faq04.htm](http://www.auburn.edu/administration/governance/senate/vote_faq04.htm).



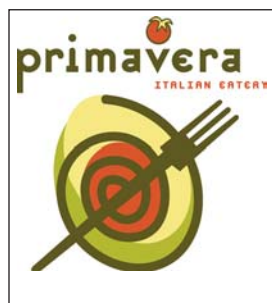
**Ribbon-cutting**  
City of Auburn Mayor Pro Tem Ted Wilson, with scissors, joined the staff of AU Human Resources on Thursday for a ribbon cutting to dedicate the university's new center for employment, training and temporary employment services. The center is across Gay Street from Auburn City Hall. Other AU Human Resources offices remain in Langdon Hall. Tiger Transit provides bus service from campus to the new center.

## Publication cites logo by AU professor as one of the best in America in 2003

The annual national design publication *American Corporate Identity* has selected a logo by Dana Ezzell Gay of the Department of Art in the AU College of Liberal Arts for inclusion in its latest edition.

Gay, an assistant professor at Auburn, designed the logo for Primavera Italian Eatery, a restaurant in Silverthorne, Colo.

The American Corporate Identity competition is the only annual national competition devoted specifically to recognizing excellence in the field of corporate identity. The judging was led by David E. Carter, who has pro-



duced more books on logo design and corporate identity than anyone else in the business.

Gay is one of two members of the AU Art Department whose work will appear in the 2004 edition of *American Corporate Identity*. The judges previously announced that logos designed by Kelly Bryant will be included in the publication, which highlights examples of the best of contemporary design in American business.

## Scholarships available for children of employees

The University Scholars Program is accepting applications from AU faculty and staff for AU's 2004-05 Employee Dependent Children Scholarships.

Auburn will award approximately 10 scholarships of \$1,000 each to dependents of faculty and staff for the 2004-05 academic year. The scholarships are need-based, going to eligible applicants with the greatest unmet need under federal funding formulas.

Recipients must meet general scholarship guidelines of the Office of Financial Aid, with priority going to incoming freshmen who have a 3.0 high school grade point average and to enrolled AU students who have a 3.0 cumulative GPA through fall 2003.

For a dependent to qualify, the faculty or staff member must be a regular, full-time, continuing

employee of the university and have been employed for at least 12 months before the application deadline of May 3.

The dependent child must be an admitted, undergraduate student enrolled at the main campus of AU, be documented on the employee's IRS tax return as a legal dependent and demonstrate need through the U.S. government's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.

Application forms are available at the University Scholars Program Office in 300 Martin Hall and the Office of Student Financial Aid in 203 Martin Hall. You may also print the application in PDF format from the Auburn Web sites [www.auburn.edu/scholarship](http://www.auburn.edu/scholarship) and [www.auburn.edu/finaid](http://www.auburn.edu/finaid).

For additional information, contact the University Scholars Program at 844-2320.

## Crocker to discuss 19th century hospital in women's history talk

Ruth Crocker of the AU Department of History will present a Women's History Month public lecture at 3 p.m. Thursday at the Special Collections and Archives Department of Draughton Library.

Crocker, Alumni Associate Professor of History, will examine the place in history of the mid-19th century New York Women's Hospital and the controversial methods of surgeon J. Marion Sims, the hospital's founder.

The lecture will also explore the role of the hospital's elite, volunteer "lady managers" of the city's health and welfare institutions.

Crocker earned her Ph.D. in American history from Purdue University and holds a bachelor's degree from Oxford University. At Auburn since 1988, she teaches courses in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, historical methods, women's history and world history. Her areas of specialization include gender, class and ethnicity in U.S. history and history of social work and social welfare.

## AU Theatre to present nationally prominent dancers in concerts

The AU Department of Theatre will host a week-long series of dance concerts and master classes March 15-21 at Telfair Peet Theatre.

Activities start Monday, March 15, with "Reminiscences of a Dancing Man," a solo concert by internationally renowned modern dance and tap artist Bill Evans. The artistic director of the Bill Evans Dance Company and the New Mexico Tap Dance Jam, Evans has choreographed works for more than 60 professional dance companies throughout the world.

On March 16, Evans will offer a series of master classes in modern dance technique, tap and Bartenieff Fundamentals, a technique that promotes efficiency of movement and a holistic approach to the body.

Following the Evans residency, AU Theatre will present "Daunce," the department's second annual dance concert, under the direction of Associate Professor Judith Nelson.

This year's concert combines the work of Nelson and her AU student company with that of professional guest artists Michael Trsnovec of the Paul Taylor Dance Company and Kyoko Kudo and Robert Regala of the Jose Limon Dance Company.

For information about these events, call 844-4154 or 844-4748.



**Up on top**  
Workers apply the roof to the first and largest building in the AU Science Center northwest of Duncan Hall. The three-building complex will house most science teaching labs in Auburn's core curriculum. For a wider view of the building, see page 6.

## Symposium to provide women's perspective on Middle East, Asia

AU will host a Presidential Symposium next week on "War, Peace and Justice in the Middle East and Asia."

Seven visiting experts from U.S. and Middle Eastern universities, London and Afghanistan will join AU scholars on March 16-17 at Foy Student Union for public discussions of issues related to the theme of "Women, War and Peace."

The symposium's first session, 9 a.m.-noon on March 16 in Foy Ballroom, is a presentation on "Women in Hinduism, Islam and Judaism" by Ann Grodzins Gold, professor of religion and anthropology at Syracuse University; Asma Barlas, chair of the Department of Politics at Ithaca College in New York; and Hannah Herzog, associate professor of sociology at Tel Aviv University.

Speakers for the afternoon session, "Women, War and Peace-Making," from 1:30 p.m.-5 p.m., include

Sahar Saba, spokeswoman for the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan; Jenny Matthews of Network Photographers in London; Merve Kavakci of the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University; and Naomi Chazan, professor of political science and African studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The symposium will move on March 17 to Foy 217 and conclude with the roundtable discussion "Feminism in Global Perspective" from 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

The symposium is sponsored by the AU Office of the President and the AU Women's Studies Program. Symposium organizers are Kelly Alley of Anthropology, Jill Crystal of Political Science, Yasser Gowayed of Textile Engineering and Richard Penaskovic of Religious Studies in the Department of Philosophy. For more information, see the Web site [www.ocm.auburn.edu/symposium](http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/symposium).

## Education professor to read from her new anthology at Pebble Hill event

Judith Lechner, an AU faculty member who is an authority on children's literature, will present a public reading from the "Anthology of Traditional Literature" at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Pebble Hill.

Lechner, editor of the new anthology assembled, edited and interpreted the collection of fairy tales, folk stories, myths and legends for Allyn and Bacon Publishers of New Jersey.

The reading is sponsored by the AU Center for the Arts and Humanities. Copies of the book will be available for signing.

A faculty member at Auburn since 1988, Lechner is an associate professor in the College of Education's Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology. She holds a Ph.D. from UCLA and other degrees from AU, Columbia University and City College of New York.

Her primary teaching areas are children's literature and children's media, and she has conducted extensive research and writing in the areas of multicultural children's literature, illustrations, folk tales, biographies and science literature for children.

# Candidates respond to question

The Nominations Committee of the University Senate recently asked the following question of candidates for chair-elect and secretary-elect of the University Faculty, and its representative organization, the Senate. The candidates' responses are on these two pages.

**"As chair or secretary of the Senate you will likely be asked by the university administration and/or Board of Trustees to summarize the position of the faculty on various issues. In some of these situations you may not be given time to poll the faculty. How well do you feel you could represent the faculty under such conditions?"**

## By R. Mark Nelms, Candidate for Chair-Elect

This thought-provoking question arrived in an e-mail message from the Nominating Committee last month. Leadership of the Senate is a team effort, and the Steering and Rules committees play important roles in this effort. I view the Steering Committee as an extremely valuable resource for the Senate Chair and would rely on this committee, and in particular the Senate Secretary, for guidance on faculty issues.



Nelms

In addition, I would expect the committee members to be knowledgeable on a broad range of faculty perspectives. Regular discussions with the committee members will be the key to formulating positions on various issues when there is not time to poll the faculty. As a result, I would feel comfortable summarizing faculty positions on various issues.

## By Conner Bailey, Candidate for Chair-Elect

Independence of mind is a primary characteristic of faculty. Representing faculty viewpoints accurately is a challenge. We are highly diverse and any attempt to portray faculty viewpoints in unitary terms ("the position of the faculty") would miss this essential point.



Bailey

The nature of my research has encouraged me to work closely with colleagues across campus (anthropology, architecture, chemical engineering, community planning, family studies, fisheries, forestry, toxicology). I have served in the University Senate and on numerous Senate and University committees. I have attended most Senate, University Faculty, and Board of Trustees meetings over the past 10 years. This breadth of exposure and involvement shapes my perspective on faculty interests and concerns.

The structure of the University Senate and the University Faculty provides support for faculty officers in determining and representing viewpoints. Whoever becomes our next chair-elect will be part of a structure of committees (Steering, Rules, and Executive) designed to act on behalf of the Senate and the

I have interacted with faculty around the campus on a number of student projects and as a member of the SACS Self-Study Administrative Services Committee. It is always interesting and informative to discover how other faculty view campus events. I will utilize my year as chair-elect to seek out faculty perspectives from around the campus.

As Senate Chair, it will be my duty to report faculty positions on various issues to the university administration and the Board of Trustees. The faculty position may be very different from that of the university administration and/or Board of Trustees. However, it is still necessary to report the position and provide a supporting explanation.

I have learned over many years of involvement in my professional society that effective communication requires respect and professionalism. All my communication with the university administration and/or the Board of Trustees will be in this light.

University Faculty when time does not allow for open deliberation by either body. Faculty officers also have access to electronic communication channels to quickly share information and request input from faculty. We have available a survey conducted by the SACS Self-Study team which provides some insight into faculty opinions and concerns. And there is an active AAUP listserv where lively discussions of campus issues take place. I am a strong supporter of the AAUP; I also clearly understand that this organization is not the only voice nor should it be the only source of faculty input for elected officers.

Ultimately, elected officers serve as representatives of the faculty to the best of their ability, drawing upon as many sources of information as they can. I can guarantee that I will never label faculty whose views differ from my own as a 'disgruntled few' or in any way seek to isolate or marginalize responsible dissent. To the contrary, and in the spirit of intellectual honesty, I will endeavor to understand those views which differ from my own and make an honest effort to make sure these views are articulated as part of the faculty "position" on matters facing this university.

# Upcoming Events

## Tuesday, March 9

- Health Insurance: Blue Cross-Blue Shield representative available for consultation, 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Ingram 212. No appointment needed.
- Meeting: University Senate, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.
- Public Reading: Excerpts from the "Anthology of Traditional Literature," editor Judith Lechner of AU College of Education, 4 p.m., Pebble Hill.

## Thursday, March 11

- Electronic Voting: Faculty elections through March 15. Information online at [www.auburn.edu/administration/governance/senate/vote\\_faq04.htm](http://www.auburn.edu/administration/governance/senate/vote_faq04.htm)
- Women's History Speaker: Ruth Crocker, AU Department of History, "Origins and Controversy of the 19th Century New York Women's Hospital," 3 p.m., AU Archives, Draughon Library.

## Monday, March 15

- Dance Performance: "Reminiscences of a Dancing Man," modern dance and rhythm tap artist Bill Evans, 7:30 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre. Tickets \$15, \$18 and \$20; box office 844-4154.

## Tuesday, March 16

- Meeting and Election Results: University Faculty, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.
- Presidential Symposium: "War, Peace and Justice in the Middle East and Asia." Foy Union ballroom. Panel discussions: "Women in Hinduism, Islam, Judaism," 9 a.m.-noon; "Women, War and Peace-Making," 1:30 p.m.-5 p.m. Film: "This is Not Living," noon.
- Art Talk: For parents and grandparents, "Teaching Methods that Excite Children About Art," Education Curator Tim Brown, 7 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

## Wednesday, March 17

- Presidential Symposium: "War, Peace and Justice in the Middle East and Asia. Foy 217. Roundtable discussion: "Feminism in Global Perspective," 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
- Meeting: Staff Council, 10 a.m., Foy 208.
- Neil and Henrietta Davis Lecturer: AU alumnus Eric Ludgood, vice president of CNN International, 5 p.m., Dixon Conference Center.



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Direct inquiries, suggestions and news items to AU Report, 23 Samford Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849. Telephone 334/844-9999. E-mail: [summero@auburn.edu](mailto:summero@auburn.edu)

# Secretary-Elect candidates issue their responses to committee's question

## By Patricia Duffy, Candidate for Secretary-Elect

With good planning and communications, the Executive Committee should rarely have to speak for the faculty on vital issues without time for input.

If elected, I will work to include critical issues as Senate agenda items, providing opportunity for the faculty body as a whole, not the Executive Committee alone, to make key decisions. If a decision must be made hastily, between regular meetings, I would ask to at least have time to contact the faculty senators via e-mail to get as much input as possible.



Duffy

I would also strive to learn as much as I can about

diverse faculty views in case I am asked to provide informal input to the administration or to the media. Through my previous university committee work, through my teaching of a core course administered by another college and from taking classes in two colleges other than my own, I have been exposed to issues and concerns of importance to faculty in other units. I currently participate in two campus list-serves, the AAUP list-serve and the women's studies list-serve.

If elected, I would devote time to meetings with faculty groups across campus, including the faculty senators from the different administrative units.

## By Jim Gravois, Candidate for Secretary-Elect

If a member of the Board of Trustees were to ask the Senate Secretary for the sense of the faculty's opinion on a particular issue, how would I reply?

The real issue is: how could I reply? How can I make myself knowledgeable about such a divergent, multifaceted, cross-campus point of view?

There are several steps I would use to try to get a sense of the entire faculty. First, I would be sure to discuss campus-wide issues with the Senate Chair and with the Steering Committee whenever possible.

Second, I would contact various senators by e-mail, phone or in person to elicit their views on current issues. This is especially important, I feel, for those senators who may not express their views vocally at our monthly University Senate meetings.

Third, I would emphasize to senators that they should try to poll their faculty on these issues as much as possible and relay the sentiments of their group to the Faculty Chair and to me.

Fourth, I would contact leaders of the local AAUP chapter to get their input and attend their meetings,



Gravois

as appropriate, to gather a sense of the group's positions on various issues.

Finally, I would send e-mail surveys to all University Faculty members when it seemed important to solicit input on major issues. This would not happen often, perhaps once or twice per year. But it has worked well when I needed to get a sense of my faculty's input in the past, for example when the University Senate faced the censure/no-confidence/resignation votes recently. Perhaps there would be occasions when a faculty-wide e-mail is merited.

I feel that all of these steps would give me a surer sense of the faculty's views, but they would not be foolproof. If a trustee asks me about a new issue, one that has not come up in faculty-wide conversations, how would I express the views of the faculty? There is no absolute way of getting this right, but I think the steps above would give me the confidence to say: "Based on what I hear about issues X and Y, I think that the faculty opinion of this new issue Z would be as follows. But I will know for sure only after I have had time to consult with them." In this way I believe I could honestly represent the views of the faculty.

## Panel seeks nominations for Sullivan Awards

The deadline for submission of nominations for the 2004 Algernon Sydney Sullivan Awards, AU's highest humanitarian service award, is March 23.

AU presents the awards each April to a man and a woman from the graduating class and a non-student, who may be a faculty or staff member, administrator or a member of the community.

Submit nominations to Sullivan Awards Committee Chair Wes Williams, AU vice president for student affairs, 200 Cater Hall. Include a letter of nomination, a resume or curriculum vitae and

newspaper articles or other documentation of the person's humanitarian service.

Established in the 1920s by the New York Southern Society, the award commemorates a leading late 19th century and early 20th century humanitarian. First presented in 1927 at Washington and Lee University, the award is presented at universities around the U.S. to honor exceptional service to humanity.

The 2003 Sullivan Award for a non-student went to D.K. Ruth, co-founder of AU's Rural Studio.



### Taking shape

The massive new AU Science Center is rapidly taking shape along Roosevelt Drive. The three-building complex will house teaching labs for the College of Sciences and Mathematics and other colleges with science requirements in Auburn's core curriculum.

## Scientists' research shows nutrient in fish may prevent harm from mercury

The potentially harmful effects of eating some fish contaminated by mercury may be offset or neutralized by the beneficial effects of naturally occurring omega-3 fatty acids in fish, say two scientists at Auburn.

Margaret Craig-Schmidt, professor of nutrition and food science, and Chris Newland, Alumni Professor of psychology, who have spent years studying the health and developmental effects of omega-3 fatty acids and methyl mercury found in fish, are challenging conventional notions with their hypothesis on this issue.

Craig-Schmidt and Newland, collaborators in research supported by the National Institutes of Health, are exploring the hypothesis that omega-3 fatty acids that occur naturally in fish actually may counter the contaminating effects of methyl mercury — a heavy metal that concentrates in the muscle tissue of fish.

"It is only preliminary, but one of the things we are beginning to see in our research is that there may be some protection from mercury that is conferred by eating fish," Newland said. A behavioral neuroscientist, Newland has examined the effects of methyl mercury on nervous system development.

A nutritional biochemist, Craig-Schmidt has conducted extensive research exploring the health benefits of fatty acids in nutrition. Her research includes examination of the dietary benefits of docosahexaenoic acid, an omega-3 fatty acid that is impor-

tant to retinal and brain development in humans.

The contentious issue, say the AU researchers, is that consumers receive conflicting information about the safety and benefits of eating fish. Oils from certain species of fish are high in omega-3 fatty acids, yet health warnings carry cautions against eating fish due to the potential hazards caused by methyl mercury contamination.

"It is important to realize that not all fish are the same," Craig-Schmidt said. She noted that salmon and tuna are good sources of the beneficial omega-3 fatty acids, and those species appear to be relatively safe.

Newland said the conflicting warnings regarding fish consumption are of concern to scientists as well as to consumers. "These advisories are confusing," the AU scientist said. "My concern is that people may throw up their arms in despair and quit eating fish entirely."

Both researchers say they believe such a response would be extreme. They say that attaining enough dietary omega-3 is a challenge for millions of Americans who are striving to reduce their risk of cardiovascular disease and mental decline that often accompany aging.

The challenge is even greater, they say, for pregnant women and nursing mothers who want to ensure that their children get adequate amounts of fatty acids during the most critical developmental period.

### Film festival on March 18 to feature best of national competition

AU will host its eighth annual Movie Gallery Student Video Competition/Jay Sanders Film Festival at Dixon Conference Center on March 18, starting at 7 p.m.

The free event, highlighting student films from across the country, is sponsored by Dothan-based Movie Gallery Inc. and the AU Department of Communication and Journalism.

The best high school video maker and the best college video maker will each receive a \$1,000 first prize.

Film festival coordinator Emmett Winn, an associate professor of communication, said the festival is an outgrowth of the Jay Sanders Film Festival, which brought classic and foreign films to Auburn before they became widely available through video rental.

The festival took its current route when organizers decided that the festival should provide a creative outlet for college and high school videomakers, he said.

With Movie Gallery's support, the competition grew from a relatively small group of entries from videomakers at AU to an international competition with entries from across the United States and Canada.

The late Jay Sanders initiated and taught film studies at Auburn during a lengthy career as a professor of communication.

### AU library upgrades delivery option for loan patrons

AU's Draughon Library has introduced a faster, more efficient way for patrons to receive articles requested through InterLibrary Loan.

The Ariel Web Delivery service will allow patrons to have Web access to a PDF copy of articles that they request from other libraries.

InterLibrary Loan is a service that enables AU faculty, staff and students to receive from other libraries materials not owned by AU Libraries. Patrons may request books, articles, proceedings, newspapers, dissertations, theses and other materials.

Normally, requested items are placed at the circulation desk of one of the libraries on campus for patrons to check out. With Ariel Web Delivery, patrons requesting articles can choose their e-mail address as their pick-up location.

The new Web service will decrease the delivery time of articles and increase patron access. Patrons can access the article anywhere that they have Web access with the new program.

For additional information go online to [www.lib.auburn.edu/newill.html](http://www.lib.auburn.edu/newill.html) or contact Jeff Luzius, at 844-1745.

### Campus Forum

## Bennett: Disciplines change to meet changes in culture, needs of clients

By Daniel D. Bennett, Dean, College of Architecture, Design and Construction

Due in part to major cultural changes in society over the past 10 to 15 years, the design and construction industries in the United States are undergoing significant changes that will have a major long-term impact on our state and nation.



Bennett

The design and construction industries are coping with diminished natural resources, rising energy costs and a call for more sustainable practices. Clients of our industries are increasingly demanding services that provide all components of the design and construction process in one package. There is much pressure to create socially accountable and environmentally responsible buildings and facilities.

Until about the mid-1980s, the practice of architecture and construction was predicated solely on stand-alone business units, where a client approached an architect to produce design and construction documents for a building, or groups of buildings. When this work was completed, the documents were bid by construction companies, with the lowest bidder generally receiving the contract for the work. The architect remained involved with the work through construction administration or oversight. All too often, this led to a tenuous relationship between the architect and builder. Finger-pointing occurred from all sides when problems occurred or cost issues surfaced.

Much of that is now changing. And while the old procedure still occurs, about 65 percent of all professionals in both the design and construction industries are now more actively collaborating so that projects are conceived and built by one professional team. This partnership streamlines the building process and creates more accuracy in the ability to forecast construction costs during the design phase of the work. Further, the team is able to bring to the process issues relating to energy efficiency, the appropriateness and durability of materials, and potential alternative construction methods.

Communication skills are more heavily valued than ever before. These changes elevate overall expertise and streamline the building process. Projects are developed more quickly and efficiently without sacrificing quality. The result is a team that is more responsible to the needs of the client.

The College of Architecture, Design and Construction at Auburn works to emulate these creative collaboration processes so that our graduates will be

better prepared to work in this new environment. These modifications demand a willingness to change on everyone's part in the academy and the profession, and it also requires additional resources. The end result is Auburn students graduating with the academic background and leadership skills required to reinforce this new paradigm. It positions them to "change the game," as School of Architecture Head Bruce Lindsey states.

An example of an ongoing project in the CADC which reinforces collaborative practices and combines the expertise of both architecture and building science disciplines is DesignHabitat. This project, a collaboration between the CADC, DesignAlabama and the Alabama Association of Habitat Affiliates, worked to research and implement design practices to produce energy-efficient and cost-effective homes that fit appropriately into the social and cultural context of Alabama.

The combined service learning experience of the seminar and studio allowed students to develop valuable insights into challenges of affordable housing and sustainable design. It also provided opportunities to apply those insights in the design and construction of an actual project. The resultant Habitat house prototype has been cited nationally for environmental quality, energy efficiency and inventiveness. Fifty prototype houses will be built by the Alabama Association of Habitat Affiliates.

The CADC's Department of Industrial Design also addresses the challenge of preparing students for the fast-changing design industry by offering design studios predicated on collaboration with internationally recognized corporations such as Eastman Chemical, Brother International and Emerson Tools.

In these studios, students work directly with corporate marketing and design managers on product development strategies and ideas.

Our responsibility as design and construction educators is to provide students with as many learning opportunities as possible to expand their knowledge and problem-solving skills, and their cognitive understanding of the work environment they will experience upon graduation.

The college's curriculum is intended to provide collaborative real-world opportunities in preparation for a rapidly changing and complex professional environment. Our goal is to reinforce the cultural, intellectual and economic benefit that our disciplines bring to the state, region and nation. A focus upon alternative and collaborative educational practices is an important first step in attaining that goal.

*The result is a team that is more responsible to the needs of the client.*



### Signs of spring

The first signs of spring came to Auburn last week as cherry trees, shown here, and Japanese magnolias burst into bloom. Walkways in the student parking area near the AU Federal Credit Union were lined with color, signaling a respite from several weeks of drab skies and below-normal temperatures.

## CNN executive returns to speak at lecture series

Eric Ludgood, vice president of CNN International, will present a public lecture next week as part of Auburn's annual Neil and Henrietta Davis Lecture Series.

Ludgood, who has a bachelor's degree in speech communication from AU, will speak at 5 p.m. March 17 at the Dixon Conference Center.

The visiting executive, who started his career at a Columbus, Ga., television station, will also present workshops and speak at a luncheon as part of a conference hosted by the Department of Communication and Journalism in the College of Liberal Arts.

In his role at CNN in Atlanta, Ludgood refines production, programming and operational models for the cable network. He supervises the production and writing staff while handling newsroom technology and management issues.

Ludgood is also in charge of CNN World Report, a program that features news stories from 150 broadcasters from around the globe. In addition, he is responsible for recruitment of writers and producers and development and implementation of CNN's newswriting and producer training.

Ludgood joined CNN in 1993 as a producer, writer and copy editor and became a supervising producer the following year. From April–November 1998, he was executive producer of CNN, managing its operations and editorial style.

Previously, he was assignment manager for WXIA-TV in Atlanta from 1989-93, where he oversaw daily newsgathering and was producer of Atlanta's top-rated morning newscast.

## Book club to discuss 'Girl with a Pearl Earring' this month

The Libraries Book Club will meet in two sessions on March 24 at Draughon Library to discuss "Girl with a Pearl Earring" by Tracy Chevalier.

Open to the university community, sessions will be at 11:45 a.m. and 5 p.m. to accommodate the schedules of members and visitors. The meeting site has been changed to the second floor conference room of the library.

"Girl with a Pearl Earring" centers around a famous portrait with the same title by Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer.

Set in 1660s Holland, the book presents a fictional account of relationships among the painter, his wife, his mother-in-law and his 16-year-old hired female servant, Griet.

Chevalier's book has been on the New York Times Fiction Bestseller list and was winner of Barnes and Noble's 2000 Discover Great New Writers Award.

The book is available at the University Bookstore and other local bookstores. For information, contact Stephanie Morgan at 844-2704 or stephanie@auburn.edu.

## HUD awards grant to AU for master's programs in community planning, public administration

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded \$150,000 to the community planning graduate program in the AU College of Architecture, Design and Construction and the public administration program in the College of Liberal Arts.

The grant program, administered by the federal agency's Office of University Partnerships, is part of HUD's Community Development Work-Study Program. The grant to Auburn is part of \$3 million in grants HUD announced for 19 universities around the country to benefit low-income and minority graduate students.

Students at Auburn will have the option of completing the master's program in community planning or working on a dual graduate degree program with public administration.

While completing the program of study at AU, students will work with the City of Auburn's planning and development offices, the City of Opelika's mayor and development offices, and the Lee-Russell Council of Governments.

The University of Alabama at Birmingham and Alabama A&M University will also receive the HUD grants.

Housing and Urban Development is a federal agency committed to increasing minority homeownership, creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans and supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS.

The federal agency also promotes economic and community development and enforces the nation's fair housing laws.

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