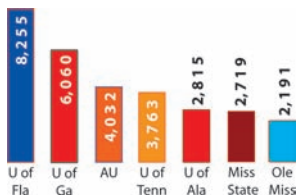


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### How Auburn Stacks Up

Bachelor's degrees awarded at AU, SEC neighbors, 2005-06



Source: Institutional Research and Assessment

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

# FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY report

## Faculty, staff ask colleagues to join fundraising effort

**F**aculty and staff volunteers are asking their colleagues across campus to help ensure that the "It Begins at Auburn" Campaign really does begin at Auburn.

Last year a record 43 percent of faculty and staff contributed to the larger, nationwide fundraising campaign, which has raised approximately \$460 million toward the overall goal of \$500 million in private support for AU. In the 2007 Faculty-Staff Campaign, volunteers are asking colleagues who contributed in 2006 to continue or expand their financial support and asking others to join in a show of support for the university.

Bob Martin, assistant vice president for development, said many alumni and friends of Auburn around the nation follow the lead of the faculty and staff at AU. The show of support by a large proportion of the faculty and staff in 2006 helped convince many alumni and friends to give for the first time and others to increase their support for Auburn through the "It Begins at Auburn" Campaign, he explained.

"As members of the university community, we see first-hand how private support benefits Auburn," Martin said. "The Faculty-Staff Campaign is about participation; our involvement serves as a positive example when we ask for corporate, foundation, legislative, alumni and friend support."

He added, "Who is more qualified than us to judge the value of the programs we work with throughout the year?"

The 2007 Faculty-Staff Campaign will continue until May 4 and involve dozens of volunteers across all colleges, schools and divisions of AU. Campaign co-chairs are Dwight Wolfe of Veterinary Medicine, Greg Williams of Athletics and Paula Sullenger of AU Libraries.

One of the co-chairs, Sullenger, was a team leader

See [Faculty-Staff Campaign](#), page 2



### Outdoor study

In a sight that was rare in February, AU students took advantage of the warmer March temperatures to study and relax last week at park benches and tables across campus, such as here, across Mell Street from Mary Martin Hall.

## Health Expo set for this week

AU will host a Lifetime Wellness and Fitness Expo on Wednesday, with a variety of exhibits, information booths and test sites available from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Foy Union and Haley Center.

The expo will provide information on nutrition, fitness activities, stress management, alcohol awareness, smoking cessation and other factors related to good health. Expo participants will also conduct general health screenings and advise faculty, staff and students on local health and fitness resources.

## Association honors four alumni for lifetime of accomplishments

The Auburn Alumni Association recently presented its 2007 Lifetime Achievement Awards to four prominent Auburn graduates from the 1950s and the early 1960s, including two former AU administrators.

The awards went to retired Gen. Carl Mundy, Class of '57, one of the nation's top Marines; Harry Knowles, '51, an entrepreneur who helped revolutionize retail checkouts; J. Thomas Vaughan, '55, dean emeritus of the AU College of Veterinary Medicine; and posthumously to timber industry leader Earl "Buddy" Weaver, Class of '62, who was co-chair of the "It Begins at Auburn" Campaign at the time of his death last year.

Weaver, a Brewton-based business leader who died in September, was one of AU's top benefactors. At the time of his death, he was co-chair of the university's \$500 million campaign, the second of two major fundraising efforts in which he played a key role on behalf of Auburn.

Weaver also served as interim vice president for alumni and development at AU during a campaign that raised \$201 million in private support during the mid-1990s. Earlier, Weaver served as president of the Auburn Alumni Association board of directors, and from 1994-2002 he was president of the AU Foundation Board of Directors.

Knowles, a New Jersey resident, was founder of Metrologic Instruments Inc., which developed such products as the first programmable bar-code scanner, the first handheld laser scanner and the first mini-slot scanner for supermarkets.

The 1951 graduate and his wife established the Janet H. and C. Harry Knowles Science Teaching Foundation in 1999 to strengthen the quality of high-school science and mathematics teaching in America's schools. The couple also endowed the Howard and Carolyn Carr Chair in Physics at AU.

At the peak of his military career, Mundy, a four-star general, served as commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Before his 1995 retirement, he had received 17 personal decorations and 10 unit and general service awards.

As a civilian, Mundy spent four years as president and chief executive officer of worldwide operations for the nonprofit United Service Organizations, which provides morale, welfare and recreational services to U.S. military personnel and their families. He is a director of the General Dynamics and Schering-Plough corporations and chairman of the Marine Corps University Foundation board of trustees.

Vaughan, an AU veterinary school graduate, began his teaching career in 1955 at Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine. He later left Auburn for the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, where he became head of the large animal hospital in 1970.

Vaughan returned to Auburn in 1974 to head the Department of Large Animal Medicine and Surgery. Three years later he began an 18-year tenure as the college's fifth dean, helping establish the AU college as a premier large animal treatment center.

In 2003, eight years after Vaughan's retirement, the college named its new large animal hospital after him. He continues to serve as a trustee of the American Veterinary Medicine Association's professional liability insurance trust.

## AU center displays quilts designed by Wilcox child artists

Quilts created by art students at the Camden School of Arts and Technology in Wilcox County are on exhibit through this week at the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities in the AU College of Liberal Arts.

The school in Camden is the public middle school for Wilcox County. As part of a year-long program to increase students' awareness of and pride in the history and cultural resources of the Black Belt, art teacher Shernita Andrews invited Gee's Bend native and quiltmaker Marlene Bennett-Jones to a two-week term as artist-in-residence at the school.

"Creating quilts was a way for the students to gain not only a sense of pride in the skill that the women of Gee's Bend had," said Andrews, "but also to learn the skill that was passed down from generation to generation."

With annual support for education projects from the AU Vice-President for Outreach office, the Center for the Arts and Humanities provides CSAT with enrichment programs, including presentations and workshops by artists, writers and dancers.

## Faculty-Staff Campaign

continued from page 1

in the 2006 Faculty-Staff Campaign. "Since I came to Auburn in 1992, I have served on various campaign committees and served in the University Senate," she said. "The Faculty-Staff Campaign last year was one of the most fun and rewarding activities that I have been a part of in these 15 years."

The campaign co-chairs noted that donors can target their funds to help ensure the success of their colleges, schools or programs or designate other uses that support the university's mission and help strengthen the university.

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 13

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

**PUBLIC LECTURE** "Alabama Printmakers: Images of Alabama and Beyond," author Lynn Barstis Williams, 4 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art

Wednesday, March 14

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

Thursday, March 15

**DISTANCE LEARNING SEMINAR** "Teaching Students about Plagiarism: An Internet Solution to an Internet Problem," 1 p.m., O.D. Smith Hall 328

**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

**NEXT** AU Report

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

Tuesday, March 20

**PUBLIC LECTURE** Erik Reece, author of *Lost Mountain: A Year in the Vanishing Wilderness, Radical Strip Mining and the Devastation of Appalachia*, 12:30 p.m., Foy 213

**PUBLIC LECTURE** Ruth Crocker of AU Department of English, author *Mrs. Russell Sage: Women's Activism and Philanthropy in Gilded Age and Progressive Era America*, 3 p.m., Special Collections Room, Draughon Library

Wednesday, March 21

**FACULTY SEMINAR** "The Evaluation of Teaching at Auburn University," noon-1:30 p.m., Foy 208; open to all faculty, staff and graduate students; bring your lunch

**CELEBRATION** College of Liberal Arts, 20th anniversary as a college, 12:15 p.m.-2 p.m., east side, Haley Courtyard



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### Out on a limb

Two cedar waxwings enjoyed the sunshine last week outside Samford Hall. Cedar waxwings are often seen around campus eating berries, getting intoxicated and flying into windows. When they have eaten all the berries, they move on to another area. They usually travel in flocks of 40 or more birds.

## Department of Education official keynotes Transition Conference

John H. Hager, assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, is the keynote speaker this week at the 17th annual Alabama Transition Conference, hosted by AU's Transition Leadership Institute, at the Marriott Grand National in Opelika.

AU's Transition Leadership Institute is part of the College of Education's Department of Rehabilitation and Special Education and helps teenagers with disabilities throughout Alabama successfully move from their teen years to adulthood by overcoming the challenges associated with the transitional period that follows high school.

Hager, who will speak about the importance of transition programs, oversees the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, which provides support to parents and individuals, school districts and states in three main areas: special education, vocational rehabilitation and research.

As the assistant secretary, Hager serves as the principal advisor to Education Secretary Margaret Spellings on departmental matters related to special education and rehabilitative services.

Before his appointment with the Department of Education, Hager was the lieutenant governor and homeland security director of Virginia. He received national recognition as chair of Virginia's Disability Commission and has held leadership positions in many civic, charitable and service organizations. A graduate of Purdue University and Harvard University, Hager served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves. A lifelong athlete, he has competed in many wheelchair races since his bout with polio several years ago.

Hager will be joined by Bill East, executive director of the National Association of State Directors of Special Education, and Carl Suter, executive director

of the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation, at the conference's opening session at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday.

The annual Transition Conference provides a forum for statewide and national collaboration among special education and rehabilitation practitioners, job coaches, transition counselors, families, students and agency representatives.

Students with disabilities make up an estimated 12 percent of the more than 740,000 students in Alabama's public schools. The number of students with disabilities finishing high school, from 1999-2006, with either a graduation certificate, occupational diploma or regular diploma increased from 72 percent in 1999 to 92 percent in 2006.

## USAF grant supports engineering research

Hulya Kirkici, an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering in AU's Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, has received a grant of more than \$60,000 from the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Administered through the Universal Technology Center, the grant supports Kirkici's study of high-frequency breakdown in partial vacuum.

"As technology progresses, and as power systems become more complex, so does the electrical insulation of these power systems," said Kirkici. "Therefore, the results of this study will be helpful in the design of next generation of high-altitude space power systems."

Kirkici's research is in the fields of space power systems, dielectrics and electrical insulation in high altitude space environment and plasma physics.

# Accounting professor says term with SEC provided inside view

**A**ndrew McLelland, of the School of Accountancy in the AU College of Business, recently completed a term in Washington, D.C., as an academic accounting fellow for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

McLelland, an assistant professor at Auburn, describes his work with the commission as the opportunity of a lifetime. His work put him at the SEC during a time of unprecedented "hot topic" accounting issues such as Sarbanes-Oxley, the convergence of global standards, and the backdating of stock options.

"I'm returning to AU with a newfound enthusiasm," said McLelland, who was one of five academic fellows chosen. "Faculty, like students, benefit from learning experiences that take us out of our comfort zones. Being out in the business world, via the regulatory environment, has allowed me to expand on my practical knowledge, which will only benefit my work in the classroom and motivate my academic research."

Academic leaders designated as fellows serve as a research resource for the SEC staff by interpreting and communicating research materials of particular interest to the commission. The mission of the Securities and Exchange Commission is to protect the investing public and to maintain fair, orderly and efficient markets.

"I was afforded an insider's view of accounting from a regulation and standard setting perspective," said McLelland, who has taught four years at AU. "European companies were filing with the SEC using International Financial Reporting Standards for the first time last year. It is a pivotal time for the SEC and the future of global accounting standards."

McLelland focused on three main projects while in the Division of Corporation Finance at the SEC. He presented seminars on business combinations to the attorneys in the division. In response to international developments and as part of the IFRS training, he provided training on the presentation of the income statement, cash flows, interim reporting and requirements for first-year IFRS adopters. He worked with SEC staff and branch chiefs to complete the reviews of initial public offerings and annual reports.

He also worked with a team of accountants to conduct a preliminary review of a special form of first-year IFRS filings. His work, coupled with that of the chief accountants office, focused on compliance with exemptions, elections and disclosures.

McLelland teaches intermediate accounting and financial analysis and valuation to undergraduate and graduate students. "What I've learned at the SEC will shape the questions that I ask in my research and shift my teaching philosophies to current issues of the day," he said.

## Speaker to examine life of advocate, financier of reform

**H**istory Professor Ruth Crocker will discuss the life of one of America's first female philanthropists in a public lecture on March 20 in the Special Collections and Archives Department of Draughton Library.

Crocker, who is director of the Women's Studies Program at AU, will speak at 3 p.m. on "Tales from the Archives: Researching the Life of Margaret Olivia Sage."

The presentation is based on research Crocker conducted for her latest book, *Mrs. Russell Sage: Women's Activism and Philanthropy in Gilded Age and Progressive Era America*, recently published by Indiana University Press.

Sage, the wife and later widow of a 19th century industrialist, used her wealth to fund progressive reforms that had a lasting impact on American life, including her most significant philanthropy, the Russell Sage Foundation.

The lecture is part of the "Discover Auburn" series, sponsored by the AU Libraries, the Caroline Marshall Draughton Center for the Arts and Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and the AU Bookstore.

# Company markets water filter developed by AU professor to protect public health

**A**n Auburn chemistry professor's research is leading to safer drinking water in India through advanced, longer-lasting water filters.

Professor Dave Worley's N-halamine technology is the basis for the in-home filters that HaloSource Inc. introduced March 1 in Bombay, India. The company, established in 1998 on the potential of Worley's discoveries, pays royalties to the university through a technology transfer agreement.

"Many millions of people in India do not have sanitized drinking water, so there is a great need for this filter," said Jeff Williams, senior vice president and cofounder of Seattle-based HaloSource, which is partnering with India's Eureka Forbes company. "We test-marketed filters in hundreds of homes in India last year and are excited about the positive response."

The filters contain polystyrene beads that hold oxidative chlorine or bromine atoms for long periods of time and that can be easily refurbished — the results of Worley's N-halamine chemistry. He has received 30 patents in the course of discovering this process that binds the atoms to the surface of various materials.

Worley, an Auburn faculty member for 33 years, won the university's Creative Research and Scholarship Award last fall for his development of the technology.

"It has many potential applications that could improve health around the world, especially in less-developed areas," Worley said.

To activate the filters, chlorinated or brominated water is passed through them to anchor the chlorine or bromine atoms to the beads. When untreated water with bacteria, mold or virus cells pass through the filter, the cells pick up the atoms which sink into the cell walls and kill them. The filters can be refurbished periodically just by running chlorinated or brominated water through them again.

India's water supply gets contaminated during the monsoon season, and it has high levels of calcium and magnesium, causing water hardness about six times greater than in the United States.

"In Bombay alone, several million people buy their water off the street. None of it is sanitized," said Williams, who added that HaloSource plans future introductions of its filters in more countries.