Faculty to vote March 17-25 for future Senate leadership

Auburn faculty will vote March 17-25 for new leaders of the University Faculty and its representative body, the University Senate. The faculty will vote electronically for chair-elect and secretary-elect. The winners will be announced at the spring meeting of the University Faculty, scheduled for 3:30 p.m. March 25 in Broun Hall.

Candidates for chair-elect are Robin Jaffe of the Department of Theatre in the College of Liberal Arts and Larry Teeter of the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences. Candidates for secretary-elect are Laura Plexico of the Department of Communication Disorders in the College of Liberal Arts and Donald Mulvaney of the Department of Animal Sciences in the College of Agriculture.

The new chair-elect and secretary-elect will take office July 1 and will serve for a year with incoming Chair Larry Crowley and Secretary Judy Sheppard and rise to the top leadership positions in July 2015. Current Chair Larry Crowley and Secretary Judy Sheppard will serve until July 1, after which Crowley will serve for a year as faculty adviser to the Board of Trustees.

Robin Jaffe

Jaffe served in 2012-13 as Senate secretary and currently serves as chair of the Calendar and Schedules Committee and a member of the University Master Plan Committee. He is also a Senate representative on three other committees and has prior service on the Executive, Rules, Steering and other Senate and University committees. An associate professor in the Department of Theatre, Jaffe has been a member of the Auburn faculty since 1992.

“I continue to believe the fairness of shared governance relies on the consideration given to differing opinions and is strengthened by the transparency of the process,” said Jaffe. “As secretary, I made it a priority to ensure inclusiveness of all faculty and to encourage participation well beyond the membership of the University Senate. I am committed to the work of establishing protocols that will ensure in the future that the process of governing at Auburn is open and transparent.

“If elected as your chair-elect of the University Senate, I will remain respectful and open to the opinions of all, listen intently to all members of the university, examine the issues of concern without bias and/or fleeting thoughts, and will be a strong advocate and representative for the faculty at all times.”

See additional comments by Jaffe on Page 4.

Larry Teeter

Teeter, an Auburn faculty member since 1985, is a professor in Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, which he has represented in the University Senate for four separate terms. His Senate and University committee service includes the Graduate Council, Budget Advisory, Rules, Steering, Promotion and Tenure, Intercollegiate Athletics and Competitive Research Grants.

“The variety of University and Senate committee assignments I’ve had have given me an appreciation for the breadth and diversity of opportunities for faculty at Auburn to participate in shared governance,” Teeter said. “The current administration has been very receptive to expanding opportunities for shared governance, but shared governance implies shared responsibilities and expansion means more faculty will need to volunteer if we are to maintain current strengths while increasing our governance role in other areas.

“Auburn will face some big challenges over the next several years, primarily

LifeTime Achievement Awards

The Auburn Alumni Association presented its 2014 Lifetime Achievement Awards March 8 to four Auburn alumni in recognition of exceptional achievements spanning their careers. The recipients, from left, are Larry Benefield, Class of 1966, internationally recognized environmental engineering researcher and dean emeritus of Auburn’s Samuel Ginn College of Engineering; Pat Sullivan, Class of 1972, Samford University head football coach and Auburn’s first Heisman Trophy winner as the Tigers’ quarterback from 1969-71; John Brown, Class of 1957, a $10 million benefactor of the College of Veterinary Medicine and chairman emeritus of Stryker Corp., one of the world’s leading medical technology companies; and Tim Cook, Class of 1982, CEO of Apple Inc., which he joined in 1998 as a senior executive and played a key role in developing Apple into one of the world’s most successful corporate brands, rising to the company’s top position in 2011.

Internal search launched for person to support Strategic Plan initiatives

Auburn University is accepting applications for the position of project manager for University Initiatives.

The project manager for University Initiatives reports to the associate provost and is responsible for supporting and maintaining Strategic Plan initiatives.

The full-time, 12-month and non-tenure track faculty position has an anticipated start date of this spring. The internal search is open to current Auburn University employees.

The individual selected for the position will initially serve as the coordinator of the Distance Learning Partnership. The partnership will assist the university in achieving growth and brand identity within the distance learning market.

Services to be provided by the partner to the university will include, but shall not be limited to, market analysis, faculty support, instructional design, application preparation support and student enrollment and retention services. Applications are due by March 21.

Additional information is available at www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/ and applications will be accepted the university website at https://aufacultypositions.peopleadmin.com/postings/419.
Auburn receives 27 awards at start of 2014 for projects in advertising, communications, marketing during 2013

Auburn University has picked up 27 awards so far this year in five separate award ceremonies for exceptional work in advertising, communications and marketing in 2013.

The Office of Communications and Marketing, Auburn Magazine and the Division of Student Affairs were responsible for the body of work submitted to awards competitions: the American Advertising Awards, the Collegiate Advertising Awards, the CASE District III Awards, the Service Industry Advertising Awards and Higher Education Marketing Awards.

The “This Is Auburn.” campaign, created to provide a flexible style to describe the many positive qualities contributing to the university as a whole, received the most accolades, with six gold awards, five silver, two bronze and a merit award.

Other areas receiving advertising industry recognition were: One Last Roll, a farewell to the Auburn Oaks; 20 Years of Inspiration and Impact: International Quality of Life Awards, a publication commemorating the history of the College of Human Sciences’ program that honors people and partnerships who have made significant and lasting contributions around the world; and The 1856 Society event invitation, which recognizes donors at Auburn University and Auburn University Montgomery whose cumulative contributions and irrevocable planned gifts reach or exceed $100,000.

The following provides a breakdown of the awards:

American Advertising Awards
• Gold Award and Judges Choice Award: 20 Years of Inspiration and Impact: International Quality of Life Awards.
• Silver Award: This Is Auburn: Admissions and Recruitment Campaign.
• Silver Award: The 1856 Society Event Invitation Campaign.

The American Advertising Awards is the advertising industry’s largest and most representative competition, attracting more than 40,000 entries every year in local American Advertising Federation Club competitions. Auburn competed against some 110 professional submissions in AAF’s District 7. The mission of the American Advertising Awards competition is to recognize and reward the creative spirit of excellence in the art of advertising.

Casey for Advancement and Support of Education, District III, Awards
• Grand Award: A Dearth of Newspapers. Category: Feature Writing.
• Grand Award: Auburn Magazine. Category: Magazine III (for institutions with FTE enrollment of more than 15,000).
• Award of Excellence: One Last Roll. Category: Special Event.

Collegiate Advertising Awards
• Gold Award—This Is Auburn. Campus Signage. Category: Outdoor Transit/Airport/Subway - Series.
• Gold Award—This Is Auburn. Brand Reminder Travel Mug. Category: Advertising Specialty.
• Gold Award: This Is My University. Auburn Road Piece. Category: Recruitment.
• Silver Award: This Is Auburn. Magazine Ads. Category: Magazine Advertising – Series.
• Silver Award: The Last Roll: Farewell to the Auburn Oaks. Category: Special Events.
• Bronze Award: This Is Auburn. Brand Campaign. Category: Total Advertising Campaigns.

The Collegiate Advertising Awards is an elite program designed to recognize today’s most talented educational marketing professionals for outstanding excellence in all forms of advertising, marketing and promotion.

Higher Education Marketing Report Awards
• Gold Award: This is Auburn. Category: Magazine Series.

Visit diplomat

While on campus as part of a program to enhance students’ international education, the consul general met with faculty, students and administrators to discuss the economic, social and political ties between the United States and Canada.
Small animal hospital has its first patient

Just like clockwork, Hayley Eustice and her owners arrived recently at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, ready to start another week of medical therapy.

While Hayley’s visit was routine, blood work and a check of her lymph nodes, for owners Elizabeth Eustice and Joan Taylor of Columbus, Ga., and the veterinarians and staff of the College of Veterinary Medicine, her arrival was significant – she was the first client in the door of the 208,000-square-foot Wilford and Kate Bailey Small Animal Teaching Hospital. Just like she’s done on every visit, the white poodle pranced around to greet everyone, happy to see familiar faces.

For the past 18 months, Eustice and Taylor have brought their beloved Hayley to the teaching hospital following a diagnosis of lymphoma by their Columbus veterinarian.

And while the series of chemotherapy treatment has not produced the long-term results they have wanted, Hayley “doesn’t realize she’s sick,” said Eustice.

The eight-year-old Hayley hasn’t suffered any severe side effects – she plays and runs and loves to chase a ball, they said.

“We felt like we had to give her a chance because she was so young and she’s been a textbook case,” Eustice said.

“We were told we had two-to-six weeks with her if we didn’t treat the lymphoma and up to two years if we did,” Taylor added.

Eustice said they are glad they decided to bring Hayley to Auburn’s College of Veterinary Medicine. “We know they love her as much as we do and we know they’ve done everything they can.

“They are not just working with the animals but the parents of the animals as well,” said Eustice, saying the

Faculty election

Continued from Page 1

related to funding. Decisions about new budget models, enrollment caps and part-time faculty are near-term and, through the Senate, faculty involvement and support will be important to their success. I believe a key role for a Senate chair is to identify talented faculty in and outside of the Senate and encourage them to join in these shared governance opportunities, opportunities that may lead to reshaping the character and stature of the university.”

See additional comments by Teeter on Page 4.

Donald Mulvaney

Mulvaney has served for the past two years as an at-large senator and member of the Senate Steering Committee. He has chaired the University Teaching Effectiveness Committee for two years and helped to gain approval of the $30,000 Auburn University Senate Departmental Award for Education Excel-lence. An associate professor in Animal Sciences, he has been a faculty member at Auburn since 1983.

“Service through faculty governance provides opportunities to make a difference as we observe, assess and learn from the broadened wisdom of the collective university community,” said Mulvaney. “The Senate is not designed to be a forum where faculty, administrators, students or other constituencies assemble to defend turf, but rather a place where all of us participate in mutual purpose and respect to advise university leadership of faculty views.

“My two years on the Steering Committee and chairing the Teaching Effectiveness Committee availed opportunity to work with Senate leadership to gain insight into and appreciation for the essential importance of shared governance at Auburn to achieve excellence in its endeavors. I believe the core values of Auburn are conveyed through our healthy and systematic form of shared governance which fosters collaboration, transparency and collegial interaction among faculty. It is critical for faculty from across our campus to be accurately informed on issues and to view each other as part of a larger university community for which we have stewardship responsibilities and a representative voice.”

See additional comments by Mulvaney on Page 5.

Laura Plexico

Plexico represents the Department of Communication Disorders in the University Senate, where she works with the Rules Committee and the Steering Committee. An associate professor, she has been a faculty member at Auburn for eight years.

“Since my arrival at Auburn in 2006 I have enjoyed my involvement in shared university governance,” Plexico said. “Having served as a departmental Senate representative, member of Steering, and on the Rules Committee I would embrace the opportunity to further serve and help lead Auburn forward.

“The University Senate is a venue for the dissemination of information, a place to be heard and actively participate in policy and/or procedural changes. With a new strategic plan and university goals aimed toward increasing student retention, enhancing assessment practices, improving faculty vitality and the development of a new budgetary model, the role of the senate will be important as the university begins to outline the paths forward. As Senate secretary I would look forward to helping address today’s pressing challenges and issues important to Auburn faculty. The challenges and the decisions ahead are not inconsequential.”

See additional comments by Plexico on Page 5.
Statements from candidates for chair-elect of the University Faculty

Robin Jaffe

This is what I think is Auburn. This is a place, where we have the opportunity to build on tradition by laying the groundwork for future innovation. Right now, this is a campus that is forward thinking. This is a campus that is showing what shared governance can do at its best, even while many other American universities are hindering these processes. People here are listening to each other; people are collaborating; and people are coming up with great ideas.

More than at any time in recent memory, we have an administration that is receptive to our voice, the faculty’s voice, and is willing to implement changes. Dr. Gogue as a leader has been enthusiastic in his support for the faculty and is open to ideas that will help us to be a more dynamic and productive campus. He is sincere in his commitment to the classroom, to research, academic freedom and shared governance. This is a time when we can be more constructive. We can move forward to address concerns, solve problems, implement new strategies and guidelines, and inject new momentum into our classrooms and research with innovative technologies and updated facilities.

We have obtained numerous successful outcomes in recent years through processes that were fair and open. A strong foundation has been laid with the 2013-18 Strategic Plan. I am inspired by the attendance at the forums, and the many concepts that were started there. The plan is a road map of our intentions, outlining goals that we must now find ways to bring to fruition. For that to occur, we must all remain committed to voicing ideas and concerns, listening to others, and standing firm in the face of resistance. As secretary, my greatest commitment was to disseminate all pertinent information so that everyone was included in the process. I made a priority of seeking out as many ideas and perspectives as possible, and encouraging everyone to participate. As we begin to make changes to achieve our goals, I believe it is essential to take the time to communicate, explain, and receive feedback to make sure we all understand and agree on the right direction to take.

Implementing the Strategic Plan will be one of the major tasks before the faculty leadership in the next years ahead, but there are many other concerns as well. We are only just beginning to become familiar with the recommendations provided by the Huron Group for the Strategic Budgeting Initiatives. In order to consider them, we need clarity in greater detail. We also need to look beyond those measures to the possible repercussions for those values we hold that are not financial: the quality of our ability to educate, conduct research, and maintain an environment that is fair, respectful, and progressive. Other issues must constantly evolve as new concerns are raised: parity of salaries and benefits, curriculum, racial and gender inequalities, campus safety, etc.

I have served on numerous committees throughout my career at Auburn, including Multicultural Diversity, Faculty Handbook and University Safety. Currently, I am on the University Master Planning Committee and the University Senate representative on the Central Classroom Facility (Academic Success Center) Steering Committee. This is my fourth year as Calendar and Schedules Committee Chair. From July 2011 through June 2013, I served as your secretary-elect and secretary respectively, and as a member of University Senate Executive, Rules and Steering committees. Representing the faculty as an officer in the Senate is the best way to gain the necessary experience to prepare for the job of chair-elect, a position that requires leadership, initiative, and a willingness to serve all members of the university.

I continue to believe the fairness of shared governance relies on the consideration given to differing opinions, and is strengthened by the transparency of the process. As secretary, I made it a priority to ensure inclusiveness of all faculty, and to encourage participation well beyond the membership of the University Senate. I am committed to the work of establishing protocols that will ensure in the future that the process of governing at Auburn is open and transparent. If elected as your chair-elect of the University Senate, I will remain respectful and open to the opinions of all, listen intently to all members of the university, examine the issues of concern without bias and/or fleeting thoughts, and be a strong advocate and representative for the faculty at all times. Thank you sincerely for this honor. War Eagle.

Larry Teeter

Relative newcomers to Auburn may be skeptical about this, but I believe Auburn is experiencing some of its best years in over two decades. Of course the budgets are not good, and funding is more difficult to obtain than it was a decade ago, but budgets have rarely been flush at Auburn.

Over the last six to eight years, our economy has struggled through one of the worst downturns since the Great Depression and yet I think our experience with fluctuating budgets positioned Auburn to weather these changes admirably. Many schools have done worse. So, although we are not experiencing economic good times, it actually hasn’t been all that bad either. A key factor in my feelings about where we are as a university has to be the nearly unprecedented good relations the faculty have with the current administration.

Now that the pundits are proclaiming they see light at the end of the recession tunnel, our focus can change from surviving to thriving. In order to attract and retain the best faculty, we will soon need to address some faculty welfare issues. Key issues (in addition to salary) are healthcare costs and retirement planning.

Since AU’s healthcare insurance plan is self-funded, we need to be at the forefront, as a faculty, encouraging participation in programs designed to reduce costs (such as Healthy Tigers) while at the same time, ensuring that non-participants are not being stigmatized, or worse yet, ‘flagged’ (as many colleagues felt about our approach to the smoking ban). We are one faculty and we have to be respectful of the diverse opinions/attitudes/lifestyles of our colleagues. Regarding retirement benefits, we are all making larger percentage contributions to RSA than we were several years ago and new faculty (since 2013) are expected to do more in the way of planning for retirement independently. For these reasons, we need to be involved in discussions about total faculty compensation to determine if AU’s programs (such as the 403b matching program) are competitive with our peer institutions.

As faculty representatives, the Senate also needs to make sure that faculty have the opportunities to keep pace with changes in how research is conducted and how education is being delivered. By working with the administration, programs can be developed that help researchers understand the changes in the extramural funding landscape. Multi-institution research cooperatives are new to many senior faculty and helping them navigate new methods for bringing researchers together will make us a stronger university. On the education side, central classroom facilities will soon be built that will make it easier to implement new education technologies and methods. The Engaged Active Student Learning spaces are a good first step to ensure that these facilities will be utilized efficiently and effectively, but a broader outreach program to faculty that introduces them to the possibilities they will offer is critical. Who remembers the campus before Blackboard, Canvas, Panopto or clickers? These technologies have made content delivery and student feedback much more efficient and created more opportunities for meaningful distance education programs, including outreach and extension programs. More than ever, creative faculty are needed in the review and selection of innovations that can allow us to be more efficient (and relevant from a student perspective) as we face budget challenges in the future.

Shared governance at Auburn requires at least two things: supportive leaders in the administration who are willing to share responsibilities for charting Auburn’s path with the faculty, and faculty who are willing to step forward and accept responsibility (and the work that goes with it) to make it happen. Historically the institution has been very willing to let the faculty do the heavy lifting when it comes to academic issues such as curricula, academic standards, research and outreach programs and decisions about faculty tenure and promotion. Only a few administrations (including this one) have sought faculty input regarding faculty welfare, budgets, enrollment, and strategic planning for the university generally. As the administrative body primarily focused on representing the interests and ideals of the faculty, the Senate must embrace each opportunity we are given to express the concerns and the suggestions of the people we represent. Over the next few years, changes in the way that resources are allocated, instruction is delivered and staffing decisions are made will require the creative ideas of dedicated faculty to ensure their success.
Laura Plexico

Since my arrival at Auburn in 2006, I have enjoyed my involvement with the University Senate and have developed an appreciation for how shared governance and university and Senate service gives us the opportunity to shape and change our environment. I have served on a variety of University, Senate and ad hoc committees. I believe that my experiences as a Senate representative, two terms as a member of steering, and membership on the rules committee have given me insight into what the senate represents and what the position of secretary-elect would encompass.

As secretary-elect I would embrace the opportunity to further serve and help lead Auburn forward as the university begins to respond to the changing student climate and the myriad financial challenges ahead. The recession continues to impact our financial flexibilities, but there are other factors on campus that warrant input from the Senate. We recently adopted a new strategic plan that places emphasis on achieving preeminence. To achieve this status, the strategic priorities and goals outlined within this plan are aimed toward increasing student diversity and retention, enhancing assessment practices, improving faculty vitality, promoting enhanced research and scholarly contributions and the development of a new budgetary model. The Senate will be important as the university begins to outline the best paths toward achieving these priorities.

The University Senate will serve as an important venue for the dissemination of information, a place to be heard and a place to actively participate in policy and procedural changes that will be incumbent with these new initiatives and strategic priorities. As secretary-elect, I would look forward to helping address today's pressing challenges and issues that are important to the Auburn community and especially the faculty.

The challenges and the decisions ahead are not inconsequential, especially as we make efforts to change our current budgetary model and find the one that will best fit Auburn. Transparency and an open platform for discussion will be imperative as we make strides toward responding to today's and tomorrow's environment, while maintaining Auburn's current mission and the Auburn Spirit. In short, I am keenly interested in fulfilling the duties of secretary-elect and in providing campus leadership via this position.

Donald Mulvaney

Service through faculty governance provides opportunities to make a difference as we observe, assess and learn from the broadened wisdom of the collective university community. The Senate is not designed to be a forum where faculty, administrators, students or other constituencies assemble to defend turf, but rather a place where all of us participate in mutual purpose and respect to advise university leadership of faculty views.

My two years on the Steering Committee and chairing the Teaching Effectiveness Committee availed opportunity to work with Senate leadership to gain insight into and appreciation for the essential importance of shared governance at Auburn to achieve excellence in its endeavors. I believe the core values of Auburn are conveyed through our healthy and systematic form of shared governance which fosters collaboration, transparency and collegial interaction among faculty. It is critical for faculty from across our campus to be accurately informed on issues and to view each other as part of a larger university community for which we have stewardship responsibilities and a representative voice.

Consistent with the challenges facing higher education as a whole, our campus has increasing complexity around the educational, research and outreach missions. Collectively, this makes the process of university governance more important yet more difficult than ever before. Our strategic future depends on positive faculty input and active involvement in finding solutions to the challenges confronting the university.

I bring experience and expertise of service from editorial boards of professional journals along with scholarship in research, teaching and outreach. The secretary's role is a serious responsibility, and I promise to serve the faculty to the best of my ability especially as we continue to move forward on the work ahead on many fronts including key elements of the new strategic plan.

It would be an honor and privilege to serve as secretary-elect and work with you and the Senate team to protect and enhance shared governance. If elected, I will work diligently to execute the duties of secretary to foster effective communication, creativity and leadership to the role. As we face emerging challenges, I pledge to communicate with objectivity and accuracy to keep faculty informed and ensure their voices are heard.

University Senate approves resolution clearing way for Ginn College of Engineering programs to reduce hours required for graduation

The University Senate approved a resolution on March 4 clearing the way for departments in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering to reduce their graduation requirements by trimming six hours from the core curriculum. The move, which passed by a vote of 44-19, will enable departments within the college to bring their credit hour requirements closer to the university goal of 120 hours for undergraduate programs. Engineering programs at Auburn currently require from 123 to 134 hours for undergraduates, with several programs on the high end of that range.

The measure was sent to the administration for final action. Constance Relihan, associate provost for undergraduate studies, said the next step for Engineering departments would be to submit revised curricula for their programs to the Senate Curriculum Committee.

The measure was presented to the Senate at its February meeting by the Core Curriculum and General Education Committee. In arguments in February and continued at the March meeting, opponents argued that students in technical fields need more, not less, exposure to the liberal arts, where the cuts would occur.

At the March 4 session, senators from Engineering presented data showing Auburn's engineering college surpassing the liberal arts requirements of several nationally prominent engineering colleges, the majority of which place heavier emphasis on mathematics and sciences.

Relihan, who, in addition to her administrative duties, is an English professor and chair of the Core Curriculum and General Education Committee, said the panel sought a balance between the core curriculum and graduation requirements under the university's strategic plan. By cutting two three-hour courses from liberal arts areas for Engineering majors, Relihan and Engineering senators said, the university would increase the prospects of undergraduates in those fields staying in school and graduating in four years.
Study Abroad students collecting school supplies for South Africa

Auburn University students bound this summer for the new Study Abroad experience in Port Alfred, South Africa, say they hope to make the journey with a large collection of school supplies to benefit an educational program outside Johannesburg.

Three students and Martin O’Neill, head of the Department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Hospitality Management in the College of Human Sciences, are piloting the new Study Abroad program and have delivered an initial collection of backpacks and other school supplies to the Teboho Trust in Soweto.

“The 10 students traveling to Port Alfred this summer have started collecting more supplies, specifically flash cards, markers, colored construction paper and scissors. The fundraising efforts are led by the national hospitality honor society Eta Sigma Delta and the Hotel and Restaurant Management program’s Student Advisory Board,” said Sanchez.

“I had never heard of the Teboho Trust before, but then Dr. O’Neill showed me pictures and videos of the kids,” said Lauren Long, Student Advisory Board president and Eta Sigma Delta member. “They were the happiest kids, but basically had no supplies in their classrooms. He told us that they had to reuse their notebook paper because they had so few supplies. Little things, like paper and pencils, could make a huge difference to these kids.”

Long, unfortunately, won’t get to help deliver the supplies this summer, since she graduates in May. Nicole Sanchez, who was instrumental in the backpack collection drive, said she is overjoyed to not only spend nine weeks studying hospitality in South Africa, but also to witness the influence the Auburn Family has on the world. “It was so great to be a part of the drive and see the generosity of our students and the faculty,” said Sanchez.

“Seeing our supplies grow and grow over the course of the semester was incredible and the picture that Dr. O’Neill sent from South Africa when the supplies were delivered reaffirmed that we had done something that was really going to help,” Sanchez said. “We have received resounding thanks from the Teboho Trust and we hope to continue to send items to South Africa with my group and those to follow.”

Teboho Trust was created in 2001 by American attorney Jose Bright. Teboho, roughly translated in the Sesotho language of South Africa, means “Thank you, God, for giving us this person… this gift,” is an educational support system for at-risk, orphan and vulnerable children and adolescents, ages 4 to 18. Programs include personal empowerment, social development, educational support, economic development and wellness.

Administrators in the College of Human Sciences learned about Teboho last summer when they were traveling to Port Alfred to discuss a study abroad agreement with Stenden University. A stop in Soweto, a neighborhood about 20 miles west of Johannesburg, netted an encounter with Bright, who was so inspired by Nelson Mandela’s call to action, he moved to South Africa more than two decades ago.

O’Neill said he noticed the need for basic school supplies in observing Teboho’s Saturday Academy, and, upon his return to Auburn, enlisted students in the Hotel and Restaurant Management program in collection efforts.

“We intend to deliver supplies with each visiting student group as we move forward,” he said.

Donations of school supplies may be made at 328 Spidle Hall during normal business hours. For information, contact Lauren Long at lb0005@auburn.edu.

— Amy Weaver

Tours March 18-21 to offer public viewing of sustainability systems

The Liberal Arts Community and Civic Engagement Initiative in collaboration with Academic Sustainability Programs will offer short public tours by experts on campus food, water, waste and energy systems as part of No Impact Week.

A waste tour by Donny Addison of Waste Reduction will be conducted at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday, March 18, beginning on the Haley Center Concours. A food tour by executive chef Emil Topel will be conducted at 10 a.m. March 19 and departs from the Concours to the new Plains to Plate.

A water tour meets at the Arboretum Pavilion and will be conducted at 1 p.m. on March 20. An energy tour led by Ray Kirby and Ken Martin of Facilities departs from Haley Concours to visit solar panels, electric cars and a cooling plant at 10 a.m. March 21.

Sign up online at www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0845A9AC2FAAF85-noimpact