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How Auburn Stacks Up

Average salary for rank of professor by academic year



Source: Institutional Research and Assessment

[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

## Three finalists for provost making public presentations on Tuesday

The three finalists for AU's position of provost will make public presentations in the Broun Hall auditorium on Tuesday.

The finalists, all from Auburn, are Christine Curtis, professor of chemical engineering in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering; John Heilman, senior presidential assistant; and William Sauser, associate dean and professor of Business and Engineering Outreach.

Curtis will speak at 1:30 p.m., Heilman at 2:45 p.m. and Sauser at 4 p.m.

Interim President Ed Richardson announced the three finalists last week.

"Like the rest of the university community, I look forward to hearing from each of these candidates next Tuesday," said Richardson. "Regardless of which candidate is eventually successful, I'm comfortable that the Office of the Provost will be in extremely capable hands."

Richardson chose the finalists from among 10

applicants after receiving input on each in meetings with the university's deans, vice presidents and representatives of the University Senate and the AU Multicultural Diversity Commission.

Following the finalists' public presentations, audience members may submit evaluation forms for each candidate. Richardson will consider those comments, interview each finalist and then select the new provost.

Once selected, the new provost will begin serving immediately, and the president will submit that candidate to the Board of Trustees for confirmation at the board's April 22 meeting.

Curtis came to Auburn as a research associate in the chemical engineering department in 1976 after receiving her doctorate in analytical chemistry from Florida State University. She progressed through the ranks of assistant, associate, full and Alumni professor of chemical engineering and, in 1993,

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### Walk, but not yet

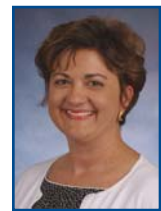
Construction crews have closed off a major portion of the Auburn campus north and east of Haley Center. Although the work will turn a lengthy stretch of Thach Avenue and adjacent areas between Haley Center and Mary Martin Hall into a park-like pedestrian mall, students, faculty and staff must take lengthy detours around the extensive construction site for the next few months.



From Georgia State University

## Auburn Magazine gets new editor

Auburn Magazine has a new editor. Betsy Robertson, formerly of Georgia State University, assumed the reins of Auburn's alumni magazine on March 1.



Robertson

She succeeds Auburn Magazine's first editor, Mike Jernigan, who retired in late 2004 after 10 years at the helm of the magazine.

Robertson was instrumental in establishing Georgia State Magazine in its current format in 2001 and was the magazine's executive editor in addition to other duties as assistant director of the Department of University Relations. She had held that position at the university in Atlanta since 2000.

The previous two years, she was director of public relations for GSU's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies.

She has also worked as an assistant editor for an airline industry magazine, a staff writer for The Gainesville Times in Georgia, assistant director of news services for Kennesaw State University and a free-lance news writer for CNN Interactive.

A 1989 graduate in journalism from the University of Georgia, Robertson is pursuing a master's degree in communication from Georgia State.

Robertson said she plans no major changes in the quarterly publication, which is mailed to 43,000 dues-paying members of the Auburn Alumni Association.

"The readers of Auburn Magazine are very loyal to the magazine and to Auburn University," she said. "I want to continue the good work that Mike Jernigan and the staff started 10 years ago and look for ways to make the magazine more attractive and readable for dues-paying alumni."

She noted that Auburn Magazine has won several awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education over the past decade. In Robertson's first year as executive editor of Georgia State Magazine, that publication also won a CASE award.

Robertson said Auburn has several strengths that made the position attractive. "I was already looking to move to a more traditional campus like Auburn, and everyone I met was very friendly, committed to a quality magazine and very committed to the university," she said. "There is a strong sense of community here and an affinity for the university that is very appealing."

As editor, Robertson said, she will strive to present news and features that keep Auburn alumni in touch with each other and the campus. She said the magazine will draw from a wide variety of sources as it focuses on interesting alumni, Auburn traditions, important research, faculty achievements, student activities and other subjects of special interest to a diverse alumni base.

## Provost finalists

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assumed additional responsibilities as associate vice president for research. In addition to those duties, Curtis from 1997-2000 served in the Office of the Provost, where she coordinated Auburn's conversion from academic quarters to semesters.

Curtis was named associate provost in 2000 and associate provost and interim head of the Facilities Division in 2001. She served a brief stint as special assistant to the president before returning full-time to the chemical engineering faculty in 2004.

Heilman, a tenured professor of political science, received his doctorate in political science from New York University and joined the Auburn faculty as an instructor in 1973. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1974, associate professor in 1980 and professor of political science in 1993.

Heilman also served four years as main campus coordinator of the joint Auburn/Auburn University Montgomery public administration program and six years as associate dean for research and development in AU's College of Liberal Arts and School of Fine Arts. For five years, he was co-dean and then dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He was named senior presidential assistant in 2001.

Sauser, who received his doctorate in industrial and organizational psychology from Georgia Tech, came to Auburn in 1977 as an instructor of psychology. In 1978, he earned an assistant professorship in the Psychology Department, where he also served as director of the industrial and organizational psychology program.

Sauser left Auburn in 1984 to become head of the Management Department at AUM. He returned to Auburn in 1988 as associate vice president for extension and professor of educational leadership, foundations and technology in the College of Education. In 1991, he served an American Council on Education Fellowship in the Office of the President of the University of Nebraska as part of ACE's leadership development program for higher education administrators.

Sauser also served AU as interim associate provost and vice president for university outreach and as executive director for outreach and associate dean for administration and outreach in the AU College of Business. He accepted his current position in 2001.

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 22

- Public Lecture: "Engineering Challenges in Iraq," Lt. Col. Norman Grady, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2 p.m., Broun 238. Please Note: Grady's presentation is an hour earlier than previously announced.
- Provost Finalists: Presentations in Broun Hall auditorium at 1:30 p.m. by Christine Curtis, 2:45 p.m. by John Heilman and 4 p.m. by William Sauser.

Wednesday, March 23

- Public Lecture: "Empires and War in the Late 20th Century," Jeremy Black, author and professor at the University of Exeter in England, 4 p.m., Haley 1203.
- Fine Arts Concert: St. Lawrence String Quartet, 7:30 p.m., Goodwin Hall. Admission at the door is \$5 for university students, free for younger students accompanied by parents and \$20 for others

Thursday, March 24

- Concert: AU Symphonic Band, 7:30 p.m., Goodwin Hall.

Monday, March 28

- Next AU Report
- Spring Break: No classes; offices maintain regular business hours.

Tuesday, March 29

- AU Libraries Book Club: Discussion of Alex Kershaw's "The Longest Winter," 11:45 a.m. and 5 p.m., second floor conference room, Draughton Library. For information, contact masksyl@auburn.edu.

Tuesday, April 5

- Brown Bag Seminar: "Financial Management of Distance Education Programs," Richard Alekna, director of AU Office of Distance Learning and Outreach Technology, noon, O.D. Smith Hall 328. For information, call 844-3476.



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### Faculty officers

Incoming and outgoing faculty officers assembled at the University Faculty meeting last week. Kathryn Flynn and Richard Penaskovic were named secretary-elect and chair-elect, respectively, of the University Faculty and University Senate for 2005-06 following a campuswide vote over the previous five days. Patricia Duffy became secretary, succeeding Debra Cobia, and Conner Bailey became chair, succeeding Willie D. Larkin. From left, are Flynn, Penaskovic, Duffy, Bailey, Cobia and Larkin.

## Wilson receives Humanitarian Award at African American Legacy program

The College of Agriculture's Cultural Diversity Committee presented its 2005 Humanitarian Award



Wilson

to David Wilson, associate provost and vice president for University Outreach, at the college's annual African American Legacy program last week.

Wilson, the first African American to hold a vice presidency at AU, received the Humanitarian Award in recognition of his contributions to community and his example as a role model for African Americans.

Program organizers noted that among his leader-

ship roles beyond the university, Wilson, a native of Marengo County, serves on Gov. Bob Riley's Commission for Action in the Black Belt.

Also at the Legacy program, seven speakers presented perspectives on professional success for African Americans.

Panelists included Sheila Walton of the U.S. Department of Interior and Jimmy Brown of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Panelists from AU included Shirley Barnes and Melvin Smith of Career Development Services, Addine Woods of the Office of Financial Aid, Virgil Starks of the Athletic Department and Don-Terry Veal of the Center for Governmental Services.

Apply by May 2

## AU offers scholarships to children of employees

The University Scholarship Office is accepting applications for the 2005-06 Employee Dependent Children Scholarship.

A parent or guardian eligible for consideration must be a full-time, regular, continuing employee in any employee group in any division of AU and be employed for at least 12 months immediately preceding the application deadline.

A dependent child eligible for consideration must be an undergraduate student enrolled at the AU main campus. The student also must be a dependent child as documented by an IRS tax return for the most recent filing period and must demonstrate financial need through completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

AU will award nine \$1,000 employee-dependent scholarships for the 2005-06 academic year.

Applications are available in the University Scholarship Office, which moved recently to the Quad Center. You may also print the application in PDF format from the University Scholarship Office website at [www.auburn.edu/scholarship](http://www.auburn.edu/scholarship) or from the Student Financial Aid website at [www.auburn.edu/finaid](http://www.auburn.edu/finaid).

Employees must complete a separate application for each dependent child.

Applications must be received no later than 4:45 p.m. on May 2. You may complete the Federal Student Aid form online at [www.form.ed.gov](http://www.form.ed.gov).

The Employee Dependent Children Scholarship application is separate from the Employee Dependent Waiver application. For additional information, contact the University Scholarship Office at 844-2320.

## AU Outreach awards grants for six faculty projects to aid county, state

AU Outreach has awarded more than \$100,000 in faculty scholarship grants for 2004-05.

The Outreach Office awarded grants to six projects out of 29 submissions.

"Promoting community and economic development throughout the state of Alabama is one of several goals of University Outreach," said Vice President for Outreach David Wilson. "These six grants go a long way in helping to achieve this goal."

"Last year we had \$200,000 available for this effort, whereas this year we only had \$100,000 available," said Wilson. "Given the depth and breadth of the proposals this year, we are going to make every effort to increase the dollar amount available to faculty next year."

The six projects selected for funding, the amounts and principal investigators are:

- "A Comprehensive Sickle Cell Medication Management and Education Program Supporting Juvenile Patients in the Lee County and Opelika School Systems," \$20,000, Gregory Kochak and Pamela Stamm. Both are associate professors in the James Harrison School of Pharmacy;
- "Benchmarking Childhood Obesity in Alabama Through Body Scanning," \$20,000, Lenda Jo Connell, professor, and Pamela Ulrich, associate professor, Consumer Affairs, College of Human Sciences;
- "Prevention of Relapse and Recidivism for Incarcerated Adolescents of Alabama," \$20,000, Margaret Keiley, associate professor, Human Development and Family Studies, College of Human Sciences;
- "DESIGNhabitat II: Bridging the Gap," \$23,189, David Hinson, associate professor, and

Stacy Norman, visiting assistant professor, School of Architecture, College of Architecture, Design and Construction;

- "Providing Group Parent-Child Interaction Therapy to Community Families," \$18,637, Elizabeth Brestan, associate professor, Department of Psychology, College of Liberal Arts.

- "A Community Outreach Center for Design and Construction," \$20,000, D. K. Ruth, Wiatt Professor and director emeritus of the Rural Studio, and John Gaber, associate professor, both from the School of Architecture; Linda Ruth, assistant professor, Building Science, College of Architecture, Design and Construction; and Emily Myers, associate clinical professor, Sociology, College of Liberal Arts.

Although the dollar amounts total \$121,826, two of the grants were continuations of projects that received partial funding last year.

"It was difficult to identify which proposal to forward for funding consideration because of the high quality of all proposals," said review committee chair Royrickers Cook, who is special assistant to the vice president for University Outreach.

### Award winner

Gary Mullen, at right, of Entomology and Plant Pathology received the 2005 Academic Freedom Award of the Auburn AAUP last week for decades of leadership in that organization and the University Senate.



## March 31 deadline set for nominations for \$10,000 awards to honor teaching

The Office of the Provost has set a March 31 deadline for nominations for the first faculty awards under AU's Gerald and Emily Leischuck Endowed Presidential Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

The new awards program will recognize Auburn's top two teachers each year from among the tenured, full-time faculty. At least one recipient will be honored for excellence in undergraduate instruction and mentoring.

Each award carries a \$10,000 stipend and will go to a faculty member who will be teaching at

Auburn through the 2005-06 academic year.

Nominations are due in the Provost's Office by the end of the business day on March 31. That office will provide the nominees with details of materials that the selection committee will need for its review.

The selection committee will meet in late April and submit recommendations to the provost, who will meet with the president for selection of the two award winners in early May.

Starting in 2006, the nomination deadline will be moved up to Feb. 28.

## Prominent ensemble to perform this week

The Auburn Chamber Music Society and the AU Music Department will present a concert by the Emmy-nominated St. Lawrence String Quartet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Goodwin Hall.

Internationally prominent for its innovative arrangements and energetic performances, the string quartet is based in California, where it is ensemble in residence at Stanford University. Founded in 1989 in Toronto, the ensemble has performed to rave reviews throughout North America and Europe.

The string quartet received two Grammy nominations in 2003 for their compact disc titled "Yiddishbuk" and won a 2001 Juno Award, Canada's version of the Grammy Awards, for its recordings of works by Shumann and Tchaikovsky.

At Auburn, the group will perform specially arranged renditions of works by Hadyn, Shostakovich and others. Admission at the door is \$5 for university students, free for younger students accompanied by parents and \$20 for others.

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