Odds improving for students with disabilities

Education prof named executive editor of journal

Provost releases list of tenure, promotions

Play based on Greek myths coming to AU

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Ebsco pledges $2 million for AU Libraries, support for other goals

Auburn University Libraries will receive a $1.5 million boost and other parts of the university will receive $500,000 from a pledge to the “It Begins at Auburn” Campaign by Ebsco Industries Inc.

An international corporation with a large presence in Alabama, Ebsco is a worldwide leader in the information services industry.

The library gift will be used to enhance services for undergraduates and their access to Special Collection materials at Auburn University Libraries. Library Dean Bonnie MacEwan said Ebsco’s gift will improve AU Libraries’ space to reconfigure “learning commons” areas so that they provide a productive, dynamic and comfortable learning environment.

“Ebsco’s generous gift will provide resources to help us meet the needs of today’s library users with a state-of-the-art learning commons,” said MacEwan. “It will also give us the opportunity to digitize and share with scholars throughout the world the collections that make Auburn University Libraries unique.”

A portion of the gift will support the libraries’ program to digitize unique and rare collections. While preserving the resources, the program will broaden access for scholars and other library patrons. “The digitizing of rare collections places them on the Internet, allowing libraries and scholars all over the world to bring together unique resources as if they were together on the shelf, thereby opening new avenues of scholarship,” MacEwan explained.

AU Libraries administers Draughon Library and libraries for the College of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Architecture, Design and Construction.

The Ebsco gift will also assist the College of Business, the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and the Athletics Department.

The College of Business will receive $300,000 to establish the Ebsco Industries Inc. Endowed Professorship. “An endowed professorship such as the one created by Ebsco is a very important tool for attracting and retaining outstanding faculty,” said the college’s dean, Paul Bobrowski. “Great faculty are a key ingredient in the making of a great business school.”

The company’s commitment also includes $75,000 to support research programs in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and $125,000 for the Athletics Department.
Program helps students overcome disabilities on way to AU degree

More than 1,000 Auburn University students with good grades and excellent grades are proving on a daily basis that health or physical disabilities are derisory roadblocks to success. These students, approximately 4 percent of the AU student body, came to college with high school or college record and good ACT or SAT scores, yet they have physical- or health-related conditions that often prevented young people in previous generations from even considering a college education.

Auburn is not unique in accommodating students with disabilities, but it has taken many measures to provide the opportunity for these students to succeed, says Kelly Haynes, director of the AU Program for Students with Disabilities. Since the early 1990s, Auburn has been looking for and adopting new technologies and low-tech solutions that not only enable students with disabilities to graduate, but also prepare them for productive, successful lives. Like many other colleges and universities, Auburn has long accepted students with disabilities, some of whom have graduated with success.

Yet, until Congress passed the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, only a few specialized institutions across the United States had developed ways to remove obstacles that deterred many other disabled students from pursuing higher education.

“From the beginning, we have sought to level the playing field for students with disabilities,” Kelly Haynes said.

“From the beginning, we have sought to level the playing field for students with disabilities, to provide them with the same opportunities that non-disabled students have,” Haynes said. “We use technology because it is the wave of the future, and we want our graduates to become marketable and to be competitive.”

Like many other colleges and universities, Auburn invested heavily in emerging technologies and modifying architectural barriers and helping faculty and staff at campus offices. Deadlines for delivery of items for publication is 4 p.m. on Monday, April 2.

For more information, call 844-215 or visit www.library.auburn.edu. To order a subscription, call 844-215 or visit www.library.auburn.edu. The annual subscription rate is $50.00. Individual copies are $5.00.

Auburn University. Issues appear each Monday during fall and spring semesters and throughout the summer.

AU professor named executive editor of journal for education

Jennifer J. White, the College of Education at Auburn, has been appointed an executive editor of the Journal of Education for Business.

A faculty member in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching, is also the co-author of the recently published fifth edition of The Office: Procedures and Technology, which is an approved textbook for all state textbook adoption lists. White joined the Auburn faculty in 1974 as a research associate in the college’s then-Department of Vocational and Adult Education. Since then, she has been a graduate program officer, program coordinator, professor, department head and interim dean.

She has been a Humana-Germany-Sherman distinguished professor at AU since 2002.

Overcoming disabilities continued from page 2

For instance, Katherine Holt, a junior in criminal justice from Opelika, can move freely and write without a problem on good days, but at other times she has to fight through the pain of rheumatoid arthritis to do either. On those days she depends on note takers or a tape recorder to keep up with the lectures and assignments.

The SWD staff helped Holt develop an individual program to meet her needs and advised some faculty members on steps they can take to enable students with disabilities to succeed, at least some of whom achieved success as students and faculty members.

Translation of equations

Clay Yarbrough observes as Allison Shipp uses technology to convert equations and charts into a format blind students can read.

With a variety of computer software packages, including those that enable computers to respond to verbal commands, rectify text orally, print in Braille or display books electronically in headline-size text, simpler but essential technologies are also available to record classroom lectures and assist note-taking.

“Auburn PRoducts are a key to my success as an Auburn student,” said McKay, who plans to go to graduate school following graduation in December.

The technical assistance was part of a broader effort by the SWD staff to help him develop the skills to succeed on his own, said McKay. “The added independence has taught me how to better accommodate myself with the assistance of others. This change was not a shock; it was expected and prepared for.

The disabilities of vision-impaired students using canes or seeing-eye dogs to negotiate hallways are obvious. Others, with disabilities such as reading disorders, severe asthma or even artificial limbs, are sometimes difficult to spot in the classroom. “Just because you don’t see the disability, does not mean it’s not there,” said Haynes.
Theatre to present Tony-winning play in modern retelling of Greek myths

The AU Department of Theatre will present the Tony Award-winning play “Metamorphoses,” at Telfair Peet Theatre over the next two weeks. Showtimes are at 7:30 p.m. on April 10-14 and April 17-21 and at 2:30 p.m. on April 15. Proceeds from the April 11 performance will benefit the AU Theatre Patron Scholarship Fund. For ticket information or purchase, call the AU Theatre Box Office at 844-4154.

Written by playwright Mary Zimmerman and first produced in 2000, “Metamorphoses” is based on author and poet David Slavitt’s translation of works by Ovid, the Roman poet of the first century, B.C. and A.D. Ovid’s stories are based on familiar Greek myths — such as the story of King Midas, the ruler with the tragically golden touch; Erysichthon, cursed by the gods to endure never-ending pangs of hunger; grief-stricken Orpheus; and Phaeton, son of Apollo, whose joy ride in his father’s chariot nearly destroys the earth and all of humankind.

“The central theme in both Ovid’s poem and Zimmerman’s play is the idea of transformation,” says Scott Phillips, associate professor of theatre and the director of the AU production. “All of the stories in the play deal in some way with the human capacity for love and its transformative power.”

One of the most notable aspects of “Metamorphoses” is the set design: Zimmerman’s play takes place entirely around and in a swimming pool.

“Metamorphoses” features 10 student actors, all of whom play multiple roles, anchored by faculty guest artist Daydré Hague, associate professor of theatre at Auburn and a member of Actors Equity Association. Set design is by Magdalena Garmaz, associate professor of architecture, with lighting by New York guest artist Travis McHale. Costumes are by Tracy Olenick, AU Theatre resident designer. Adrienne Wilson, visiting assistant professor of theatre, is the production’s movement coach and choreographer. “Metamorphoses” also features an original score, a series of solo piano motifs composed and performed by Elizabeth Greenleaf.

Theatre to present Tony-winning play

Promotions, tenure announced

Provost John Heilman has announced awards of tenure and promotion at AU for 2007. The recipients and their academic departments are:

**Associate Professor and Tenure**

- Covadonga Arias, Fisheries and Allied Aquaculture; Henry Y. Fadamiro, Entomology and Plant Pathology; Oladiran Fasina, Biosystems Engineering; Deacue Fields and Valentina Hartarska, Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology; Amy Wright, Horticulture.
- Christian Dagg, Architecture; Paul W. Holley, Building Science; Dianne J. Hall, Management; Raymond A. Hamilton, Aviation Management and Logistics; Leane B. Skinner, Curriculum and Teaching; Suhyun Suh, Counseling Education, Counseling Psychology and School Psychology.
- David M. Bevly, Zhongyang Cheng and Barton Prorok, Mechanical Engineering; Willie Harper, Anton Schindler and Rod Turochy, Civil Engineering; Christopher Roy, Aerospace Engineering; Tung-Shi Huang, Nutrition and Food Sciences.
- Brigitta Brunner, Communication and Journalism; Christopher J. Correia, Psychology; Denise Davis-Maye, Anthropology, Sociology, Social Work and Criminology; Martha C. Escobar, Psychology; Regina W. Bentley, Nursing; Asheber Abebe, Mathematics and Statistics; Holly R. Ellis, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Allison Stewart and Paul Walz, Clinical Sciences.

**Professor and Tenure**

- Joey Shaw, Agronomy and Soils; Brian J. Gibson, Aviation Management and Logistics; Marilyn E. Strutchens, Curriculum and Teaching; Gisela Buschle-Diller, Polymer and Fiber Engineering; Prabhaker T. Clement, Civil Engineering; Fa Dai, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Roy Hartfield, Aerospace Engineering; Hari Narayanan, Computer Science and Software Engineering.
- Lonard Bell, Nutrition and Food Science; Marc Silverstein, English; Daniel J. Syvantek and Frank W. Weathers III, Psychology; Thomas E. Albrecht-Schmitt, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Jack W. Feminella, Biological Sciences; Randall R. Holmes, Mathematics and Statistics; Edward E. Thomas Jr., Physics; Elizabeth G. Welles, Pathobiology; James S. Wohl, Clinical Sciences.

**Tenure**

- Timothy McDonald, Biosystems Engineering; Nedret Billor, Mathematics and Statistics.

**Associate Clinical Professor**

- Aleksandr Simonian, Mechanical Engineering.

**Clinical Professor**

- Lea S. Eiland, Pharmacy Practice.

**Professor and Tenure**

- Aleksandr Simonian, Mechanical Engineering.

**Associate Clinical Professor**

- Lea S. Eiland, Pharmacy Practice.

**Clinical Professor**

- Sandra Clark-Lewis, Communication Disorders.