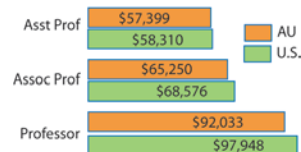


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- 2 Vet Med to unveil statue honoring dogs of WWII
- 3 Education picks three as new Holmes Scholars
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How Auburn Stacks Up

Salary comparisons: AU average vs. all U.S. public doctoral institutions, 2004-05



Sources: AU Institutional Research & Assessment; Chronicle of Higher Education, 04-22-05, from AAUP data

www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html

IAI report

FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Now playing

Auburn Theatre's "The Comedy of Errors," debuted last week at Telfair Peet Theatre. The play remains true to Shakespeare's text but changes the setting from ancient Ephesus in Asia Minor to a futuristic world that will be familiar to fans of the "Star Trek" television series and motion pictures. The play continues Tuesday through Saturday at Telfair Peet Theatre. For tickets, call 844-4154.



Board asks for limit on amount of tuition increase in budget guidelines for 2006

Although a final decision will wait until June or later, the AU Board of Trustees on Friday used one key indicator to signal trustees' desire to reduce the size of a tuition increase next fall.

The board delayed consideration of a tuition increase until its June 17 meeting or later, when the university will have a clearer picture of anticipated state revenues for the budget year starting Oct. 1.

However, trustees advised interim President Ed Richardson and Executive Vice President Don Large to budget for a 2 percent increase in tuition in planning for the 2005-06 budget year. Another 0.5 percent would go to an increase in student activities fees requested by the SGA.

The University Budget Advisory Committee — a 21-member panel of administrators, faculty, staff and students — had recommended a 4 percent increase in tuition. A 4 percent increase would cost in-state students an extra \$180 per year and yield \$5.3 million; the board's preference would cut that amount in half.

Tuition and state appropriations are the largest

sources of revenue for the university's budget, and the mix of the two influences the amount of funds available for salaries and operations. AU's budget planners are working with projections of approximately \$30 million to \$32 million in new revenue for the main campus next fall.

The guidelines include projections of an increase of 4 percent in wages and salaries, approximately \$1 million. As with all preliminary figures, the numbers could change during development of the budget.

The uncertainty in revenues stems from an impasse in the Alabama Legislature over attempts in the Senate to reimburse higher education for costs related to retired employees that the state passed along to the universities last year.

Richardson urged support for Sen. Jim Preuitt of Talladega and Senate allies who support Auburn and the University of Alabama in their attempts to recover the funds. Richardson said the diversion of funds last year, along with inadequate funding year after year, had been major factors in tuition

[See New provost, page 3](#)

Next Monday

Touring actors to perform at Auburn

The Acting Company, an award-winning touring theatre troupe, will perform a new adaptation of Carson McCullers' "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter" at AU's Telfair Peet Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 2.



The touring theatre company from New York will perform at Auburn after several weeks at Atlanta's Alliance Theatre. The Acting Company received highly favorable reviews in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution for its performance of the play, which Rebecca Gilman, a Trussville, Ala., native living in Chicago, adapted for the stage from McCullers' 1940 classic novel by the same name.

Like the book, the play is an intense psychological drama of a family and their neighbors in a Georgia town during the Great Depression. Many

of the settings and people in McCullers' novels were drawn from the author's memories of her childhood in Columbus.

Founded 30 years ago, The Acting Company has won several major theatre awards and has been nominated twice for Tony Awards, the most prestigious awards in American theatre.

Tickets for the performance are \$30 each and are available through the AU Theatre box office at Telfair Peet Theatre. Call 844-4154.

In a related activity, filmmaker Dan Griffin will discuss and screen his 40-minute documentary "Carson McCullers: Lonely Hunter," at 4 p.m. Thursday at the auditorium of Draughon Library. The free program is sponsored by the English Department and the Center for the Arts and Humanities. For information call 844-4948.

Veterinary Medicine to display sculpture honoring dogs that died in WWII combat

Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine will unveil a "War Dog Tribute" sculpture Friday during the college's fourth National Detector Dog Conference.

The 11:15 a.m. ceremony will be in the college's new Centennial Garden next to Greene Hall and will include an address from retired U.S. Marine Commandant Carl Mundy, a 1957 graduate of Auburn.

"This bronze sculpture will pay respect to all dogs that serve mankind and will honor all of Auburn's veterinary alumni who have served in the military," said Gary Beard, the college's assistant dean for outreach.

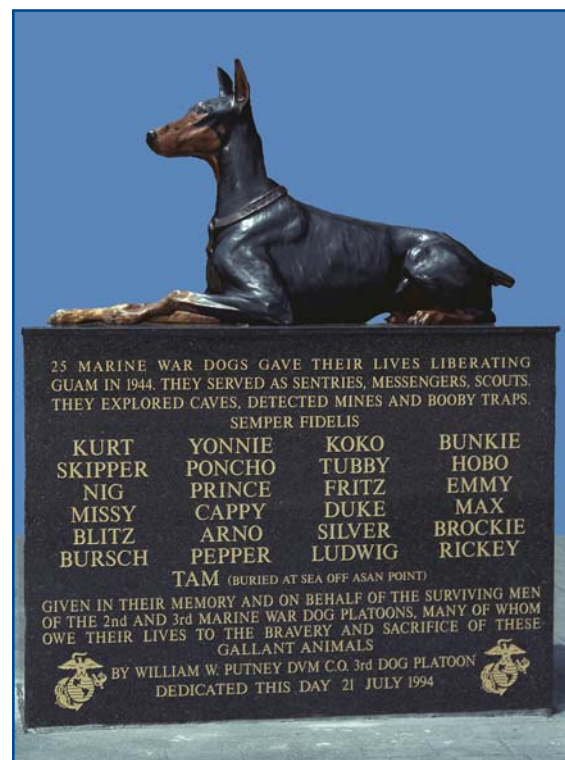
The sculpture is a gift from Betsy Putney of Woodland Hills, Calif., widow of William Putney of the Auburn veterinary class of 1943.

Bill Putney was the commanding officer of the Third Marine War Dog Platoon in World War II that helped liberate the Pacific Ocean island of Guam. In the book "Always Faithful," Putney described his experiences in the battle.

The sculpture is a replica of a monument placed by the Putneys on Guam in 1994. California artist Susan Bahary created the sculptures, which contain the names of 25 dogs that died in the battle for Guam.

The War Dog Tribute will be the first structure in the college's new Centennial Garden, which offers an opportunity for donors to make memorial donations to fund trees, engraved granite pavers, a wall of honor, benches and sculptures.

Auburn's Detector Dog Conference on April 28-



War Dog

The War Dog sculpture at AU will be at the College of Veterinary Medicine's Centennial Garden.

May 1 will provide education outreach and sharing of information for professionals and academic authorities in the care, training and use of dogs for law enforcement and other detection services.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 26

BROWN BAG SEMINAR "Financial Management of Distance Education Programs," Richard Alekna, director of AU Distance Learning, noon, O.D. Smith Hall 328. Call 844-3476.

AU THEATRE "The Comedy of Errors" 7:30 p.m., April 26-30, Telfair Peet Theatre. Box Office: 844-4154.

Wednesday, April 27

LUNCHEON celebrating Administrative Professionals Day, "The Magic is You," John Alston, 11:30 a.m., Dixon Conference Center. Reservations required; see www.auburn.edu/administration/human_resources/hrnews.htm#APLunch.

Thursday, April 28

DOCUMENTARY AND LECTURE Filmmaker Dan Griffin, "Carson McCullers: Lonely Hunter," 4 p.m., auditorium, Draughon Library.

Sunday, May 1

SPRING CONCERT The Auburn Singers, 2:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre. Call 844-4194 for ticket information.

Monday, May 2

NEXT AU Report.

LAST DAY of classes for spring semester.

THEATRE "The Heart is a Lonely Hunter," by guest troupe, The Acting Company, 7:30 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre. Call 844-4154 for ticket information.

Tuesday, May 3

MEETING University Senate, 3 p.m., auditorium, Broun Hall.

Thursday, May 5

SEMESTER FINALS May 5-7 and May 9-10.



AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Jamie Creamer, Agriculture; Michael Tullier, Education; and Charles Martin, Veterinary Medicine. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, Photographic Services; and (page 2) Veterinary Medicine.

Assistant Vice President for Communications and Marketing: John Hachtel. Director of Communications: Deedie Dowdle.

The AU Report is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Auburn University. Issues appear each Monday during fall and spring semesters and every two weeks in summer term, except on the Monday of or the Monday after some major U.S. holidays. Copies are distributed free by campus mail to full-time faculty and staff at campus offices.

Deadline for delivery of items for publication is 4 p.m. on Wednesday before publication date. 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.

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Art exhibit

Members of the public got their first view of works by aspiring artists at Auburn last week at a preview of exhibitions at Biggin Gallery and the city's Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. The exhibits, which run from April 25-May 6, feature works by seniors in the Department of Art. Majors in graphic arts are displaying their works in Biggin, shown here, while majors in fine art display their works at the city gallery.

College of Education names three doctoral students Holmes Scholars

The AU College of Education has selected three doctoral students as Holmes Scholars through a program to promote diversity in the ranks of professors and professionals in education.

Recipients for 2005 are Bengu Erguner-Tekinalp, DaShonera Langley and Joan Williams. Erguner-Tekinalp and Williams are pursuing doctorates in counselor education and supervision. Langley is pursuing a doctorate in special education.

Holmes scholarships are awarded through a competitive process that includes interviews, recommendations and writing assignments in addition to academic accomplishments.

The Holmes Scholars Program is under the umbrella of the Holmes Partnership, a coalition of the largest colleges of education in the United States.

For talented graduate students from underrepresented minorities or those with disabilities, the program provides additional opportunities to obtain mentoring and support for advanced studies in their academic areas. Holmes Scholars

work with education professionals, participate in community outreach, publish scholarly work, present at professional conferences and attend the national Holmes Partnership conference.

"There is a shortage of faculty from diverse backgrounds in higher education," said Holmes Scholar adviser Renee Middleton, who is a professor in the college.

"The Holmes Scholars program provides an avenue for a direct pipeline to recruit the best and brightest," she added. "Given the challenges of educating and competing in the global environment, a diverse faculty is essential for institutions of higher education."

Holmes Scholars at AU are funded for a two-year period. As second-year doctoral students, each recipient must maintain a 3.3 grade point average and successfully complete interviews with the College of Education dean, Holmes Scholars adviser, other faculty members and a current Holmes Scholar.

New provost

continued from page 1

increases of 9 percent to 16 percent in recent years. By standing firm on the funding issue, Richardson said, the state's two largest universities will demonstrate their resolve to other segments of education.

Even if the current impasse leads to a special legislative session, Auburn and the University of Alabama will be better off financially in the future by sticking together now, he said.

In other activity, the Board of Trustees approved Richardson's recommendation of John Heilman as AU's new provost. Heilman, who has been special assistant to the president since 2001, was one of three finalists for the position. He succeeds Tom Hanley, who resigned in February.

Heilman will serve until a new president takes office and conducts a national search for another provost.

Faculty developing plan to restore crippled creek on AU's south side

There was a time when Parkerson Mill Creek gently meandered across the south side of the Auburn campus, a thriving stream bordered by healthy native shrubs and trees and serving as a habitat for diverse species of aquatic life.

But decades of growth and expansion on campus and in the city of Auburn have degraded the waterway so that today the creek is a glaring eyesore—a highly eroded ditch overrun by kudzu, banked by weeds and scraggly, exposed-root trees and devoid of living creatures.

Now, a team of stream restoration specialists and enthusiasts is out to reclaim and restore it to a healthier, more stable creek.

“Parkerson Mill Creek has been severely insulted through the years as the campus and the city have expanded,” said restoration specialist Eve Brantley of the AU College of

“Our goal is to transform it from an eyesore to a campus amenity, an attractive space that people can enjoy.”

Agriculture’s Department of Agronomy and Soils. “Parts of it have been covered, and the natural stream channel has been straightened out and relocated to make room for roads and buildings.

“Our goal is to transform it from an eyesore to a campus amenity, an attractive space that people can enjoy,” Brantley said.

The first phase of the restoration project, designed to overhaul about 1,000 feet of the 10,000-foot open-channel portions of the stream, will be funded by a \$257,500 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and cash contributions from the College of Agriculture and the Athletics Department, which has facilities that border the creek. The restoration team, which includes AU College of Agriculture faculty and state agency personnel, estimates restoring all open-channel stretches of Parkerson Mill would cost \$1.2 million.

An engineering firm is developing a plan for the stream’s restoration, the key components of which will be the construction of a new, naturally curving stream channel; the development of natural open spaces along the stream corridor, providing room for walking and bike trails; and the planting of river birches, Virginia sweetspire and other native trees and plants. Construction on the restoration project may begin as early as this fall.

Stream restoration — the return of an ecosystem to a close approximation of its condition before disturbance — is a new concept that is a blend of



Parkerson Mill Creek south of Samford Avenue

science, technology and art. The Parkerson Mill Creek project is an opportunity for Auburn to become a leader in the field, Brantley said.

“We will use the restored creek to demonstrate to groups from across the state and the region the elements of returning a degraded stream to its natural conditions,” she explained.

When the project is completed, many disciplines across the campus, including landscape architecture and fisheries, will be able to use the restored area as an outdoor classroom, Brantley added.

The headwaters of Parkerson Mill lie underground near the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and College Street in downtown Auburn, but the waterway first hits daylight near Beard-Eaves Memorial Coliseum.

Additional donations will be needed to restore the full length of the creek. For information on the project or on contributing to the effort, contact Eve Brantley at 844-3927, brantef@auburn.edu; or Cliff Webber at 844-9124, webbeec@auburn.edu.

Faculty member wins award for his interactive web site

Wei Wang, an assistant professor in AU’s Department of Art, has won a bronze award for 2005 from the Horizon Interactive Awards program, an international awards competition for individuals and small- to medium-sized firms in multi-media design.

Wang received the award for the interactive web site he developed for his individual studio, Oneway Studio at www.onewaystudio.com. The competition included hundreds of entries from 15 countries.

AU Singers to perform spring show on Sunday

The Auburn Singers will present their annual spring show at Telfair Peet Theatre Sunday at 2:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.



Tickets to the show are \$8; for reservations, call the Music Department at 844-4194.

The show choir will present a variety of popular and show tunes and choreography. Soloists, small groups and the entire show choir will perform in a mix of styles, including country, rock and roll, inspirational and novelty music.

The choral ensemble is directed by Thomas R. Smith, Music Department chair and director of choral activities. Other vocal ensembles in the department are the Concert Choir, Gospel Choir, Women’s Chorus and Men’s Chorus.

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