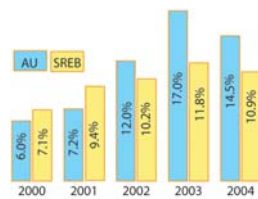


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How Auburn Stacks Up

Increases in tuition, fees: AU vs. Region



Source: Institutional Research and Assessment from Southern Regional Education Board data

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

report

FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY



Groundbreaking

University, state and national dignitaries provided a symbolic start last week to construction of Phase I of AU's new Transportation Technology Center in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering. U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby and his wife were special guests for the ceremony on Monday. Shelby, Alabama's senior senator, was influential in obtaining \$65 million in federal funding for the \$108 million center.

State Department selects faculty from AU

Three Fulbright Scholars named

The U.S. State Department has awarded Fulbright Scholar grants to three Auburn faculty members to lecture and perform research at institutions abroad during the 2005-06 academic year.

Christopher Shook, an AU assistant professor of strategic management, Narendra Singh, a professor of molecular biology, and David South, a professor of forest regeneration, are among 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad to 140 countries through the Fulbright Scholar Program during the next year.

Shook will teach strategic management and conduct research on the development of entrepreneurial intent in transitional economies at the Academy of Economic Sciences in Bucharest, Romania.

Singh said he plans to spend six months in Poland, primarily at Iodz University near Warsaw. He will help his Polish colleagues establish

graduate and undergraduate plant biotechnology programs and conduct research on a protein that has therapeutic value for cardiac diseases.

South will lecture on forest nursery and tree-planting practices and review segments of the forestry graduate program at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. While there, he will also be the keynote speaker at a pine-regeneration workshop sponsored by the Institute for Commercial Forestry Research.

AU Provost John Heilman said the Fulbright grants are an honor for the faculty recipients and the university. "The exchange of ideas that the Fulbright program affords has historically proven beneficial to both the home institution of the scholar and the host institution."

He added, "We encourage our faculty to pursue these and other opportunities that benefit them individually and Auburn University as a whole."



AU Explore

Hundreds of students from middle schools and high schools in Alabama and Georgia visited Auburn in April for AU Explore, a day of activities, teaching and recreation hosted by the College of Sciences and Mathematics. In addition to the recreational activities, the college's faculty and staff provided hands-on opportunities for the students to experience the chemical, biological and physical sciences. The activities introduced students to the potentials of science education and careers in a fun atmosphere and provided many with their first viewing of AU's new Sciences Laboratory Center. The facility will be the headquarters for most undergraduate laboratory instruction in the sciences at Auburn this fall.

University, city take steps toward new research park for emerging industries

Recent actions by a development foundation and by Auburn city government bring plans for a university research park closer to reality, says AU Vice President for Research Michael Moriarty.

The Auburn Research and Technology Foundation, which is spearheading development of the research park for AU, has secured a non-profit developer. In related activity, the City of Auburn has contracted with an engineering firm to design and construct the park's infrastructure.

Moriarty said site work for the research park is expected to begin by late summer. The first is projected to be ready for occupancy by late 2006, with a second building expected for completion in early 2007.

"These are ambitious schedules, but the developer and the city's engineering firm believe these dates are achievable," he said.

The Auburn Research and Technology Foundation at AU selected the University Financing Foundation of Atlanta as the park developer. Formed in 1982, the financing foundation's mission

is to assist universities in development projects such as a research park through low-cost financing.

"Our tax-exempt status enables us to obtain bond money and other sources of financing that are not available to for-profit developers," said University Financing Foundation representative Tom Hall.

The Atlanta-based foundation has conducted extensive development for Georgia Tech. The foundation's development portfolio of more than \$320 million also includes projects at Clemson University, University of Alabama at Birmingham and University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Meanwhile, the City of Auburn has contracted with the Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon engineering firm, also known as BWSC, to design and construct the infrastructure. The Auburn Research and Technology Foundation will oversee the work.

The research and technology foundation will hold a long-term lease from AU on the 156-acre site southwest of the intersection of Shug Jordan Parkway and South College Street.

Upcoming Events

Monday, May 2

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. Admission \$30 at box office.

Tuesday, May 3

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

Wednesday, May 5

SEMESTER FINALS exam period is May 5-7 and May 9-10.

Monday, May 9

FINAL AU Report of spring semester.

Tuesday, May 10

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD representative available for consultation, 9:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Payroll & Employee Benefits, Ingram 212. No appointment needed.

Wednesday, May 11

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAM honoring AU employees for achievements and length of service, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., Dixon Conference Center.

Thursday, May 12

CHAUTAUQUAN ECHOES ghost stories by author and storyteller Kathryn Tucker Windham, 6 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

Friday, May 13

GRADUATION ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Coliseum.

Wednesday, May 18

SUMMER TERM classes begin.



AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: David Granger and Katie Wilder, AU Communications; and Mitch Emmons, Research. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, Photographic Services; and (page 2) College of Sciences and Mathematics.

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

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Bequeathed \$8 million

AU names gardens for benefactor who died before museum opened

AU is naming the formal gardens at the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art in honor of the late Susan Phillips, who donated \$8 million to the museum through her estate.

The Brewton, Ala., philanthropist was one of several benefactors who were instrumental in efforts in the late 1990s to build the museum of fine art in Auburn. However, she died in July 2003 at age 47 after a brief illness, four months before the museum opened.



Susan Phillips

The bequest increases to \$10 million the total of gifts to the museum from Susan Phillips and her family's philanthropic foundation. During the last decade of her life, she and the family foundation donated a rare collection of Audubon prints and other art with a total value of \$1 million to AU and established a \$1 million endowment for galleries to house the collection in the museum.

In recognition of her support for the museum, the AU Board of Trustees voted on April 22 to name the facility's formal gardens for Susan Phillips and in memory of her son, Matthew Albert Tucker, and her mother, Anne Miller Phillips.

"Susan Phillips was one of a handful of people whose gifts and leadership made it possible for Auburn to establish a museum of fine art that is a source of pride for the entire university family," said interim AU President Ed Richardson. "The university community and future generations of

students will benefit greatly from her support for the fine arts at Auburn."

The museum's formal gardens flank the main entrance, providing specially designed outdoor galleries for the display of sculpture.

Allen Phillips said his sister had shown special interest in the gardens during planning for the museum. "Susan always wanted to have a formal garden at the museum, and

"She saw the museum becoming the centerpiece for the arts at Auburn, and that is what has happened."

I think it is great that Auburn is doing this in her memory," he said.

"Auburn was always in her heart; she loved that place, and she was very proud of the museum," he added. "She saw the museum becoming the centerpiece for the arts at Auburn, and that is what has happened."

Michael Panhorst said the gift strengthens the financial position of the museum as it continues enhancing the quality of its art collection and programs. "Through the vision and generosity of Susan Phillips and the other original benefactors and the example they have set, we are better able to make this one of the finest university art museums in America," he added.

In addition to the Audubon prints, the museum's permanent collection includes a major collection of Irish Belleek porcelain and 36 paintings and watercolors from the U.S. State Department's historic "Advancing American Art Collection" that Auburn purchased in the late 1940s.

Alabama Historical Association honors Flynt for his history of Alabama in the 20th century

Wayne Flynt, Distinguished University Professor of History at AU, recently received two awards from the Alabama Historical Association for his latest book, "Alabama in the 20th Century."

Flynt received the James F. Sulzby Award and the Virginia Van der Veer Hamilton Award for his 624-page history, which was published in October 2004 by the University of Alabama Press.

Both awards recognize writers for outstanding contributions to the field of Alabama history. AHA President Hardy H. Jackson III said Flynt

may be the first person to have won both awards in the same year.

Flynt previously won the Anne B. and James B. McMillan Prize from the UA Press for the best book published by that press in 2004. An AU faculty member since 1977, he has won several awards for his earlier books, which include "Poor But Proud: Alabama's Poor Whites" and "Dixie's Forgotten People: The South's Poor Whites." Two books by the Auburn professor have been nominated for Pulitzer Prizes.

Sunday is Mother's Day

AU research: Time together is best way to strengthen ties with children

How much time do you spend with your child? The amount of time a mother and child spend together affects the quality of the parent-child relationship regardless of race, according to recent research by an Auburn faculty member.

Paris Strom, an assistant professor in AU's College of Education, found that mothers and children from three different ethnic groups all ranked quality time spent together as the most important variable of a successful parent-child relationship.

Strom and his colleagues used the Parent Success Indicator to survey 739 black, Hispanic and white American mothers and 806 adolescents in six different categories to determine the strengths and learning needs of parenting across the races from the perspective of both generations. The results were reported in the Winter 2004 issue of the journal *Adolescence*.

"We're looking at two different sides of the same coin. One side says what you think you're good at as a parent and what your child thinks you are good at," Strom said. "The other side identifies your weaknesses as seen by you and your child."

Children in the study ranged in age from 10 to 14 years old. "We chose this age group because early adolescence is a transition time. Most children this age are dealing with puberty and many are beginning to think at a higher level."

"Regardless of race, these are things that everyone has to deal with."

Strom said the goal of the research was to establish an American Mother Standard or norm — something that hasn't been done before. The norm will serve as a benchmark or basis for comparison that other groups can be evaluated against to help identify inadequacies. "If a group strays from the norm in a negative way, it deserves some attention."

Ethnic groups were weighted to approximate their proportion of the national population.

"We combined these three groups which represent 95 percent of the mothers in the United States. Common strengths and common problems were identified," he said.

Of the 60 items, the items that mothers ranked lowest as their greatest weaknesses included a need for information regarding their child's development, a need for more information to help their child deal with conflict, frustration over the way their child performs household chores, a need for information about helping their child explore career choices and difficulty arranging leisure time for themselves.

"Regardless of race, these are things that everyone has to deal with," Strom said. "We know that there are things in common that we all have to do."

The adolescents agree to some extent about the areas of weakness, ranking frustration over chores and their mothers' inability to arrange leisure time in the bottom tier.

"Time spent together was the factor with the greatest influence on perceptions of success by both generations."

There was more of a consensus between the generations regarding areas viewed as successful.

The mothers rated their strengths, in descending order, as teaching the child a sense of right and wrong, enjoying the child's company, teaching the child to respect the feelings of others, teaching the child that effort is the key to success and honestly discussing feelings with the child.

The adolescents agreed with the first three and then ranked their mothers' honesty in expressing feelings fourth followed by approval of the adolescents' interaction with friends fifth.

"Time spent together was the factor with the greatest influence on perceptions of success by both generations. You can't falsify interactions between a parent and a child," said Strom.

"We learn from what we spend time doing and from the people we spend time with," he said. "And now we have more things than ever that compete for our time."

Memorial fund to honor forestry researcher who died in accident

Friends and colleagues of forestry researcher William Allen Carey have established a memorial fund in his honor in the AU School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences.

Carey, 56, died April 22 in an automobile accident in Columbus, Ga.

He held a Ph.D. from Duke University and had been a research plant pathologist at Auburn since 2000. His wife, Debra Carey, is a lab technician in plant pathology at AU. Other survivors include two daughters, one son, four grandchildren and a sister.

To contribute to the Bill Carey Memorial Fund, contact the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences in M.W. Smith Hall.

Workshop to introduce high school students to journalism

High school students from Alabama and Georgia will get a crash course in journalism and other communication fields June 12-17 during a workshop by the Department of Communication and Journalism in AU's College of Liberal Arts.

Kaffie Sledge, columnist for the *Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer*, will serve as workshop director. "We're excited about being able to bring a group of talented young people together for this workshop. We want them to have fun, but we're bringing them here to learn," she said.

The high school students will work closely with professionals and professors on campus and participate in field trips to newspapers and other sites.

The Alabama Press Association Foundation and the *Mobile Register* are providing financial support for the workshop, which is the third series of its kind that the Department of Communication and Journalism has hosted.

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