Faculty-Staff Campaign

Success, unity, campaign kickoff said to be keys to additional alumni support

AU wrapped up this year’s Faculty-Staff Campaign with 43 percent participation, setting a campus record for faculty-staff participation in fundraising on behalf of the university.

The campaign among faculty and staff is part of the $500 million “It Begins at Auburn” fundraising effort for the university. Bob McGinnis, vice president for development, said both the campus campaign’s success and the sense of unity it demonstrates to alumni will add to momentum that followed the kickoff of the national campaign’s public phase in February.

Led by co-chairs Chris Roberts and Victoria Tate, the faculty-staff fundraising effort began in March. At that time, only 9 percent of AU’s faculty and staff were contributing to the university. Since then, participation has more than quadrupled. Several areas achieved 100 percent participation including the School of Nursing, the Office of Development and the Office of Alumni Affairs. Building Services, a division of Facilities, also reached 100 percent.

“This is an astounding record and a success that the faculty and staff deserve to be very proud of,” said McGinnis. “The dramatic rise in participation among the faculty and staff over a two-month period is almost unheard of in a fundraising campaign.”

Prospects for alumni gifts and, ultimately, for Auburn’s future are brighter as a result of the Faculty-Staff Campaign, McGinnis said. Gifts by faculty and staff show a vote of confidence in AU and its mission, he explained. Participation in the campaign has a strong impact when AU asks for support from corporations, foundations, the legislature, alumni and friends.

“The success of this campaign surpassed all of our expectations,” he said. “I sincerely thank all individuals who participated in this campaign.”

He added, “Your support will form the basis of the remainder of the university-wide campaign and will encourage significant gifts from our alumni and friends this year and into the future.”

Faculty and staff were encouraged to contribute to any school, college, department, program, scholarship or gift fund they preferred. The Faculty-Staff Campaign will be an annual initiative.

The nationwide “It Begins at Auburn” campaign has raised more than $366 million, or 73 percent of the total goal. The campaign encompasses all AU colleges and schools as well as the library, athletics, Auburn University Montgomery and the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art. Endowments for students, faculty, programs and unrestricted dollars make up 58 percent of the campaign’s goal.
Heilman names Gaber, Green to positions; Cook to lead Outreach

Provost John Heilman has added a new associate provost and assistant vice president to his staff and announced a new reporting structure for University Outreach.

Sharon Gaber, who has served as associate dean in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction, has been named associate provost for academic administration.

Johnny Green, formerly a special assistant to the provost, has been named assistant vice president for access and community initiatives within the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs.

In addition, Heilman has assigned oversight of the Office of University Outreach to Assistant Vice President for Outreach Royrickers Cook. Cook will oversee Outreach operations that had been reporting to David Wilson, who recently resigned his position as associate provost and vice president for University Outreach to accept a position at the University of Wisconsin. Heilman said the decision to hire any new vice president for Outreach should be made by the new AU president, for whom a search is under way.

Gaber, who was appointed to her new position after an internal search, came to Auburn from the University of Nebraska in 2002 as an associate dean and professor in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction. She recently has served part-time in the Provost's Office. Gaber holds a bachelor's degree from Occidental College, a master's from the University of Southern California and a doctorate degree from Occidental College, a master's from the University of Southern California and a doctorate degree from Occidental College.

Green served AU in several positions -- including as a member of the Political Science faculty, interim director of the Center for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, and director of the Center for Diversity and Race Relations -- before being named a special assistant to the provost. In his new position, Green will work within the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, headed by Associate Provost Overtoun Jenda. Green holds a bachelor's degree and doctorate from AU and a master's degree from AU-Montgomery.

Cook, who was named assistant vice president for Outreach in 2003, has been at Auburn since 2000. He holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from AU.

Web site provides updates on AU presidential search

The campus community and potential candidates for the AU presidency can now find information about the search online at http://www.au.edu/administration/trustees/search/index.html.

The site, which features a link to an e-mail address for public input, will be updated throughout the search process.

Gerber elected to third term as senior officer in national AAUP

Larry Gerber, a professor of history in the AU College of Liberal Arts, was recently elected to a third two-year term as first vice president of the American Association of University Professors. At Auburn, Gerber is a former chair of the University Senate and of the Department of History: With the AAUP; he has also served as chair of the association’s national Committee on the Governance of Colleges and Universities and as a representative of the Southeastern District on the AAUP National Council.

AU Report

May 22, 2006

Upcoming Events
Friday, May 26
ART EXHIBITIONS "The Spirit of the Modern: Drawings and Graphics by Malby Sykes" 52 works, most from the Georgia Museum of Art, and "Observation and Originality: A Selection of Works by Malby Sykes." from the AU collection. Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, until June 30

Monday, May 29
MEMORIAL DAY holiday offices closed, no classes

NEXT AU REPORT: published every two weeks, except July 14-holiday period, during summer

Monday, June 5

Wednesday, June 15
PUBLIC LECTURE "Eve Zeisel, Her Life and Work," Sheri Schumacher, 4 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Art
CURATOR’S CHOICE Film "White Heat," 7 p.m., ICS Museum

Monday, June 19
AU REPORT
Thursday, June 29
COMMITTEE SESSIONS Board of Trustees, 10 a.m.-until, AU Hotel; see www.au.edu/administration/trustees/agenda/041406.html

Friday, June 30
BOARD OF TRUSTEES 8:30 a.m., AU Hotel

Independence Day holiday observance, offices closed, no classes

Monday, July 3 and Tuesday, July 4

Biofuels research
Gov. Bob Riley met at AU with researchers Graeme Lockyer, center, and David Bransby, right, last week to discuss state support for research to convert agricultural and forest products to liquid fuels. Lockyer, a forestry professor, and Bransby, an agriculture professor, described AU research initiatives and discussed plans for a symposium on biofuels research at Auburn in August.

Seven projects receive Outreach grants to support faculty activities across state

A U Outreach has awarded more than $100,000 to fund faculty scholarship grants for 2006-07. Seven projects were funded out of 26 proposals for the competitive grants.

Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach, said the primary goal of the program is to provide Auburn faculty with resources to connect their research with pressing needs of the state.

"The Outreach Scholarship Grants Review Committee felt these seven proposals show enormous potential for connecting research to the direct benefit of external audiences," said Cook, who is also the chair of the committee. "These projects will continue to strengthen Auburn University's commitment to improving the quality of lives and services for individuals, organizations, counties and towns throughout the state of Alabama."

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

• Developing a Professional Knowledge Community for Problem-based History Study in the Auburn City School System, $15,000, John W. Saye, professor in the College of Education's Department of Curriculum and Teaching. This project builds upon the Persistent Issues in History Network which uses interactive technologies and field tested learning strategies to promote civic- oriented curricular reform among history teachers in grades 6 through 12.

• A Rolling Road Show, $15,000, Janet Allison, associate professor in the College of Agriculture's Department of Animal 
  Sciences.

• L.I.F.E. in Science: Leadership Institute for Females Exceptional in Science, $20,000, Toni Alexander, assistant professor in the College of Sciences and Mathematics' Department of Geology and Geography. The program's goal is to increase the participation of women in the physical sciences at AU and throughout Alabama by creating a network of women science professionals and students ranging from K-12 to college.

• Building a Professional Knowledge Community for Problem-based History Study in the Auburn City School System, $15,000, John W. Saye, professor in the College of Education’s Department of Curriculum and Teaching. This project builds upon the Persistent Issues in History Network which uses interactive technologies and field tested learning strategies to promote civic-oriented curricular reform among history teachers in grades 6 through 12.

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Family Fun Day in pictures

Auburn’s annual Family Fun Day festival on Wednesday brought together hundreds of faculty and staff members and their families for an afternoon of games, attractions and relaxation on the lawn of the President’s Home.

The annual event celebrates the end of the academic year and the start of summer for AU faculty and staff and their families.

Last week’s festival marked the 10th year that AU has observed Family Fun Day, the largest annual event devoted literally to the “Auburn Family.” Led by a campuswide organizing committee and assisted by Human Resources, Facilities and other units, dozens of volunteers planned the festivities and set up and operated games and attractions.

How Auburn Stacks Up

Average full-time AU faculty salaries, 2005-06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>$95,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assoc. Prof</td>
<td>$68,050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asst. Prof</td>
<td>$59,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>$35,615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Institutional Research and Assessment

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