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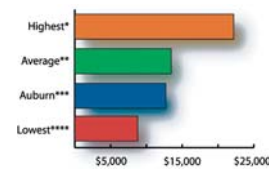
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How AU Stacks Up

2003-04 non-resident
tuition at SREB schools



* University of Virginia, \$22,169
** Regional Mean, \$13,445
*** Auburn, \$12,690
**** Mississippi State, \$8,780
SREB=Southern Regional Education Bd.

Source: Planning & Analysis

Updates between issues
@

[www.ocm.auburn.edu/
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AU report

For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

Vol. 37 No. 20

Board endorses plan for salaries

The AU Board of Trustees approved budget guidelines Friday that, among other provisions, would make permanent the one-time salary supplements faculty and staff received last spring.

The administration will use the guidelines in drafting a university budget for the 2004-05 fiscal year, which starts Oct. 1. The board last year approved increases averaging 6 percent of the total salary pool, but the national economic recession in 2003 raised doubts about the level of state funding beyond 2004. With the state budget picture stabilized, the AU board agreed Friday that the university could proceed with plans to add the increases to employee pay this fall.

Subject to final approval of the AU budget by the board in September, faculty and staff will receive the increases incrementally over each pay period rather than in another lump sum.

Including the salary supplements with faculty pay for 2003-04, AU met its goal of reaching the Southern average for faculty pay. Including the supplements with regular salary this year, the average salary for professors at AU is 100 percent of the regional average. For associate professors, the AU

average is 102 percent of the regional average, and for assistant professors, the AU average is 99 percent of the regional average.

Trustees noted that the achievement fulfilled a primary goal set by the board five years ago to raise AU faculty salaries to the regional average by the end of the five years.

The salary provision is projected to cost more than \$11.7 million next year.

Other key guidelines for budget outlays in 2004-05 include an additional \$1.5 million for reducing deferred maintenance and \$1 million for additional scholarships.

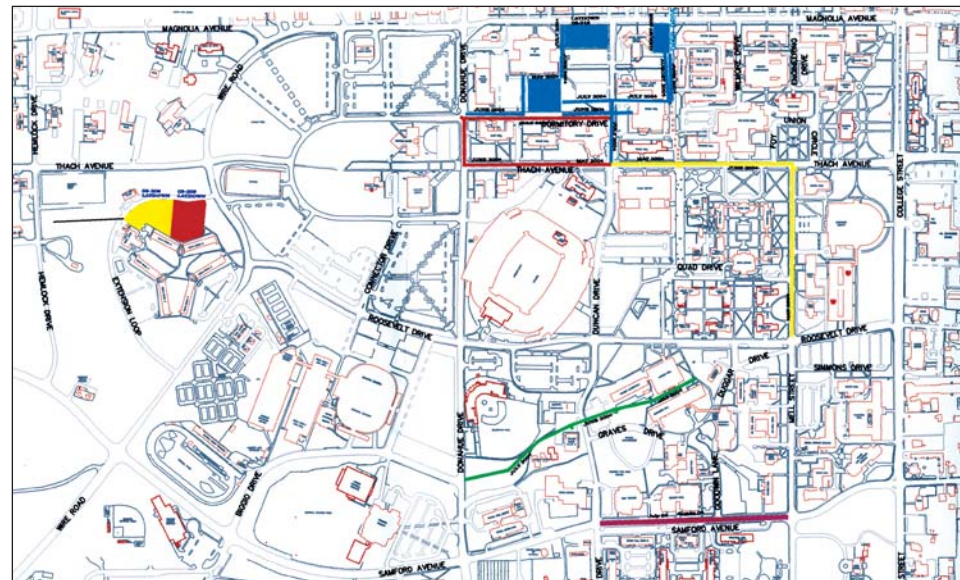
The key feature on the income side for budget planners is a 9 percent increase in tuition approved Friday by the board. That increase is projected to generate \$11 million in additional revenue.

Interim President Ed Richardson said AU will take a close look at its operating costs over the next six months. One of several key goals, he said, will be to minimize future increases in tuition.

Also, board members favorably discussed but did not vote on the concept of a research park outlined by Vice President for Research Michael Moriarty.

Detours

Colored areas on this Facilities Division map show streets and parking lots that are or will be blocked at times this summer for infrastructure work. Some closings will be permanent. Streets and parking areas not identified with colored lines are scheduled to remain open. Regular updates are online at the Special Features section of the AU Home Page at www.auburn.edu



New AU Trustee

In his own words: Charles McCrary

Charles D. McCrary, one of two new members of the AU Board of Trustees, has made a career with Alabama Power Company, joining the company following his freshman year at Auburn.

McCrary joined Alabama Power Co. in 1970 and rose through the ranks of the utility and its parent company, the Southern Company, until he was named president and CEO of Alabama Power in 2001.

After earning his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from AU, he began his drive to the top of the company. In addition to a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Auburn, McCrary earned a law degree from the Birmingham School of Law.

A native of Birmingham, he is very active in many civic organizations in the Birmingham area, including the Metropolitan Arts Council, where he is Chairman Emeritus; the Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce, where he serves on the Board of Directors and Trustees; and Children's Hospital, where he serves on the Board of Trustees.

Following are answers to questions about his Auburn background and views on the university and the Board of Trustees:

Why did you choose Auburn after graduating from high school?

"My father went to Auburn. From my youth, I was an Auburn fan and wanted an engineering degree from Auburn."

Why were you interested in becoming a member of the Board of Trustees?

"The challenge and the hope that I had a resource or skill that Auburn could use. It is an honor because my Auburn University education gave me a firm foundation in life."

What special talents do you believe you bring to the board, and how would they be applied?

"An understanding of corporate governance, a working association with business leaders in the state and a large dose of how the legislative process impacts our citizens."

Getting Auburn off SACS probation is obviously the No. 1 priority of the board. What is the next priority?

"No. 2 financial security, present and future. No. 3 achieving the highest quality product possible."

What do you think board's relationship with the administration and the faculty should be?

"Respectful."

What is the most important duty of a trustee?

"Fiduciary responsibility."

With new members on the board, do you see the board changing in any way (other than becoming more diverse)? If so, how?

"Difficult to say since I don't have a first-hand point of reference. I look forward to working with the board and being able to help shape its direction."

With state support for public universities continuing to shrink, how do Auburn and other public universities survive without sacrificing quality?

"As with any business, one either increases sales (students) and/or increases price and/or decreases expenses. The formula is simple. Execution of that formula is the key to quality."

What do you hope to accomplish during your term?

"There should be a determined focus by all parties on providing the highest quality of educational experience for our students. I firmly believe with any good organization or business, you have to focus on the people in addition to the product."

Should Auburn concentrate on land-grant programs or be a comprehensive public university?

"Auburn can't be all things to all people. Whatever it does, it should be of the highest quality."

Where would you like to see Auburn 10 or 20 years from now?

"No. 1 in value and quality."

Should Auburn continue to grow in enrollment or remain where it is?

"Auburn should maximize its assets."

Being the biggest is not my goal. Being the best quality, best value, most respected, offering strong academic programs are the goal descriptors I would use."

Do you have any children at Auburn now or any who have graduated?

"Yes, one, a senior."

What do you think is most special about Auburn?

"The culture and the character. As a graduate of Auburn I feel that these two characteristics help to make Auburn the type of university that it is."

What special memory do you have about your time at Auburn?

"Many memories, many I'll never forget — several I hope others forget."

Is there anything you would like to add that is not covered in these questions?

"I feel it is a great honor to serve the university that helped to give me my start. I am humbled and honored by the confirmation to serve as a trustee. I pledge to do my best to support the students, faculty, alumni, administration and citizens of Alabama."

"There should be a determined focus by all parties on providing the highest quality of educational experience for our students."

Upcoming Events

Art Exhibits

- Biggin: Unique impressions of tools and household items by Philadelphia artist Mike Geno, Biggin Gallery, through June 18.
- Museum: "Works by Gary Chapman," paintings by the chair of the UAB Art Department, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, through Aug. 29.

Thursday, June 17

- Free Night at Museum: Free admission to Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

Wednesday, June 23

- Gallery Talk: Catherine Walsh, curator of exhibitions, discusses works on display by UAB artist Gary Chapman, 2 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

Thursday, June 24

- Family Fun Day: New date for annual festival for AU employees and their families, 3 p.m.-5:30 p.m., President's Home lawn, Mell Street. Originally planned for May 13, the event was rescheduled due to heavy rains that week.
- Chautauquan Echoes: Lecture and wine tasting sponsored by DC Cellars and AU Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6 p.m., Pebble Hill.

Monday, June 28

- Next AU Report.

Wednesday, June 30

- SummerStage 2004: Dinner at 6 p.m. followed at 7:30 p.m. by AU Theatre's production of David Auburn's Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Proof," Telfair Peet Theatre. Also July 1-3 and July 7-11. Tickets: 844-4154.

Thursday, July 1

- Chautauquan Echoes: Storytelling with Eve Kneeland and Joseph Trimble, 6 p.m., Pebble Hill.

Monday, July 5

- Independence Day Holiday: No classes; offices closed.

Monday, July 12

- AU Report.



AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Bob Lowry and David Granger, AU Communications. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, Photographic Services.

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New AU Trustee

In her own words: Virginia Thompson

Virginia N. Thompson of Opelika, one of two new AU trustees, initially resisted the urge to follow her two older brothers to the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa when she graduated from Jeff Davis High School in Montgomery.

After her freshman year at Auburn, however, she transferred to Alabama. It took her a mere three days to discover she had made a mistake. She immediately transferred back to Auburn and went on to graduate Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1978.

With a background in accounting and marketing, she is now marketing director of the East Alabama Medical Center, where she is described by colleagues as a persuasive communicator with a strong commitment to education.

Following are Thompson's responses to questions about her Auburn experiences and views on the university and the Board of Trustees:

Why did you choose Auburn?

"My two older brothers attended the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. I actually attended Alabama a total of three days. For whatever reason, Tuscaloosa did not fit me well. I came to the 'Loveliest Village' and found home."

Why were you interested in becoming a member of the Board of Trustees?

"I believe this is a rare time in Auburn's history. A time for healing fractured constituencies, for leadership that is strong. With the finances of the state in limbo, Auburn needs people with financial creativity. With a half-a-billion dollar budget, we need people who understand 'big business.' I love Auburn. I love education. This is the greatest university in the state of Alabama and through its mission of education, research and outreach, Auburn can change the economic conditions of this state. We are educating people to make life better for others and I want to have a stronger role in moving Auburn into the future."

What special talents do you believe you bring to the board, and how would they be applied?

"Auburn would make best use of my financial skills in the areas of development and fund-raising. Much of my work experience has been in finance and accounting, working with trusts and estates. When you couple that knowledge with the many strong personal and business relationships I have across the state (primarily because of my husband's work as a United Methodist minister) I bring value to the development arm of Auburn."

"I am quite concerned about the financial situation at Auburn. The Auburn budget has increased by 22 percent in the past five years. It will have to continue to increase due to the added operating costs of new construction and AU's portion of the

public education employee insurance (PEEHIP) costs. Auburn has been able to keep up with her needs the past five years by cutting expenses and increasing tuition.

"The federal and state appropriations have remained virtually unchanged. There will come a time when tuition increases have risen to the regional levels, (we are presently at 94 percent of regional level for in-state resident students) and we must look elsewhere for sources of revenue. I would like to be a part of that team, possibly involving Foundation and Development and the Alumni Association, to creatively look for ways to draw industry, business and alums into stronger financial relationships with Auburn."

Getting Auburn off SACS probation is obviously the No. 1 priority of the board. What is the next priority?

"Hiring a strong, highly qualified president in the next three to four years and making sure that Auburn stays financially strong are issues that the board must address."

What is the most important duty of a trustee?

"There is not just one duty that takes priority. Safeguarding and managing resources, helping to set the vision of the university and then taking a role in policy setting to achieve that vision are all equally important. But the personal characteristics of a trustee are also important. A good trustee must be an active listener, prepared for meetings, tolerant of other viewpoints, think and act strategically and be a person of high integrity who is committed to doing what is right for the university as a whole."

Should Auburn concentrate on land-grant programs or be a comprehensive public university?

"This university has particular strengths that are unique, and we should never forget those. We also don't need to harm successful programs and schools by stretching our scarce resources too far simply to create a more comprehensive university. But, we cannot ignore that the economy, technologies and the needs of the state are changing. Auburn must be willing and ready to adjust to this changing environment."

Where would you like to see Auburn 10 or 20 years from now?

"Our enrollment is up and our bond rating is good. The buildings and grounds have never looked better. These things I hope will never change. Changes I would wish for in 10-plus years would be a well-endowed university, with less dependence on state dollars."

"I would wish for Auburn to be known as having the greatest research facilities in the South. These facilities would attract the brightest faculty and students in the nation. I would wish for new knowledge from this research that would create new jobs that would help Alabama citizens economically rise above their struggle with poverty."



Thompson

AU, state enter agreement for new hotel, conference center resort at Gulf Shores

AU has entered into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources that Gov. Bob Riley says will lead to a new resort hotel and conference center at Alabama's state park at Gulf Shores.

"This is a great opportunity for the state and Auburn University to partner together to make one of our most popular state parks even better," Riley said in Friday's announcement. "The new hotel and conference center will allow Gulf State Park to host more events and serve more guests while preserving the natural beauty of Alabama's Gulf Coast."

AU has agreed to a long-term lease for the footprint of a new facility along 2.7 miles of undeveloped beachfront property. State officials said the development team chosen to construct and manage the project will provide the approximately \$100 million needed to build the 350-room hotel and conference center that will accommodate 1,200-2,000 people. An existing structure on a different site on the property is in disrepair and will be demolished.

"The partnership on this project brings together the enterprise of many innovative and talented people," said interim AU President Ed Richardson. "The considerable intellectual assets of a major

research university are once again being tapped to be of direct and long-lasting benefit to the people of Alabama."

Auburn will use the Gulf Shores facility as an educational venue for college students from Alabama institutions in areas of study such as hotel and restaurant management, forestry, wildlife sciences, marine biology and other disciplines. The primary academic programs will be similar to the current arrangements at the AU Hotel and Dixon Conference Center, where students from the College of Human Sciences participate in the administration and operation of the facility as part of their educational experience. That hotel is managed by the West Paces Group of Atlanta.

State Conservation Commissioner Barnett Lawley said the new facility will be on a smaller footprint than the existing structure to protect the aesthetics and character of the site. Also, the new facility will occupy less beachfront footage and will be set back farther from the shoreline.

"Thousands of acres of beachfront, wetlands and lakes will be protected while careful development will provide a world-class resort for both recreation and business meetings," said Lawley.

Poultry Science

Scheduled for occupancy later this year, the new Poultry Science building at P.O. Davis and Lem Morrison drives is in the final stage of construction. Financing for the \$21 million, 85,000-square-foot facility has come from industry, federal, state and AU sources.



White named head of department in Human Sciences

College of Human Sciences Dean June Henton has announced the appointment of Douglas White as head of the college's Department of Nutrition and Food Science.

White, an associate professor in the department, became department head on May 15. He succeeds interim Department Head Robert Keith, who remains on the faculty.

A graduate of Auburn with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a master's in physiology, White holds a doctoral degree in physiology from LSU Medical Center. He was on the faculty of the University of Georgia before joining the AU faculty in 1996.

At Auburn, White was named an outstanding

professor in 1999 by the Panhellenic Council and was voted outstanding faculty member in the College of Human Sciences by the Student Government Association in 2001. His research has been widely published in refereed journals.

AU unit honored for excellence

AU's Department of Human Resources has received the Excellence in Human Resource Management Award for 2004 from the Southern Region of College and University Professionals Association.

The award recognizes the AU department's quality and accomplishments over the past year.

Panhorst to lead AU Museum

Michael Panhorst has been named director of AU's Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.

Panhorst, who will assume his duties Aug. 15, comes to Auburn from his post as director of the Chesterwood Museum in Stockbridge, Mass.

A native of Montgomery, Panhorst returns to his home state with nearly three decades of experience as a director, curator, researcher, writer, editor, teacher and project manager at several museums and universities throughout the eastern United States.

"Dr. Panhorst's experience should prove extremely beneficial in our quest to grow the Jule Collins Smith Museum into one of the finest university-affiliated museums in the country," said AU Provost Thomas Hanley.

Panhorst was the founding director of the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan, where he helped build the endowment from zero to \$1.1 million and led a successful effort to meet the museum's goal of \$2.5 million in a capital campaign.

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