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Source: Planning & Analysis

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# AU report

For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

Vol. 37 No. 22

First of its type

## AU architect designs China campus

An AU faculty member has designed the entire campus of the first American-style university in China.

Peter Weiss, an associate professor in the AU College of Architecture, Design and Construction, has developed the master plan and designed 33 buildings and an iconic bell tower for SIAS International University in ancient Xinzheng City, 300 miles south of Beijing.

The faculty member in AU's Department of Building Science is the only Westerner permitted by the government of China to design a campus in that country. The university is the only one in China that is permitted to fly the U.S. flag.

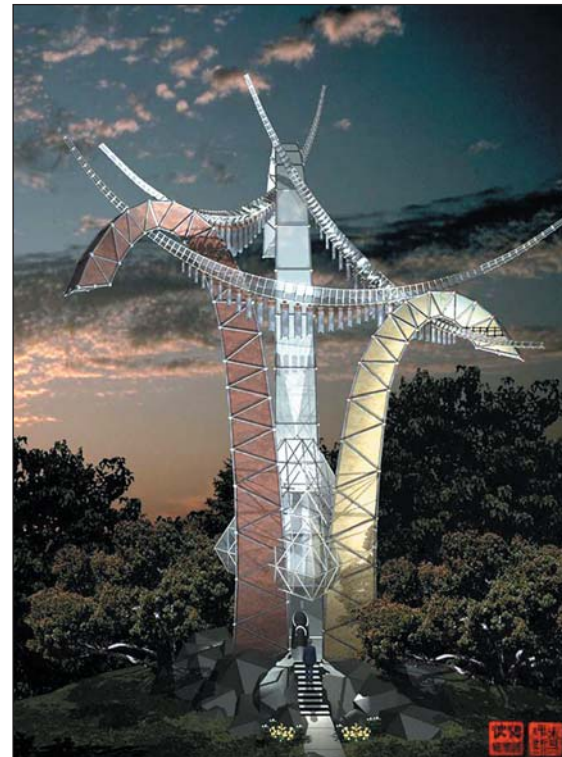
The Chinese university has erected 28 of the buildings and enrollment has increased from 100 to 7,500 since Weiss began the project in 2000. With

construction under way on the remaining buildings, Chinese officials are preparing for enrollment to reach 12,000 next year.

Although China has more than 2,000 colleges and universities, Weiss said he was told that the selection of an American architect was part of a broader effort to introduce the American university model into China's higher education system.

For Weiss, the journey to China began 30 miles from Auburn in Columbus, Ga., in 1999, when Chinese entrepreneur Shawn Chen asked a friend at Beacon College, a small, interdenominational Christian college for help finding an architect for an American-style university in China.

The Beacon College faculty member turned to Bruce Erick, then a U.S. Army officer at Fort Benning, who had taken classes at Auburn and at the Columbus institution, which has since been renamed Beacon University. The student recommended Weiss, his former professor at AU, and Chen (See *China architect*, page 2)



### Campus designs

At left is the belltower designed for SIAS International University by Peter Weiss of AU. Below is his design for one of the Chinese university's major buildings.



## China architect

(continued from page 1)

invited the Auburn faculty member to view the site and discuss the project. Within weeks, the initial contract evolved into the largest project Weiss had ever encountered and one in a part of the world that was new to him.

"At that time, I knew very little about China," recalled Weiss, who has been a member of the AU faculty since 1983. "My only instruction from Dr. Chen was to build a campus for 10,000 students." Before the campus was complete, however, enrollment was approaching 12,000.

Although written as an acronym, SIAS is a word created by Chen. The university president told Weiss he chose the name after examining the naming practices of several successful international corporations and organizations.

Weiss soon learned that the job would be one of the largest university design projects ever undertaken by an American architect. Chen wanted to build his modern university in Henan Province in China's agricultural heartland. As part of a government-supported effort to bring capitalist principles to the communist nation, the university would prepare a new generation of graduates schooled in American business principles.

China sends large numbers of its young people to American universities to learn about business, science, agriculture and technology, but the number of returning graduates is far below market demand in the emerging capitalist economy. Chen informed Weiss that an American-style university in China's heartland would be a much more efficient way to introduce capitalism to his country.

Weiss, a licensed architect with degrees from three universities, began his designs for the American-style university in March 2000. That September he made his first journey to Xingheng City and began collaborating with Chinese architects and builders who are implementing his designs.

"One of my first goals was to design buildings and a campus that would give students a sense of comfort in and out of class," Weiss said. "I knew that would be important to the Americanization process to which these students would be exposed."

While construction of dormitories and classroom buildings began almost as soon as architectural designs were complete, the first design was a bell-tower. Space is reserved at the highest point on campus for the structure, and designs for all the buildings reflect that icon's mix of Chinese and American themes.

"When I started working on the project, I was hoping to get 60 percent or 70 percent of my designs built the way I designed them," Weiss recalls. "In fact, well over 90 percent has been built to design."

Two students, Charles Martin and Jennifer Abbot, assisted Weiss with the designs for the SIAS campus. Both have since graduated and are working in the construction industry.



### China campus icon

Peter Weiss, center, displays for College of Architecture, Design and Construction Dean Daniel Bennett, left, and Building Science Department Head John Murphy, a sketch of the belltower centerpiece of the campus Weiss designed for a university in China.



### AU designs in China

Above is an architect's rendering of one section of SIAS International University. The entire campus was designed by Peter Weiss. Below are several of the buildings as they near completion.



## Faculty in Agronomy cited for conservation tillage system

Joe Touchton, head of the College of Agriculture's Department of Agronomy and Soils, and Wayne Reeves, affiliate professor in the department, have received the 2004 Southern Conservation Tillage Conference Service Award.

Touchton and Reeves received the award in June at the 26th meeting of the SCT Conference for Sustainable Agriculture in Raleigh, N.C. The two received the award in recognition of their efforts to promote conservation tillage systems among farmers in the region.

Touchton, long a proponent of conservation tillage, joined the AU agronomy and soils faculty in 1980 and has been head of the department since 1989.

Reeves, who was a graduate student under Touchton, was research agronomist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Soil Dynamics Lab in Auburn until last year, when he was named research leader at USDA Natural Resource Conservation Center in Watkinsville, Ga.

He remains an affiliate faculty member at Auburn.

Conservation tillage, a planting system in which crops are grown with minimal cultivation of the soil, significantly reduces soil erosion and improves soil quality.

## Sankar, Raju to present session for Ph.D. students across U.S.

Two Auburn professors have been invited to be presenters at the Ninth Annual Ph.D. Project Information Systems Doctoral Students Association in New York on Aug. 4.

Chetan S. Sankar of the Department of Management in the College of Business and P.K. Raju of the Department of Mechanical Engineering in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering will conduct the panel session, "How to Secure Funding to pursue Research and Teaching Excellence in the College of Business."

The session will advise graduate students and others on grant-writing and other aspects of funding.

Sankar and Raju hold Thomas Walter professorships at Auburn and are project leaders in the interdisciplinary Laboratory for Innovative Technology and Engineering Education, also known as LITEE.

Roger Seals, program director from the National Science Foundation will participate with the LITEE team in the panel session. The audience will consist of 50-60 minority Information Systems Ph.D. students and prospective Ph.D. students from U.S. universities.

Randy Bradley, a doctoral student at Auburn, is vice president of Information Systems Doctoral Students Association and helped organize the session.

## Parking fees, fines on campus will increase at start of academic year

Parking fees and fines will increase at AU with the start of fall semester in August, but a new method of payment for parking permits will cushion the financial impact on faculty and staff.

When parking permits for 2004-05 go on sale in August, faculty and staff with "A" zone parking permits will pay \$60 for a 2004-05 parking permit, up from \$30 in the past, and staff with "B" zone parking privileges will see an increase to \$30 from the current \$20.

Christine Curtis, who coordinated the traffic and parking study that led to the changes, said this will be the first general increase in parking fees in more than 20 years.

"It has been so long that I could not find anyone who could recall exactly when the last increase did occur," said Curtis, who has been a faculty member since 1976.

"Parking permits will still be a bargain at Auburn compared to our peer institutions," said Curtis. She cited faculty-staff parking costs ranging from \$60 for non-reserved spaces at the University of Alabama and \$90 at the University of Mississippi to a minimum of \$120 at the University of Georgia and \$198 at the University of Florida.

Partially offsetting the increase in permit fees for AU faculty and staff will be a new provision enabling employees to purchase the permits through payroll deduction over three months with pre-tax dollars. Savings will vary by tax bracket, but Curtis said a faculty or staff member earning \$40,000 a year and purchasing an "A" zone permit will save more than \$20 in take-home pay using that method of payment.

Curtis said some parking areas will be changed from "B" to "A" to reduce an imbalance in parking availability for many faculty and staff. There are now 3.5 "A" permits for each "A" parking space, the highest ratio of any group on campus. With the added spaces, the ratio will drop to 2.3.

To maintain availability of "B" spaces for staff at the present level, graduate students who were pre-

viously eligible for "B" zone parking permits will be moved to the "C" zone category with undergraduates. The ratio of student permits to spaces will increase from 2.7 to 3.0, but Curtis said the ratio is consistent with that of other campuses she checked.

Areas affected involve the Lowder Building parking lot, the bottom level of the library parking deck, a small part of Haley "B" lot, the parking lot between Harbert Center and Ross Hall and the eastern two-thirds of the lot in front of Comer Hall.

The "B" spaces lost at the Lowder Building will be moved across Donahue Drive to a section of Max Morris parking area.

Students will see their parking fees increase to \$30 from \$15. Motorcycle permit fees will increase to \$9 from \$3, but bicycle permits will remain unchanged at \$2. The total number of student parking spaces will remain unchanged at 5,583.

Visitor parking fees, which were implemented for the first time in 2003-04, will remain \$5 per day, and will continue to be available at the Dawson Building. Options costing from \$25 to \$100 per semester are also available.

Revenues from the increases will go into AU's General Fund. The fund finances most university operations, including maintenance of campus streets and parking areas.

Parking fines will also increase, but Curtis said the primary purpose of those increases will be to deter violators rather than increase revenue. She noted that increased enforcement during the past year led to a decline in parking revenues and may have contributed to a doubling of ridership on Tiger Transit.

"The parking fines will have very little effect on faculty and staff because virtually everyone abides by the rules," Curtis said. She said most students obey the rules, as well, and the higher fees should cut down on the number of repeat violators."

The first parking ticket will cost \$10 instead of \$4. The second ticket will be \$20 instead of \$8, the third will increase from \$16 to \$40, and subsequent violations will be \$50 each instead of \$25.



### Parking changes

Christine Curtis discussed new permit fees, fines and other parking changes in a recent meeting with the Staff Council. Some of the changes are the first in two decades, she said.

## Campus Forum

# Top performers on world business stage keep steady focus on quality

By June M. Henton, Dean,  
College of Human Sciences

A wise and very successful business leader once told me, "When things get tight, the flowers are always the first to go."



Henton

His observation is a graphic example of how executives seeking to drive up quarterly profits will often trim around the edges of quality in the mistaken belief that customers will neither notice nor care. Unfortunately, the corporate graveyards are filled with businesses that made such miscalculations.

On the other hand, a corporate culture that places high priority on understanding the customer is a culture that positions the organization to be a long-term leader in its field. In the manufacturing sector, once dominant American automakers and other U.S. manufacturers were issued a wake-up call in the late 1980s by foreign competitors who had adopted total-

*"Philosophers from Aristotle to Dewey maintained that the best way to teach excellence is to live it."*

quality-management practices and mastered quick-response strategies to meet consumer demands.

The lessons learned from that painful experience led American business and industry to accept the reality of a world marketplace and to search for ways to better position the U.S.

as a global leader. As low-wage incentives have taken jobs off-shore, U.S. companies are working to take advantage of America's intellectual capital and knowledge of the marketplace to maintain a competitive edge.

In the May 17 issue of Business Week, companies such as IDEO were acclaimed for revolutionizing the design world by focusing on the consumer and "creating experiences, not just products." From an operations perspective, Wal-Mart is a world leader and has achieved that position by knowing its customers. Clearly, no longer can companies successfully design goods with little knowledge of the end user. Products must be customized for what is quickly changing from a mass market to a myriad of micro-markets that CEOs strive to better understand and target.

In the service sector, many have assumed that U.S. jobs were safe on the domestic front as manufacturing jobs went overseas. However, recent trends

show evidence to the contrary as service personnel in remote locations from India to Ireland help us over the telephone to solve our computer problems or find baggage lost by an airline. But is anyone really surprised by this service job export trend? Customer service in the U.S. leaves much to be desired in public and private institutions alike.

Despite a general dissatisfaction with the service sector, however, there are outstanding examples of companies such as Southwest Airlines, Nordstrom and Ritz-Carlton that have built their reputations on quality service.

Co-founder and former president of Ritz-Carlton, Horst Schulze, positioned that firm as the industry leader in luxury hotel chains by understanding what drives customer satisfaction and loyalty, empowering employees and putting an extraordinary emphasis on service excellence. In recent years, Mr. Schulze formed The West Paces Hotel Group and now manages the Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center, where the "quality sciences" are being taught to our students in hotel and restaurant management and related fields.

Philosophers from Aristotle to Dewey maintained that the best way to teach excellence is to live it. In an effort to create a "learn by doing" environment, the College of Human Sciences has established a unique laboratory in the Hotel at Auburn University where students are trained by professionals who literally "wrote the book" on service excellence. For students to adopt this quality doctrine as an integral part of their careers, they must experience its success in practice as well as theory.

Excellence in customer service is important to our students as tomorrow's business leaders and to America's future in the global economy.

*Campus Forum is a periodic discussion of issues in higher education that are of special concern to the AU community but which are not generally featured in the local news media. Contributors are AU faculty, staff and administrators. Views are those of the contributors, and columns are limited to a maximum of 800 words.*

*"For students to adopt this quality doctrine as an integral part of their careers, they must experience its success in practice as well as theory."*

## Upcoming Events

### Continuing

- Biggin Gallery: "Divergence," prints from copper engravings by Clare Frank Hairstans and oil paintings by Andrew Hairstans, through Aug. 6.

### Tuesday, July 13

- Health Insurance: Blue Cross/Blue Shield representative available for consultation, 9:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Ingram 212. No appointment necessary.
- Meeting: University Senate, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.
- Theatre Skits: Comedy skits by AU Theatre troupe, 1 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum Café.

### Thursday, July 15

- Chautauquan Echoes: Concert by AU Summer Choir, 6 p.m., Pebble Hill, DeBardeleben Street.
- Free Night: Public admitted free to Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

### Tuesday, July 20

- Theatre Skits: Comedy skits by AU Theatre troupe, 1 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum Café.
- Meeting: Administrative-Professional Assembly, 2 p.m., Foy 217.

### Wednesday, July 21

- Groundbreaking: Heritage Park Pavilion, 9 a.m., pasture south of Samford Avenue.
- Dedication: Alfa Agricultural Services Building, 10:15 a.m., Donahue Drive.
- Meeting: Staff Council, 10 a.m., Foy 217. Discussion of proposed policy regarding personal relationships between faculty or staff and students.
- SummerStage 2004: Dinner at 6 p.m. followed at 7:30 p.m. by AU Theatre's production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," Telfair Peet Theatre. Also July 22-25 and July 28-31. Variety of ticket options from \$10 to \$30 available. Box office: 844-4154.

### Monday, July 26

- Final AU Report of summer term. The AU Report will return to weekly publication on Aug 16 with the first issue of fall semester.

## AUreport

AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Bob Lowry, AU Communications; Mitch Emmons, Research; Roy Roberson, Architecture, Design & Construction; Cheryl Cobb, Engineering; Michael Tullier, Education; Jamie Creamer, Agriculture; and Charles Martin, Veterinary Medicine. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, Photographic Services (pages 3, 5 and 8); and the colleges of Architecture, Design & Construction (pages 1-2); Human Sciences (page 4) and Engineering (page 7).

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, except for major holidays or the Monday after an extended holiday. The AU Report is published every two weeks during summer term. 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



### Night scene

Auburn received an electrified repeat of Independence Day fireworks Wednesday night when an electrical storm lit up the sky over campus. No damage or injuries were reported from the lightning.

## Tiger Transit adding buses, changing routes around closed campus streets

AU's Tiger Transit bus system will add buses and change routes to handle more riders and bypass closed streets on campus this fall.

In time for the start of fall semester on Aug. 18, Tiger Transit will add four buses, bringing its total to 33, up from 29 in spring semester.

The transit system is adding two external routes for faster service and to serve more off-campus apartment complexes. It is also adding two internal routes and altering routes to bypass central sections of Thach and Roosevelt avenues that are closed for construction. Those sections will be permanently closed to traffic.

Instead of running a circular route through the center of campus as it did last year, Tiger Transit will anchor two north-south routes at Terrell Hall. The western route will link Terrell to the Haley Station terminal and form a loop around the stadium and Plainsman Park. The eastern route will connect Terrell with Foy Union and provide four stops along Mell Street.

Three other internal routes will shuttle students between parking areas and Haley Station. All 10 external routes will converge at Haley Station.

Faculty and staff members may join students in riding Tiger Transit's on-campus lines without charge and may purchase a pass to commute by bus from off-campus.

Tiger Transit ridership doubled to 10,000 a day in 2003-04 from ridership in the previous academic year.

David George, director of parking and transit services, says further increases are expected fall



semester due to new measures to reduce traffic congestion on campus.

George said the transit system changes should accommodate the expected demand, and the system will make other changes as necessary.

## Grant to AU Veterinary Medicine will support services for animal shelters

Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine will receive \$1.5 million over the next six years from Maddie's Fund, a national pet rescue foundation, to create and support a comprehensive shelter medicine program.

The California-based foundation has awarded Auburn a first-year, \$250,000 grant to establish the program and will give \$250,000 a year for the following five years.

"This generous support will allow us to create a shelter medicine clinical rotation and a new ambulatory service in which our students will visit animal shelters for on-site consultation, diagnostic support and teaching," said Brenda Griffin, an AU assistant research professor who will direct the program at Auburn.

In addition to the new clinical rotation, three core classes will include lectures on shelter medicine topics such as the veterinarian's role in animal sheltering, infectious disease epidemiology in shelters and strategies for pet population control.

"We are very excited about it and are greatly appreciative to everyone with Maddie's Fund for selecting Auburn for the new venture," said Veterinary Medicine Dean Timothy Boosinger.

The Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program honors Maddie, a miniature schnauzer that died of cancer in 1997. She had been the companion of a California

### Veterinary Medicine

## Breakthrough achieved in organ transplants

The AU College of Veterinary Medicine has developed a new canine kidney transplant procedure that promotes increased tolerance of transplanted organs between unrelated dogs.

The new procedure also offers the possibility that dogs which receive transplanted kidneys may be able to live extended lives without high-doses of immunosuppressive drugs. Although animals are the focus of the current research, medical schools study developments in veterinary medicine for possible implications for medical treatment of humans.

The veterinary procedure was developed by a team of AU researchers and clinicians led by Clint Lothrop and Michael Tillson. The team's research has shown that with simultaneous bone marrow and kidney transplants, the dog receiving the new organ is much less likely to try to reject the organ.

"The big obstacle has always been that the recipient's immune system wants to reject the transplanted organ unless powerful immunosuppressive drugs are given for the rest of the dog's life," said Tillson, an associate professor of surgery in the Department of Clinical Sciences. "Our first research dog is still doing well more than five years after receiving a transplanted kidney, and it is no longer

couple who, after Maddie's death, started the foundation to help all dogs and cats have quality lives.

The shelter medicine aspect of Maddie's Fund emphasizes non-lethal control of the pet surplus through compassionate, humane strategies for pet population control.

AU is only one of three colleges of veterinary medicine programs funded nationally by Maddie's Fund. The others are at the University of California-Davis and Iowa State University.

"We look forward to collaborating with Auburn to improve the lives of shelter pets, decrease shelter deaths and increase animal adoptions," said Laurie Peek, veterinary consultant for Maddie's Fund.

"We hope to create a pool of shelter veterinarians who will practice in this emerging field and bring an awareness of shelter issues."

"Our goal is to increase everyone's knowledge and solve the animal sheltering problems," added Griffin.

Veterinary students at Auburn can also apply for Maddie's Summer Fellowships to research shelter medicine topics or choose from a variety of shelter medicine electives, such as animal behavior or issues surrounding feral cats. Maddie's Fund will also help Auburn offer postgraduate resident training, non-lethal shelter medicine research and continuing education for private practitioners.

on immunosuppressive medications. Based on our overall results, we have started offering the option of a kidney transplant to clients whose dogs have end-stage kidney disease. We have performed several of the procedures in the past two months."

The research team developed the protocol from Lothrop's research into non-myeloablative bone marrow transplantation for treatment of a red blood cell disorder, pyruvate kinase deficiency. He showed that after the bone marrow transplantation corrected the enzyme deficiency, the dogs would also accept a skin graft from the donor dog as well.

"We reasoned that if a skin graft could be accepted after a bone marrow transplant, then maybe another organ, such as a kidney, might be less likely to be rejected when combined with a bone marrow transplant," said Lothrop, an internal medicine professor in the college's Scott-Ritchey Research Center.

Lothrop says kidney failure had previously been considered a death sentence for dogs because of organ rejection and limited availability of hemodialysis. "Increasing tolerance is the key, because without it, something as simple as kennel cough could cause significant illness or even lead to the death of a dog on immunosuppressive drugs," said Lothrop.

## Oak Ridge association honors AU's Bart Prorok for research

Bart Prorok of the materials engineering faculty of Auburn's Samuel Ginn College of Engineering has received the Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement award by Oak Ridge Associated Universities.

The award, one of 25 presented nationally, recognizes junior faculty who demonstrate exceptional quality of research.

To assist Prorok's research in nanomaterials and nanocomposites, the award carries a \$5,000 stipend from Oak Ridge Associated Universities that will be matched by an equal amount from Auburn.

Oak Ridge Associated Universities's mission is to advance scientific research and education through academic partnerships.

The association has 91 university members, including AU, and is headquartered in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

## Association honors former AU doctoral student for research paper

The Aerospace Medical Association has presented its Young Investigator Award for 2004 to U.S. Air Force Major John Olson for work he did as a doctoral student in engineering at Auburn.

The award was given for a research paper, "Tactile Display Landing Safety, Situational Awareness and Workload Reduction Improvements for the Space Shuttle," based on Olson's doctoral thesis. Olson earned this doctoral degree in industrial and systems engineering from Auburn University in 2003.

This summer, Olson, an Air Force test pilot, is joining NASA as the head of safety for the International Space Station in Washington, D.C. In addition to the Ph.D. from Auburn, he holds a bachelor's degree from the Air Force Academy and master's degrees from the University of Illinois and the University of Tennessee.

Olson's work on his doctorate was supported by NASA-Langley and the Office of Naval Research human systems technology grants.

## Maneuvering

Students from AU's Samuel Ginn College of Engineering demonstrate the maneuverability of their specially designed quarter-scale tractor. The Auburn team's vehicle recently won third place for maneuverability and 19th place overall in the American Society of Agricultural Engineers Quarter-Scale Tractor Design Competition in Illinois.



## Auburn faculty help area schools conduct summer math institute

Nearly 400 teachers from East Alabama schools returned to the classroom this summer as part of the TEAM-Math Summer Institute.

The teachers from more than 25 area schools gathered at Opelika Middle School, where they studied mathematics and teaching techniques under the direction of faculty from Auburn and Tuskegee University and top teachers from Alabama schools.

The participating schools will be among the first to introduce the TEAM-Math curriculum and instructional approaches into their classrooms beginning with the 2004-2005 academic year.

"This is hands-on learning," said Phillip Zenor, a member of TEAM-Math and professor in Auburn's College of Sciences and Mathematics. "These teachers, and later their students, are learning by being involved. They are doing hands-on exercises such as measuring shadows cast from a flashlight and turning it into a math exercise by figuring out the angles. They are learning mathematics through personal experiences."

TEAM-Math is a partnership of 12 school districts, along with AU and Tuskegee, with a goal of improving mathematics education in East Alabama. Last fall, the National Science Foundation awarded TEAM-Math a five-year, \$9 million grant as a part of the foundation's Math and Science Partnership.

Partners from Auburn include College of Education and College of Sciences and Mathematics and AU Outreach.

Tuskegee, meanwhile sent faculty from the TU Department of Mathematics and its Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

"One thing we have talked about is how learning math concepts on a higher level can help children in

all disciplines," said Amy Hopkins, a first-grade teacher at Oliver Elementary School. "We are learning about activities that we can incorporate in our classroom to expand higher order thinking skills and to challenge our students."

During a session for first grade teachers, taught by Barbara Pickard of Tallassee Elementary School, the teachers became students themselves as they were divided into different workstations and given a box of wooden geometric shapes. Each workstation used a different activity to teach lessons, such as how triangles, squares and pentagons can be used to create other shapes and how geometric shapes can be used to teach children about fractions.

At a time when technology is a major part of our society, it is important children develop critical thinking skills at an early age, Pickard said.

"We are facing a different world and our children need to be prepared," Pickard said. "What better way to teach the children than by encouraging them to participate in hands-on activities. They have more fun learning because they are enjoying what they are doing."

It is this type of teaching method that is most helpful for the children, said Becky Scarborough of Wright's Mill Road Elementary School in Auburn.

"The students learn more from their free discovery time," she said. "Trial and error for them is one of the most beneficial ways for them to learn."

Teachers who attended the 10-day Institute will participate in quarterly meetings during the academic year, as well as a one-week summer institute in 2005.

For more information on TEAM-Math, log on to: [www.team-math.net](http://www.team-math.net).

## AU asked to share faculty expertise for 'think tank' on homeland security

AU is one of six universities selected by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to send experts to a new consortium or "think tank" on homeland security.

"The consortium is headed by Analytic Services Inc. and comprises the nation's first and only Department of Homeland Security-funded Homeland Security Institute," said AU Vice President for Research Michael Moriarty.

He added, "As a member of the winning team, Auburn is eligible to participate in research activities previously not available to our faculty, and to provide a very broad and important role for the university in the nation's homeland security and counterterrorism initiatives."

Auburn joins Georgetown University, Kansas State University and three other institutions across the U.S. in the consortium.

AU's representatives to the consortium will be named later. Moriarty said Auburn's strengths in the consortium are largely through various interdisciplinary programs involving research in engineering, chemistry, agriculture, veterinary medicine, the social sciences and business.

"We have extremely knowledgeable experts here at Auburn in such fields as information technology and network security, agricultural counterterrorism, and bio-detection," Moriarty said.

"These areas, combined with complimentary areas of expertise among the other six universities and others comprising the Homeland Security Institute, created a very compelling package for Analytic Services in response to the Department of Homeland Security's national search for an analytical resource."

Moriarty added, "Auburn's involvement in the Homeland Security Institute increases the visibility of its research program, and having Auburn on a team that integrates into the leadership of the Department of Homeland Security opens tremendous new research opportunities for our faculty."

Analytic Services, based in Arlington, Va., is a public-service research institute chartered in 1958. The company provides analytic and technical support to federal agencies.

The new Homeland Security Institute will conduct a variety of studies that could range from a 30-day analysis to a rigorous long-range study of 12 months or more, said Ruth David, Analytic Services president and chief executive officer. David said the institute will play a key role in analyzing homeland security threats and vulnerabilities.



**Infrastructure**  
Workers install lines under Thach Avenue for AU's central heating and cooling system. This section will carry traffic again when the work is completed, but a section of Thach beyond the bottom of this photo will be converted into a pedestrianway.

*J T. Black*

## Emeritus professor tapped for international honors

J T. Black, professor emeritus of Auburn's Industrial and Systems Engineering Department, is the winner of this year's Society of Manufacturing Engineering International Honor Award in Education.

Black was recognized at the society's annual meeting in Ohio for the successful development of manufacturing engineering programs that contribute to expanded educational opportunities.

During a career that has spanned more than 40 years, Black taught manufacturing engineering at six universities, retiring from Auburn in 1998.

He has authored more than 70 technical publications and numerous books on manufacturing processes and systems, including "Material and Processes in Manufacturing," "The Design of the Factory with a Future" and "Lean Manufacturing Systems and Cell Design."

At AU, Black received the Birdsong Superior Teaching Award, the top honor in the College of Engineering. He is editor-in-chief of the Journal of Manufacturing Systems and the Journal of Manufacturing Processes.

## HR offering two seminars this month for AU employees

The Office of Human Resources has announced two seminars this month for AU employees as part of the university's human resource development program.

On Wednesday, July 14, employment specialists Leanne Fuller and Tammy Waldrop will present a program on successful interviewing and effective resumes.

On July 27, Jackie Pinkard from the Lee County Area Agency on Aging, will present a session on providing care for elderly family members.

Both sessions are from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. at the HR Training Center on North Gay Street.

Employees must register to attend. Register on the Web at [www.auburn.edu/administration/human\\_resources/hrd/index.html](http://www.auburn.edu/administration/human_resources/hrd/index.html) or contact Kelli Henderson at 844-7939.

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