

## Inside

### Page 2

City's Tiger Trail  
plaque to honor  
David Housel

### Page 3

Research shows  
most widespread  
financial worries

### Page 4

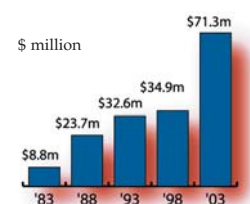
France appoints  
Spencer as  
honorary consul

### Page 4

Gift supports  
outreach of  
Nursing School

### How AU Stacks Up

Value of research  
contracts and grants  
at AU, 1983 to 2003



Source: Planning & Analysis

Updates between issues  
@

[www.ocm.auburn.edu/  
au\\_report/aureport.html](http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html)

# IAU FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY report

**'Faces in the Hood'**  
Automobile hoods are the "canvas" for an art display opening Tuesday at the Biggin Hall Gallery. This painting, with an election year theme, is titled "Democrats and Republicans." The "Faces in the Hood" collection is the work of artist Tyree Guyton, a native of Detroit. For related information, see the Upcoming Events section, inside.



## Board of Trustees to meet Friday, consider 2004-05 spending plans

At its meeting on Friday, the AU Board of Trustees is scheduled to consider the university's operating budget, including faculty and staff pay increases, for the fiscal year that starts Oct. 1.

Friday's committee sessions and board meeting will be at Dixon Conference Center.

The 2004-05 budget is scheduled for discussion at committee sessions that start with the board's Finance Committee at 9 a.m. After that meeting, another committee is scheduled to review major campus construction projects.

Although scheduled for 12:45 p.m., the board meeting could start earlier or later, depending on the length of the committee sessions.

Two committee meetings are scheduled for Thursday in Samford 107. The Academic Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet at 1:30 p.m., followed by the Investments Committee.

Budget guidelines set by the board last spring designate nearly \$10 million of an anticipated \$36 mil-

lion in additional spending over the next 12 months to go to salary and wage increases. Under the guidelines, salary increases will be based upon merit ratings for faculty and a combination of 3 percent across-the-board and merit increases for staff and administrative-professional positions.

Other major budget priorities in the guidelines include \$1.5 million for deferred maintenance and \$1 million for scholarships.

The additional income is projected to come from a tuition increase expected to produce \$11 million, a \$4 million increase in state appropriations and nearly \$21 million in a reserve fund carried over from the current budget year. With the state's economy recovering from a nationwide economic recession, AU guidelines call for holding \$9 million in an unallocated reserve for the coming budget year.

Agenda items also include establishment of an AU research park, site consideration for a parking structure and updates on other construction.

## Studying aviation issue

## FAA names Auburn to lead center

The Federal Aviation Administration in the U.S. Department of Transportation has designated AU to lead a national Center of Excellence for Cabin Air Quality.

A team from Auburn will lead and coordinate research efforts at the seven universities and a national laboratory. The consortium will study aircraft cabin air quality and conduct an assessment of chemical and biological threats, said AU Vice President for Research Michael Moriarty.

The FAA announcement calls the new center a source of research that will be of great benefit to the flying public.

"We have brought together some of the brightest minds science has to offer to focus on cabin air quality and chemical and biological threats to protect passengers and crew members," said FAA Administrator Marion C. Blakey.

Other participating institutions are the Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory, Purdue University, Harvard University, Boise State University, Kansas

State University, the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

As lead institution in the consortium, Auburn is charged with program administration and coordination. "The direction of the research will be a true team effort among the participating institutions," said William Gale, Alumni Professor in AU's materials engineering program.

"Auburn's selection as lead institution in the consortium is the result of its assets in biological and chemical detection and decontamination," said Gale, who is principal investigator in the consortium.

Gale added, "The work at Auburn will be multidisciplinary and will involve researchers in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, the College of Sciences and Mathematics, the College of Veterinary Medicine, the College of Agriculture and others."

The FAA announced that the U.S. government will appropriate approximately \$1 million for the center the first year for start-up and leveraging funds.

## Retiring as athletic director

## Tiger Trail plaque will honor Housel

The Auburn Chamber of Commerce will honor retiring AU Athletic Director David Housel with a ceremony and a plaque on the city's Tiger Trail of athletic heroes on Saturday.



Housel

Housel will be honored in a ceremony at 8 a.m. at Dixon Conference Center, and a plaque recognizing his service will join those of 66 past inductees on Tiger Trail. The downtown sidewalk display of granite plaques honors individuals who have achieved legendary status in athletics at AU.

Later that day, AU will host football rival LSU at Jordan-Hare Stadium.

Housel, who graduated with a degree in journalism from AU in 1969, worked for a Huntsville newspaper for a year and returned in 1970 as a staff member in the Athletic Ticket Office.

He later became an instructor in the Department of Journalism and then rejoined the Athletic Department, where he served as sports information director from 1981-94.

Serving as athletic director since 1994, Housel announced in March that he will step down from that position next January, assist with athletic fundraising and the administrative transition for a year and retire from AU by early 2006.

Long active in the National Collegiate Athletic Association, Housel was recently named chairman on the NCAA Nominations Committee. That panel oversees the nomination process and nominates individuals for all committee openings within the NCAA structure.

Tickets to the Tiger Trail ceremony are \$35 each and seating is limited. For ticket information, contact the Auburn Chamber of Commerce.

## HR seminars examine legal issues for supervisors

The AU Office of Human Resources is conducting series of seminars for supervisors on "Legal Foundations of Supervising University Employees."

The 10-session program, which began with an overview on Sept. 9, details the legal responsibilities of supervisors for employment decisions in the university environment.

Future sessions — at the Human Resource Development Training Facility on North Gay

Street — will be presented by subject matter experts Angela Erlandson, Chuck Gerards, Mike Hill, Albert Snipes and Kelley Taylor.

All sessions are directed at the supervisory relationship and how various laws, court cases and legal interpretations impact on that supervisor-employee relationship.

Register online at the "Training/A-Train" link of the Human Resources web site or call the Office of Human Resources at 844-4145.

## Upcoming Events

## Continuing

- Photo Exhibit: "Black Classical Scholars," Foy Union Gallery, ends Thursday, Sept. 16.
- Art Exhibit: "Faces in the Hood," 12 paintings on automobile hoods by urban environment artist Tyree Guyton, Biggin Gallery, opens Tuesday, runs through Oct. 8.

## Tuesday, September 14

- 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 Faculty, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium. Includes State of the University address by interim President Ed Richardson.
- Artist's Talk: "Faces in the Hood," Tyree Guyton, 5:10 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art. Seating is limited; call 844-1484 for reservations.
- Public Lecture: "Eighteenth Century Scots Traders on the American Frontier," Scottish-American history authority R.L. Lehman, 6:30 p.m., Foy 206.

## Wednesday, September 15

- Study Abroad Fair: Booths and activities related to Study Abroad opportunities for students and program development information for faculty, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Haley Center lobby.
- Gallery Talk: "Auburn Collects: The William Dunlop Collection," museum staff, 2 p.m., Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art.
- Authors' Reading: Anthony Warren and B.D. Mayberry, authors of "Where Will We Be When We Get Where We're Going?," a true tale of diversity and friendship, 6 p.m.-8 p.m., Foy 217.

## Friday, September 17

- Board of Trustees: Committee sessions start at 9 a.m.; AU Board meets at 12:45 p.m. but starting time may vary, depending on duration of committee meetings; Dixon Conference Center.

## Monday, September 20

- Next AU Report.



AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Mitch Emmons, Research. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson, Photographic Services, and (page 1) Barbara Bondy, Department of Art.

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 biweekly in summer, except on Labor Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday, Memorial Day and the Monday following Thanksgiving. 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.

**The interlocking AU symbol, above and on page 1, is a registered trademark of Auburn University and may not be reproduced without written permission from the AU Office of Trademark Licensing.**



## Spirit of Excellence

Each month, AU presents Spirit of Excellence awards to four employees to recognize outstanding performance. Recipients of awards in August were, from left, Karen Clark of Mechanical Engineering, Cherry Buckhannon of Building Services, Diane Thorne of Career Development Services and, not shown, Helen Drinkard of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

## Survey shows rising costs, changing attitudes squeeze most universities

A survey by an AU College of Education researcher shows colleges and universities across the United States squeezed between rapidly rising health care costs and demands for cost constraints from the public.

Olin Adams, an assistant professor of educational leadership, is analyzing responses from chief financial officers in colleges and universities across the U.S. to questions about economic challenges facing higher education. He is also comparing the responses in this survey to those of a similar survey he conducted five years ago.

Adams says he expects to receive a few more replies before he concludes the study this fall but adds that he expects little variance from the 156 responses received so far.

The most frequently cited issues, in order, are the size of tuition increases, declines in state financial support and escalating expenses, particularly for employee health insurance.

Adams noted that although AU administrators had not seen his findings, interim President Ed Richardson recently cited the same concerns as chief financial officers nationwide in presenting plans for administrative reorganization at Auburn. "These are very serious issues facing higher education all over the country," said Adams. "Chief financial officers across the United States are talking about the same issues."

In 1998-99, the most cited concerns, in order, were technology, tuition and physical plant. Adams noted that technology faded as a major cost concern after 2000, when the "Millennium Bug" failed to materialize. While physical plant costs remain a significant concern, chief financial officers are now more worried about escalating health care expenses, he added.

Almost half the chief financial officers cited tuition as the leading issue on their campuses. Adams notes that tuition increased an average of 14 percent at public four-year colleges in 2003-04, compared to an average 6 percent increase for private colleges. He said the trend is one of several indicators that public institutions are becoming more like private institutions as they adjust to changing economic and social conditions.

State financial support is a perennial concern for public colleges and universities, but Adams noted that state governments across the U.S. are under intense political pressure to shift funds to other priorities. That pressure is more likely to increase than decrease, he said.

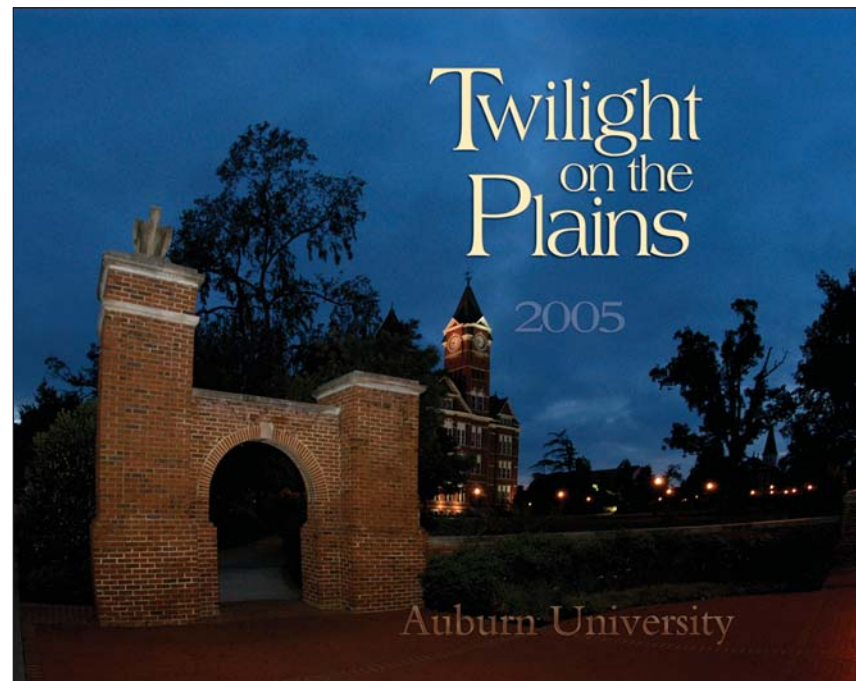
Adams said the stratified, random survey revealed that the concerns cited at AU are consistent with other public institutions nationally, especially Auburn's peers across the South and Midwest.

The cost constraints are forcing public and private institutions into a new round of cost-cutting, he said. "All universities prefer revenue enhancement to cost control, but they are finding their options for revenue enhancement more limited than in the recent past," he added. "A lot of universities have to address cost-control, whether they want to or not."

## Adviser at AU wins national award

Sigma Nu international fraternity recently named John Burgess, an admissions adviser in AU's Office of Student Affairs, as its national adviser of the year for 2004.

Burgess, an AU staff member since 1975, has been adviser to the campus chapter of Sigma Nu for seven years. An AU graduate, he was a Sigma Nu member as a student. Sigma Nu has 225 chapters worldwide.



**AU calendars**  
Photographic Services has produced 2005 calendars featuring twilight scenes of the Auburn campus. All the scenes were shot by AU photographers Jeff Etheridge and Trice Megginson. The calendars are available for \$9.95 at Photo Services in the L Building and the AU Bookstore. Off campus, the calendars may be purchased at Anders and J&M bookstores and Tiger Rags. Photographic Services is a unit of the Office of Communications and Marketing.

## Gift to Nursing School supports services

A banking foundation has provided a gift to the AU School of Nursing for nursing services at the Auburn Housing Authority.

Nursing Dean Barbara Witt said the \$15,000 gift from BancorpSouth Foundation will support nursing care clinics for housing authority residents.

Witt said the AU School of Nursing and the Housing Authority have created a successful social investment program that features best practices of a community-based, service education partnership. The partnership between the AU's School of Nursing and Auburn's Housing Authority began in 1998 with a nursing care clinic provided by nursing students and faculty one day a week.

Due in part to that partnership, the AHA received the 2003 National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Merit Award for Program Innovation in Resident and Client Services.

### Representing France in Alabama

## Spencer named honorary consul

The government of France has named Samia I. Spencer of Auburn University as that nation's honorary consul in Alabama.

Spencer, who will serve a renewable four-year term, is Alumni and Catanoli Professor of French in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures in AU's College of Liberal Arts.

The French government rarely confers such titles on citizens of other nations, and this is the first time that a member of the academic community in Alabama has been selected.

"We depend on Dr. Spencer very much," said Rene-Serge Marty, consul general at the French Consulate for the Southeast U.S. in Atlanta. "She is working very hard to increase awareness of French culture in Alabama and help us build strong economic relations between France and Alabama."

Spencer last week introduced Marty to Gov. Bob Riley as the two began talks on increasing economic ties between Alabama and France. Marty, who is also an economic and commercial counselor, said the talks concerned ways to strengthen economic ties involving several major industries. Those industries include tire producer Michelin, which is one of

the state's largest manufacturers. France is the ninth largest foreign investor in Alabama and the second largest in the U.S., behind Great Britain.

Later, at Auburn, Marty spoke to classes, discussed ties between AU and France with AU Vice President for Outreach David Wilson and discussed economic and cultural ties between Alabama and France in a public lecture on campus. In her role as honorary consul, Spencer will help arrange additional meetings with AU and state representatives and assist in efforts to increase cultural ties between Alabama and France.

The honorary consul designation is the latest major honor from France for Spencer, who was knighted in 1991 as a Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques. She has been a member of the AU faculty since 1972 and is executive director of the Women's Leadership Institute at Auburn.

Spencer, who learned the French and English languages as a child in her native Egypt and earned her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, has published widely on 18th century French literature and culture, women and politics, and contemporary French culture and institutions.

## Political Science professor at AU dies following lengthy illness

Political Science Professor Gary Zuk, an AU faculty member since 1988, died Sept. 5 at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Birmingham of pneumonia following a lengthy fight with cancer.

Political Science Department Head Paul Johnson said Zuk was a highly respected teacher and researcher. "He was a valued member of our department and had many friends throughout the College of Liberal Arts, the university and the community."

A paraplegic for more than two decades, Zuk never let the disability hamper his performance as a teacher, researcher and colleague, Johnson said.

Zuk was a nationally recognized authority in international relations, national security policy and the federal judiciary who published extensively in those areas.

A member of St. Michael's Catholic Church, he is survived by his wife Rose-Marie and son Nicholas.

The AU Report is an official publication of Auburn University. Each unit mailing copies of this document to off-campus addresses must include its return address. Communications & Marketing will not accept billing for copies mailed by other units.