Global newsmaker
President Jay Gogue last week presented AU’s inaugural OCMmie Award (pro-nounced “O.C. Emmie,” as in Office of Communications and Marketing) recognizing dynamic newsmakers, to Claire Zizza of the College of Human Sciences. International news media widely reported Zizza’s research on the nutritional advantages of snacks for senior citizens. Also pictured, CHS Dean June Henton and AU Provost John Heilman commended Zizza’s research.

New program for faculty, staff offers relief from high cost of relieving pain

Are you paying up to $40 a month for a medical prescription to treat stomach problems related to excess stomach acid? You may be able to save that money and gain pain relief by participating in a new program offered through the Harrison School of Pharmacy and the Office of Payroll and Employee Benefits.

The first program of its type at AU, the benefit is available to university employees and dependents who are covered by AU’s BlueCross BlueShield health insurance plan and are receiving or need prescription medicine for ailments related to excess stomach acid. Known medically as proton pump inhibitors, or PPIs, these medications are sold under such brand names as Prilosec, Nexium, Prevacid, Protonix, Aciphex and Zegrid.

Under the Tiger Acid Reduction Program, also known as TARP, AU’s Pharmaceutical Care Center will provide a generic equivalent to Prilosec, omeprazole, free to patients for up to a year. Depending on what brand of prescription drug the patient is using, a person getting a monthly prescription refill of omeprazole through the center’s pharmacy for treatment of acid-related stomach problems could save from $120 to $480 in co-payments over the next 12 months.

Additional savings could come by reducing costs to the university’s health-insurance plan, which pays more than $600,000 annually above employees’ co-pay for proton pump inhibitors. Employee and university contributions finance the fund from which BlueCross BlueShield pays for these prescriptions.

AU Pharmacy Dean Lee Evans said that the program will help AU employees and dependents gain relief from a common but painful condition and provide financial benefits for the individual and the university. “Auburn University is fortunate to have some of the region’s best pharmaceutical resources and faculty expertise in the Harrison School of Pharmacy,” said Evans. “We encourage Auburn University employees to contact the pharmacy care clinic and find out how the TARP initiative may be able to help them improve their health and save money.”

The key to maintaining effective treatment while reducing cost, said Pharmacy Care Center Clinical Director Kimberly Braxton Lloyd, is a comprehensive

See Pharmacy program, page 2
A n exhibition of internationally acclaimed photographer Curt Richter’s photographs of Southern writers opened Saturday at AU’s Jule Collins Smith Museum and will be on display through Nov. 30.

Commissioned to photograph the founding members of the Fellowship of Southern Writers, Richter eventually photographed more than 200 writers over seven years. Sixty of these photographs appear in “Faces and Stories: A Portrait of Southern Writers,” an exhibition of black and white portraits paying tribute to the strong literary heritage of the American South. Auburn author and Emeritus Madison Jones is one of the subjects of Richter’s show.

As part of the museum’s regular free pro-
ingram, Richter will speak on “Light is a Thing,” at 5 p.m. Thursday in the museum auditorium. A programming, Richter will speak on “Light is a Thing,” at 5 p.m. Thursday in the museum auditorium. A

A solitary vehicle approaches Haley Center on West Thach Avenue during a class change as dozens of students walk and a bicyclist the Thach pedestrian corridor. In front of the vehicle, brick portals mark a dividing line between vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Expanded walkways on Thach and Roosevelt have made the central campus less
traversable, said, [Richter] waits for the expressive moment that has little or nothing to do with the face people usually present to the world.

Pedestrian zone
A small commercial approach Haley Center on West Thach Avenue during a class change as dozens of students walk and a bicyclist the Thach pedestrian corridor. In front of the vehicle, brick portals mark a dividing line between vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Expanded walkways on Thach and Roosevelt have made the central campus less

Auburn Gay/Straight Alliance, the Women’s Studies Program and Auburn development will consult with the pharmacist, evaluate how the prescribed medication is working and look for possible side effects of the medication.

The pharmacist will also look at other prescribed and over-the-counter medicines the patient may be taking and will examine any changes such as diet or habits that could aggravate the condition or interfere with the effectiveness of the prescribed medication. That re-

University Medical Center. "The pharmacist will work with you to make sure that your medicines are producing the results you want," said Braston Lloyd, who is an associate professor in the Harrison School of Pharmacy. "The pharmacist will also evaluate the cost of your current medica-
tions and see if there are any opportunities to adjust them to save money." If the process reveals the potential for effective treatment with less-costly alternatives, the pharma-
cist will share the findings with the patient’s physi-
cian and get a prescription for that medicine.

In most cases, Braston Lloyd said, the generic equivalent can be equally effective, especially in combination with changes in diets or habits. “Many patients may not even be aware of what is causing the problem or aggravating it,” she said. "If we help people identify the triggers, their problems become more manageable.”

Stomach problems are among the most common medical conditions for which Americans seek treat-

ment, and proton pump inhibitors are among the most prescribed of all medicines. Braston Lloyd said several local physicians have encouraged the com-
prehensive TARP approach, which provides them with more information in their efforts to diagnose and treat patients.

The AU Pharmacotherapy Care Center is located on the second floor of the W.W. Walker Building, home of the Harrison School of Pharmacy. For information on TARP or to schedule an appointment, send an e-mail to aupcc4u@auburn.edu or call 844-4099.

JCS photography exhibition features Southern writers

AU’s full semester enrollment hit a record high, and the university’s fresh-

FACULTY RECIPIENT
Barry Underwood, an emeritus professor of mathemati-
cal sciences, received a 2007 Millkam Award for his lifetime contributions to mathematics education. Underwood is a mathematician who has taught and conducted research in mathematics for many years.

AU Report Editor Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Kate Wilder and Charles Martin, AU Communications. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Melissa Hambalek, AU Photography Services. Executive Director of Communications & Marketing: Debbie Dowdle. The AU Report is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Auburn University. The AU Report was created as a resource for Auburn University students, faculty, staff and alumni. The AU Report is distributed weekly to all AU employees and students.

Thursday, September 20
GORDON SHERRIN LECTURE
Former New Mexico Gov. Garrey Caruthers, dean of business at New Mexico State University, “Public Administration 101 as Taught by a Veteran Appren
tice,” 5 p.m., Grayscale Mansion, 434 E. Magnolia Ave.

ART MUSEUM LECTURE
Jim Fitzpatrick, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer, will share his stories and insights about his books, “Deadrhoud Dick: The Game of Gold,” at 7:30 p.m., Telfair Pe
tea; also Friday and Saturday; box office 844-4154.

Saturday, September 22
THEATRE
“Deadwood Dick: The Game of Gold,” 2:30 p.m., Telfair Pe
tea; box office 844-4154.

AU Report Editor Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Kate Wil
der and Charles Martin, AU Communications. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Melissa Hambalek, AU Photography Services. Executive Director of Communications & Marketing: Debbie Dowdle. The AU Report is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Auburn University. The AU Report was created as a resource for Auburn University students, faculty, staff and alumni. The AU Report is distributed weekly to all AU employees and students.

Thursday, September 19
STUDY ABROAD FUND Raising and information opportunities for international travel and study, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., lobby, Haley Center

MEETING Administrative and Professional Assembly, includes remarks by AU President Jay Gogue, 1 p.m, ballroom, Foy Union

ART EXHIBIT “Faces and Stories: A Portrait of Southern Writers,” portraits by Finland-based photographer Curt Richter, Jules Collins Smith Museum; through Nov. 30.

Wednesday, September 18
Henderson’s attorney, said, “We are going to ask the judge to allow this evidence and make it a part of the record.” The attorney also said that the judge will hear the evidence presented by the witness and decide whether it should be admitted into evidence.

Duvall’s defense attorney, said, “The defense has no problem with the witness testi

The University of Alabama offers a comprehensive education for students interested in becoming kindergarten teachers. The program is designed to provide a balance of theoretical and practical knowledge in the areas of child development, child psychology, and education. The program includes courses in early childhood education, child development, and curriculum development.

By participating in this program, students will gain valuable experience working with children in a variety of settings. They will also have the opportunity to develop strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

For more information about the University of Alabama's kindergarten education program, please visit the website below:

http://www.ua.edu/education/education-programs/early-childhood-education/ kindergarten-education/

The University of Alabama is committed to providing an education that prepares students for lifelong learning and professional success. The university offers a wide range of majors and degree programs, as well as research and experiential learning opportunities.

For more information about the University of Alabama, please visit the website below:

http://www.ua.edu/
AU research leads veterinarians to rethink disease threat to cats

A study led by two AU researchers is revising veterinary thinking in the United States regarding a major health threat to cats and a major concern to pet owners.

In recently published research, AU veterinary researchers Ray Dillon and Byron Blagburn found that immature heartworms cause long-lasting lung disease in cats, a finding that dispels the notion that heartworms only affect dogs.

“Previous studies focused on the heart for cats, but we now know that research should have looked more at the lungs for answers,” said Blagburn, a parasitologist with the rank of Distinguished University Professor. “This was due to thinking that the heartworms would affect cats just like dogs.”

Dillon and Blagburn recently presented their findings at the 2007 American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum in Seattle. Their study was also published in a parasitology supplement to the scientific journal Veterinary Medicine.

“The damage is obvious in dogs, but immature heartworms in cats are like juvenile delinquents and hit-and-run drivers,” Dillon said. “They come in and create lung disease and leave no evidence directly related to heartworms.”

The danger to cats comes from immature heartworms that grow to only 1.0 to 2.5 inches long and cause Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease. Heartworm infection takes place when a mosquito carrying infective, microscopic-size heartworm larvae, bites into a cat or dog. In cats, many heartworms die three to four months after infection and disintegrate in the lungs, leaving the disease and creating lung tissue damage. This occurs even if the cat never gets an adult heartworm, and Dillon says it is a clinical disease that starts three months after the mosquito bite, not the six-month time usually associated with adult heartworms in dogs.

“Previous studies focused on the heart for cats, but we now know that research should have looked more at the lungs for answers,” said Blagburn, a parasitologist with the rank of Distinguished University Professor. “This was due to thinking that the heartworms would affect cats just like dogs.”

Immature heartworms that die in the lungs cause severe inflammation. The resulting lesions and the Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease (the researchers call it “HARD”) remain in the lungs, causing cats to have asthma-like symptoms of coughing, wheezing and breathing difficulty. Some of these cats will have the disease the rest of their lives.

Blagburn said the respiratory disease is especially a problem in the South because of the long breeding season for mosquitoes.

“It’s a matter of disseminating the information about heartworms, continuing to analyze our data and conducting more studies,” Blagburn said. “Heartworms are very difficult to diagnose in cats and we hope to add new information to help veterinarians spot the disease. Prevention is best, because there is no cure yet, other than treating the symptoms.”

Helping pets, owners
Veterinary faculty members Byron Blagburn, left, and Ray Dillon, examine X-rays of a cat at the AU College of Veterinary Medicine. Their research is leading to new disease-prevention efforts to help cat-owners protect the health of beloved pets.

ATAC adds ‘Winning Ways’ business program
David Mixson, a management scientist with the Auburn Technical Assistance Center and the Alabama Technology Network, recently attended a Eureka Ranch “Winning Ways” training program in Cincinnati as part of an ATAC-ATN initiative to help Alabama businesses expand their markets.

Mixson, who specializes in marketing and growth strategy, earned the designation of Eureka growth coach, which identifies consultants who help businesses adopt strategies developed by marketing expert Doug Hall, a former Proctor and Gamble executive who is a judge for the television show “American Inventor.”

Mixson, who is also a professional certified marketer, is a leader of state-wide efforts through ATAC and ATN to launch Eureka Winning Ways for Alabama organizations with a series of small pilot programs. For more information about the program, contact Mixson at 844-4659.

Treasurer to discuss personal finance in AU speech
State Treasurer Kay Ivey will address the fall luncheon of the Women’s Philanthropy Board in the College of Human Sciences on Oct. 5.

Ivey, a 1967 Auburn graduate, will discuss “Today’s Decisions for Tomorrow’s Money” at 11:30 a.m. at the AU Hotel. Her presentation is the first part of a year-long educational partnership with the Women’s Philanthropy Board.

“We are thrilled that State Treasurer Kay Ivey will work with us in furthering the WPB mission to provide educational opportunities to help women achieve independence in their financial decisions,” said June Henton, dean of the College of Human Sciences.

Tickets for the October luncheon are $40 and tables of 10 are $400. For information, contact Sidney James Nakhjavan at 844-9199 or wpbchs1@auburn.edu or www.humsci.auburn.edu/wpb.