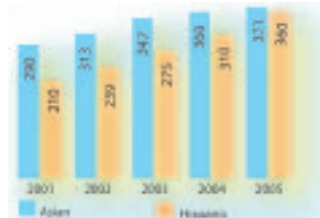


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How Auburn Stacks Up

Students of Asian, Hispanic descent at AU, fall semester



Source: Institutional Research and Assessment

www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html

IAI report

FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY



Viewing AU

A selection of photographs from "Neath the Sun-Kissed Sky," a book celebrating AU's upcoming 150th anniversary, is on display in Biggin Gallery through Oct. 12. To commemorate the exhibition, the Art Department is sponsoring a reception at the gallery from 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

Tuesday. Produced by AU's Office of Communications and Marketing, the book will be available in area bookstores in November.

Seven candidates vie for position to lead Auburn diversity initiative

Auburn Provost John Heilman has announced seven candidates for the position of associate provost for diversity and multicultural affairs and is slated to narrow the list to four by Oct. 4.

The candidates are Anthony Gadzey of the Department of Political Science, Overtoun Jenda of the College of Sciences and Mathematics, Willie Larkin of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Garnetta "Chichi" Lovett of the Art Department, Karen Riley of AU Montgomery's School of Education and Steven Silvern and Ivan Watts of the AU College of Education.

Four finalists will make presentations to the faculty on Oct. 11-12, and the provost will then review final evaluations and announce the selection on Nov. 1.

The person chosen for the senior administrative position will lead a campuswide initiative to enhance racial, ethnic, gender and other major forms of diversity at all levels of the university.

"This is a very important position for Auburn University, and I am pleased that we are moving forward with the search process," said Heilman.

"I look forward to filling the position promptly."

The appointee will serve until a new president takes office and conducts a national search to again fill the position. The person chosen in the current search may then reapply for the position during the national search.

Gadzey is an associate professor of political science and an authority on international relations. He is a graduate of the University of Ghana, holds a Ph.D. from the University of Denver and has been a member of the Auburn faculty since 1994.

Jenda is a professor of mathematics and associate dean of the College of Sciences and Mathematics. An AU faculty member since 1988, he is a graduate of the University of Malawi and holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Kentucky.

Larkin is faculty advisor to the Board of Trustees and immediate past president of the University Faculty. A community resource development specialist for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, he holds a Ph.D. in agricultural education

See [Diversity candidates](#), page 3

Campus Forum

Critics paint false picture, ignoring quality of public education in U.S.

By James S. Kaminsky, Professor of Educational Leadership, College of Education

Although it is monumentally unfashionable to argue, public education has been an unmitigated national success.

The surest sign of the success is that, generally, educators now know how to help all children acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in modern society. The extent to which they are able to help our nation's children achieve their potential, however, depends on the willingness of Americans to support their public schools.



Kaminsky

those achievements, public education has delivered a national identity to a population of migrants; provided the means of obtaining literacy and the basics of mathematics to those same migrants; extended educational opportunity to women, people of color and the "differently abled"; provided the intellectual skills of the humanities and sciences necessary to drive the greatest economy in the world; and given the middle-class the intellectual means to achieve social and economic security.

Writers such as Linda Darling Hammond of Stanford University and Columbia's Lawrence A. Cremin have expounded these successes at length in their writings, but far too few in the political sphere have heard these arguments — and far fewer have taken them to heart.

However, Hammond and Cremin are part of a growing force of academic leaders and writers who are mounting a vigorous counterattack on behalf of public education. Among this group is Richard Rorty, one of America's most widely read philosophers.

Rorty notes that public education has helped populate the farms, suburbs and cities of this nation with courteous young men and women possessing a sense of moral worth and a commitment to their community. These young men and women — and the values they espouse — have made it much harder to be racist, sexist, parochial and intellectually intolerant in modern American society. Public schools have inspired a national pride that allows us to tell stories about what our nation has been and what our nation might be.

Insofar as American public schools are not living up to our expectations, the issue is largely economic — a matter of money. Gerald W. Bracey, in his book "The War Against America's Public Schools," credits the resources that parents, cities and states have

provided to education as the key to academic achievement in successful schools. Despite the crocodile tears of the nation's politicians, the various issues revolving around public schools and academic achievement can be, largely, solved by money.

Ever since "A Nation at Risk" was published during the Reagan presidency, the nation's newspapers have been filled with declarations about the bankruptcy of American public education and proclaiming the end of the educational world. "The National Digest of Educational Statistics," however, demonstrates the effective job public schools are doing in educating the children we choose to educate.

Children we choose to educate — children with teachers and administrators in schools with adequate resources to achieve levels of performance required by state and federal politicians — have no trouble meeting those goals. The students these schools graduate are competitive in our nation's best universities. If you want America's kids to do better or have a higher common level of academic achievement, you have to make an investment.

Public schools are imperfect institutions, but then it must be remembered that all human endeavors are imperfect in one fashion or another. Public education, despite its successes, will never be without problems for the same reason medical institutions, despite their successes, will always battle disease and legal institutions will always fight crime.

We owe America's public schools a vote of thanks. It is time for politicians to stop beating up America's public schools. It is time to acknowledge the good they do rather than forever berating them.

It is also time to drop the language of crisis and reform and start talking about development, improvement and enhancement. It's time to recognize that the problem facing public education is a simple issue of continuing to develop a large and complex institution dedicated to preparing our children — children who must participate successfully in an evermore complex world.

American public education, after all, is a national success story.



Campus Forum is a periodic opinion column in which Auburn faculty, staff and administrators discuss issues in education that are of special interest to the campus community but which are infrequently discussed in the commercial news media. Views in each Campus Forum are the independent expressions of the writer.

Upcoming Events

Continuing

EXHIBITION of photos from AU's sesquicentennial publication "Neath the Sun-Kissed Sky," produced by Office of Communications and Marketing, through Oct. 12, Biggin Gallery

EXHIBITION "Quilts of Gee's Bend," through Dec. 4, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art

Tuesday, September 27

PUBLIC LECTURE "From the African Loom to the American Quilt," author and folklorist Gladys-Marie Fry, JCS Museum, 4 p.m.

HEALTH FAIR information and free screening for potential problems with vision, blood pressure, cholesterol, depression, etc., 1 p.m.-4 p.m., Boykin Community Center; sponsored by AU School of Nursing and City of Auburn

Wednesday, September 28

FACULTY SEMINAR "Evaluation of Teaching: Overview and Options," James Groccia, director, and Don Mulvaney, faculty fellow, Biggio Center, noon-2 p.m., Draughon Library

Thursday, September 29

VIDEO CONFERENCE "Pedagogy 201 for Distance Learning: Enhancing Interactivity," 1:30 p.m.-3 p.m., O.D. Smith 328. For information, call Prasanthi Pallapu at pallapu@auburn.edu or 844-3476

FACULTY SEMINAR on plagiarism, second session, Jean Liddell, AU Libraries, 2 p.m., second floor instruction lab, Draughon Library; register online at www.auburn.edu/oit/training

BOOK SIGNING O'Henry Award-winner Marlin Barton, author of "Dancing by the River," 4 p.m., Special Collections Department, Draughon Library

PREVIEW SCREENING PBS documentary "Play," with discussion led by Barb Bondy of Art Department, JCS Museum, 4 p.m.

Monday, October 3

NEXT AU Report

Tuesday, October 4

MEETING University Senate, 3 p.m., auditorium, Broun Hall



AU Report Editor: Roy Summerford. Contributing editors and writers: Katie Wilder, Kevin Loden and Teresa McCall, AU Communications. Photography: Jeff Etheridge, Trice Megginson and Chris Preston, AU Photographic Services; and Arts & Humanities Center. Assistant Vice President for Communications and Marketing: John Hachtel. Director of Communications: Deedie Dowdle.

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Seeing orange

Auburn's new Thach pedestrianway becomes a sea of orange on football weekends. The former street is a walking path with plenty of space for students going between Haley Center and AU's main gate on class days. On game days, however, it is a funnel between Jordan-Hare Stadium and Toomer's Corner for victory celebrations. On less busy days, workers are applying finishing touches to the walkway.



Transportation group presents national educator award to AU faculty member

Joe B. Hanna, an associate professor of logistics in Auburn's College of Business, recently received the National Defense Transportation Association's Distinguished Educator Service Award for 2005 at the organization's annual conference in San Diego.

The association recognized Hanna for his contributions to logistics education in both the academic and business arenas and for research and achievements on behalf of the transportation industry.

Hanna teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the Department of Aviation Management and logistics and in the Executive MBA Program. He has won several awards in the College of Business for his teaching and research.

He also received an award for best researcher

at Western Illinois University before joining the AU faculty in 1999.

Hanna has served as a consultant or adviser with several major companies in transportation and related fields and has published more than 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals. He holds two degrees in accountancy and a Ph.D. in logistics, all from New Mexico State University.

The National Defense Transportation Association is an international organization representing individuals in a broad range of transportation and related enterprises in the United States and other nations.

The association includes members from each branch of the U.S. military, and executives and professionals from Fortune 500 companies in the national defense and transportation industries.

Diversity candidates

continued from page 1

from Ohio State University and has been an AU faculty member since 1984.

Lovett is an assistant professor of art and a member of AU's Human Odyssey faculty. An Auburn faculty member since 1993, Lovett holds a master's degree in education from Long Island University in New York and was the Alabama Education Association's Higher Education Art Teacher of the Year in 1999.

Riley is Distinguished Research Professor in the School of Education at AU Montgomery. She holds a Ph.D. in education from the University of Texas and is a former director of the Holocaust Memorial Resource Center of Central Florida.

Silvern is a professor of early childhood education in the AU College of Education. An ordained rabbi, he holds a Ph.D. in early childhood education from the University of Wisconsin and has been on the AU faculty since 1978.

Watts is an associate professor of educational leadership. He teaches courses on diversity of learners and leads a high school mentoring program in Camp Hill. Watts holds an Ed.D. from the University of Cincinnati and has been an AU faculty member since 1999.

Details of the position and the candidates are online at www.auburn.edu/academic/provost.



Dye Field

The football field inside Jordan-Hare Stadium will soon bear the name of legendary football coach Pat Dye. The Board of Trustees voted on Sept. 16 to name the site "Pat Dye Field" in honor of the former coach and athletic director who turned the Tigers into a national powerhouse in the 1980s. The university will dedicate Dye Field at the Auburn-Alabama game on Nov. 19.

AU professor

Harrison to lead open-government panel

The Alabama Center for Open Government will install Dale Harrison of AU as chairman of its executive committee Thursday at the organization's annual Sunshine Forum in Montgomery.

Harrison has been chairman of the Department of Communication and Journalism in AU's College of Liberal Arts since 2002 and has served on the ALACOG executive committee since 2003.

The Alabama Center for Open Government is a

nonprofit organization that works to bring greater openness to government in Alabama.

The organization has conducted statewide research to determine how well state agencies comply with Alabama's Open Records Law and published the results throughout the state. It conducts seminars on open government regulations, holds an annual Sunshine Forum and recognizes individuals who advance open government.

First Lady caught

Alabama First Lady Patsy Riley, shown here, joined faculty from AU and Auburn City Schools last week at Ogletree Elementary School to help launch the "Alabama Gets Caught Reading" campaign. The Alabama Center for the Book at AU's Center for the Arts and Humanities organized the statewide campaign.



Public relations federation honors Tullier

The Southern Public Relations Federation recently presented its Professional Achievement Award to Michael Tullier of the AU College of Education.

Tullier is director of external relations for the College of Education. The Public Relations Council of Alabama, which nominated him for the regional award, named Tullier its Practitioner of the Year in Alabama for 2004. Each of the regional federation's four member organizations may nominate one professional for the annual award. Nominees are

judged in areas of career achievement, professional activities, continuing education/accreditation and community service.

Tullier, who has attained Accreditation in Public Relations status from the industry's Universal Accreditation Board, is the state council's former president and the vice president for accreditation with the regional federation. He holds a bachelor's degree in communication from LSU and a master's degree in public administration from AU.

National council reappoints Rotfeld

The American Council on Consumer Interests has reappointed Herb Rotfeld of AU's College of Business as editor of the Journal of Consumer Affairs.

Rotfeld, who has served as editor of the JCA since 2001, will continue in that post through 2009.

The journal contains scholarly research and professionally informed opinions advancing consumer interests and is one of the oldest and most prominent publications of its type.

A professor of marketing at Auburn, Rotfeld is the author of "Adventures in Misplaced Marketing," published by Quorum books in 2001. An expert in advertising regulation and self-regulation, he received the American Academy of Advertising's Outstanding Contribution to Research award in 2000.

He serves on the editorial board of five other academic journals covering consumer issues and public policy and is on the publication committee that oversees the Journal of Advertising.

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