Airport terminal dedication
University and local government officials dedicated the terminal at the Auburn University Regional Airport on Sept. 24, capping a multi-year effort to upgrade the airport to meet the region’s aerial transportation and commerce needs in coming decades. The new terminal replaced one that had served the region since 1950. For more on the airport upgrade, see Page 5.

December pay to include merit funds this year
Auburn University is entering a new fiscal year on Oct. 1 with no funds available for permanent salary increases for its employees, but December should still be a good month for most faculty and staff.

In approving the new budget on Sept. 24, the Board of Trustees authorized a one-time, merit-based salary supplement up to 6 percent for faculty and staff. University administrators and trustees said the payout will provide some financial relief for employees, who were facing a third consecutive year without a pay raise, while leaving the university some budgeting flexibility in case the economy does not turn around in 2012.

“We simply do not have the continuing funds to support a raise that would be a continuing cost,” said Executive Vice President Don Large. He noted that the university has sustained $94 million in reductions to state appropriations since 2008 due to the recession, and there is a strong possibility of further cuts in the near future unless the economy improves.

Large said the university will fund the one-time payout from the final year of federal stimulus funding, augmentation by additional departmental savings in other areas. He noted that the stimulus funds, $16.9 million for the main campus, were allocated primarily to academic units to offset the impact of budget reductions.

Employees who began working for Auburn before June 1 and who remain on the payroll through Dec. 8 will be eligible for the supplement. For each employee, the amount of the merit-based supplement, from zero to 6 percent of base salary, will be based on the individual’s performance evaluations.

The salary supplements are part of a $937 million budget for the Auburn University System. Of that amount, the main campus is budgeted for $744 million, Auburn Montgomery $55 million, Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station $77 million and Alabama Cooperative Extension System $61 million.

For the main campus, additional expenses for 2011 will include $2.5 million for benefits, $400,000 for promotions, $5.7 million for scholarships, $1 million for other priorities and $500,000 for increased costs in other areas.

Auburn reaches top ranks in number of entering National Merit Scholars
Auburn University more than doubled its number of newly enrolled National Merit Scholars this year.

Auburn enrolled 133 new scholars this summer and fall semesters, more than twice last year’s record number of 64, according to the Office of Enrollment Services.

In the National Merit Scholarship Corporation’s 2009 annual report, only six public institutions nationally enrolled more than 133 scholars. The national organization will release its 2010 annual report in January.

“This important achievement is a result of Auburn’s Strategic Plan, which specifically targets students who excel academically,” Provost Mary Ellen Mazey said. “We want to continue attracting many of the nation’s top students to Auburn each year.”

The 133 new National Merit Scholars are from 20 states and are enrolled in nine of 10 undergraduate colleges and schools. Auburn had 28 National Merit Scholars in 2007, 31 in 2008 and 64 in 2009.

“With the Board of Trustees’ and university’s commitment to academic quality and scholarships, Auburn is now able to offer competitive scholarship packages to National Merit Scholars,” said Director of University Scholarships Velda Rooker. “That, along with the quality of Auburn’s faculty and nationally ranked programs, has allowed us to attract a number of National Merit Scholars that few institutions can match.”

National Merit Scholars at Auburn receive scholarship and housing packages and the Auburn Academic Guarantee, which includes automatic admission to the Honors College. These students are eligible for a university stipend for four years, depending on eligibility as determined by the National
Coping with proration

Continued from Page 1

Complicating budgeting for the new fiscal year was additional proration that the state applied to its education allocations, which had already been cut 7.5 percent earlier in the year. The new cuts equaled 2 percent of each entity’s allocation for the entire year.

Large noted that the university had from the beginning of the last budget cycle recognized the possibility of an additional cut and had held funds in reserve for such a contingency.

President Jay Gogue said the recession and its lingering effects had forced belt-tightening at Auburn but the university is in far better shape than many of its peers. He credited conservative budgeting and financial policies adopted during better economic times, when other institutions were rapidly expanding; those institutions are now rapidly contracting; those institutions are now rapidly contracting.

— Roy Summerford

National Merit Scholars

Continued from Page 1

Merit Scholarship Corporation or by financial need as determined through completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation is an independent, not-for-profit organization that conducts the National Merit Scholarship Program and the National Achievement Scholarship Program as annual competitions for recognition and undergraduate scholarships.

— Charles Martin

New freshman class breaks ACT record as enrollment jumps

Auburn’s freshman class achieved the highest average ACT score in the university’s history this fall as the campus also set a new record for enrollment.

Figures from Auburn’s Office of Institutional Research and Assessment show that enrollment is 25,078 among all student groups – undergraduates, graduate students and those enrolled in professional schools – which is up from 24,602 in fall 2009. Auburn has students from all 50 states and from 81 foreign countries.

New freshman enrollment consists of 4,204 students, up from 3,918 last year. The class compiled an average score of 26.9 on the ACT college entrance exam, outpacing last year’s then-record of 26.2. They also earned an average high school grade-point average of 3.79, up from 3.69 last year.

“The caliber of new Auburn students is tremendous,” said Wayne Alderman, dean of enrollment management. “The Board of Trustees and the administration have made a commitment to bring the best and brightest to Auburn. Attracting these students is the result of the university’s Strategic Plan along with internationally recognized teaching, research and outreach.”

At the bachelor’s degree level, enrollment is 20,221, up 295 from last year. Post-baccalaureate enrollment is 4,857, up 181 from last year. This category comprises 983 professional students in the schools of pharmacy and veterinary medicine and 3,874 graduate students. The graduate student enrollment is a 5 percent increase above the 2009 figure of 3,689.

The numbers were calculated after the 15th class day of every fall semester.

Passport Fair

More than 50 Auburn faculty, staff and students took a step — in many cases, the first step — toward international travel at a recent passport fair in the Student Center organized by the Division of Student Affairs and the Office of International Education, Study Abroad Section. Passport Specialists from the Lee County Justice Center and the United States Department of State answered inquiries about passport procedures, issued application forms and assisted individuals in starting the process or renewing existing passports. Shown here, facing the camera, from left, State Department representatives Jamie Brewin and Mary Beth Lambert discuss passport procedures with Wes Wood, left, and David Weaver, faculty members in Auburn’s College of Agriculture.
Auburn University is developing plans for a major upgrade to academic buildings in the core of campus over the next 10 years, although funding availability remains uncertain.

Members of the Board of Trustees agreed with the assessment of Dan King, assistant vice president for facilities, that something needs to be done with buildings constructed in the 1950s and ’60s to meet changing instructional needs for 21st century students and faculty. They also agreed that coming up with funds for an estimated $200 million of new construction in today’s economy will be difficult.

Based on an earlier report from a campus committee, the list of targeted buildings includes Haley Center, Parker and Allison, Funchess, Upchurch and Spidle.

“The number one facilities priority is to improve older, deteriorating academic buildings in the core of campus,” King said. “From a facilities standpoint, those buildings are pretty much the worst buildings on campus.”

The targeted buildings are plagued by deteriorating infrastructure such as rain-trapping flat roofs, trouble-prone heating and air conditioning systems, rusted-out windows, etc. King also said their classroom spaces often are too small for today’s larger-sized classes, poorly designed for team teaching and make no provision for modern technology.

The university has expanded its facilities by 2 million square feet over the past two decades, but King noted that only about 5 percent is classrooms. Much of the growth has occurred in infrastructure, housing, athletics and academic support facilities; areas which had fallen behind in previous eras of campus growth.

Now, he said, academic buildings that were constructed 50 years ago are facing the end of their useful life and need to be repaired, renovated or replaced. There are no easy choices, he added.

The options include temporary repairs costing $40 million to $50 million, renovation costing $140 million or replacement for around $200 million. “The real issue,” King said, “is how much to invest.”

King presented the construction challenges for discussion only. With planning still at an early stage, decisions on the repair-renovate-replace question and funding would come after further study.

Replacement buildings for Haley Center would include a central classroom building and new homes for the colleges of Liberal Arts and Education. Replacement of Parker and Allison and at least part of Funchess would require new facilities in Mathematics and Sciences, and replacement of Spidle would require a new home for Human Sciences. Replacement of Upchurch Hall, meanwhile, would require a new home for Animal Sciences.

In the meantime, several previously approved or discussed building projects moved forward. These include a new building for the College of Education’s Department of Kinesiology, which needs a new home before it can move out of Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum, where it is the building’s final occupant. The board approved a $21.6 million budget and schematic design for a 70,000-square-foot building for Kinesiology to be constructed in the vicinity of the Student Activity Center and the recently approved Student Wellness and Sustainability Center.

When the coliseum is vacant, it will be demolished to make way for more parking. King said the site is potentially an excellent location for a multi-story parking facility.

Also, plans for renovation of the Hill Residence Halls and Caroline Draughon Village student housing moved a step closer to reality, as the board agreed to the selection of the KPS Group as design consultants for the Hill Residence Halls and Williams Blackstone and Associates for the CDV project. The work is preliminary, depending on later action on funding for the projects.

In addition, the board approved a $2.5 million budget for extension of the pedestrian concourse from Thach to Magnolia and other improvements to walking areas in that sector of campus. The long-planned project will be financed from existing bond issues and gifts received by the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering.

The board also approved a $4 million increase to the $70 million budget for a new small animal teaching hospital in Veterinary Medicine. The increase would pay for moving laboratories from existing facilities and would be financed at least partially through gifts from donors for the new building.

— Ray Summerford

Replacing Haley?

Haley Center, which dominates the right side of this aerial photo, is among campus buildings slated for replacement by 2020. To accomplish that goal, university officials and trustees say they need to find sites in the core of campus for three new buildings and find a way to pay for those buildings in an uncertain economy.
Sustainability essayists compete for trip to Germany

Auburn is joining with the German Embassy to sponsor events Oct. 11-17 to call attention to the need for renewable energies.

Environmental and economic impacts such as the Gulf oil spill and climate change will be part of the week’s discussions, and the focus for Auburn students will be on innovation in finding a more sustainable future. A student competition will address “How can my work help to promote a sustainable future?”

Eligible submissions include projects, essays, models, performance, posters, videos or any other output relevant to a student’s discipline. Any recently completed (spring 2010 or later), current or proposed work is eligible. A faculty competition will address “How does my work help to promote education in sustainability?”

Auburn Libraries IT experts help Tuskegee University digitize historic archives

Auburn University Libraries’ Systems Department has reached a milestone in a year-long project with Tuskegee University to bring the historical materials in Tuskegee’s archives to a wider audience by making them available online.

The cooperative effort began in the summer of 2009, when the new head of Tuskegee University Archives, Dana Chandler, recognized the wealth of historical materials his department was holding and began generating ideas for making them available to researchers worldwide.

Putting many of the materials online was the obvious choice, but his department lacked hands-on experience with the preferred software solution: DSpace, an open-source digital content-management package developed at MIT and widely used for digital repositories.

Chandler turned to Auburn University Libraries Systems Department for advice on choosing a software configuration that would meet their needs, as Auburn has had an active digital collections program for several years. Aaron Trehub, assistant dean for technology and technical services at Auburn University Libraries, agreed to share the knowledge and experience his department has amassed in almost ten years of working with digital collections.

Trehub and Reuben Pasquini, the libraries’ DSpace specialist, made several visits to Tuskegee University to assess the archives’ needs and help install the DSpace software on a server at Tuskegee. Since then, Chandler and his staff have been customizing and expanding the database with the items in their archives.

“The collaborative effort between Auburn University Libraries’ Systems Department and the Tuskegee University Archives has proven to be very successful,” said Chandler. “Thanks to Aaron Trehub and Reuben Pasquini, we were able to launch our new archives repository website in less time than if we had used a conventional repository software package. Their eagerness to aid us in this endeavor, coupled with their expertise, allowed us to complete our mission with no extra cost to the university.”

“We’re pleased to be able to help a fellow institution of higher learning to make their collections more accessible,” said Trehub. “Our own Auburn researchers will benefit from easy access to Tuskegee’s archives. The free exchange of our collective learning benefits everyone, and we look forward to helping other universities that can use the work we’ve done.”

The Tuskegee University Archives Repository website can be accessed through the Tuskegee University website, www.tuskegee.edu. Click on the button labeled “Libraries.” Scroll down and select the heading “Tuskegee University Archives Repository.”

Campus Calendar

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

BIRTHDAY PARTY Children’s activities coinciding with seventh birthday observance at the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, 1-4 p.m

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

MID-SEMESTER First half of fall semester Aug. 18-Oct. 7, last half Oct. 7-Dec. 3

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE SUMMIT “Crossing Borders and Creating Pathways to 21st Century Leadership,” 8 a.m.-3 p.m., The Hotel at Auburn University; registration required, see www.auburn/cas

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

PUBLIC LECTURE “Growing a Clean Energy Industry,” Friedo Sieleman, German Embassy counselor for environment and energy, noon, ballroom, Student Center; part of week of Transatlantic Climate Bridge activities

MEETING Annual fall meeting of the University Faculty, 3 p.m., Broun Hall Auditorium

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

PUBLIC PERFORMANCE “Celebration of Italian Poetry and Music,” Michael Koon, baritone, and Giovanna Summerfield, narrator, 4 p.m., Goodwin Recital Hall


THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

PUBLIC LECTURE “The Encyclopedia of Alabama,” Jeff Jakeman, associate professor of history at Auburn and editor of the online encyclopedia, 3 p.m., Special Collections Suite, ground floor, Draughon Library; part of Discover Auburn Lecture Series

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

NEXT Auburn Report

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

PUBLIC LECTURE “The Lilly Ledbetter Story: Ensuring that Women are Paid Fairly,” first-person account by the woman whose U.S. Supreme Court case led Congress to pass the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, 3 p.m., Telfair Peet Theatre
As airport upgrade reaches its conclusion, local leaders predict widespread impact on economy

Auburn University administrators and local government officials who assembled Sept 24 to dedicate a new flight terminal at the Auburn University Regional Airport said the 26,000-square-foot facility will be an important economic development tool for East Alabama.

“The new terminal will serve East Alabama well for many years by fostering economic growth, giving visitors an excellent first impression and supporting our academic programs,” University President Jay Gogue said. “State Representative Mike Hubbard and other city and county leaders worked to make this asset and resource possible for our community.”

City of Auburn Mayor Bill Ham, chairman of the airport advisory board, served as the master of ceremonies at the dedication. Speakers included Rep. Hubbard, Ham, Gogue, City of Opelika Mayor Gary Fuller and Lee County Probate Judge Bill English.

“This is a true partnership between the university, Auburn, Opelika, Lee County and the State of Alabama,” said Bill Hutto, airport director. “The airport is a training ground for aviation students and it serves the local area as a public-use facility.”

Auburn University owns and operates the airport, which is the only university-owned airport in Alabama. The cost of the $5.5 million terminal will be paid by the local governments as a collaborative effort to enhance the region’s appeal to potential industry. Funding for additional improvements in recent years has come from federal and state grants, including $4.7 million secured by Rep. Hubbard; a portion was applied toward the terminal construction as well.

The previous terminal was built in 1950, and the original airport was constructed in 1930. The new terminal has a flight planning room; crew lounge with two sleep rooms and showers for pilots waiting on travelers; two conference rooms that will allow out-of-town executives to meet with local leaders at the airport; galley for refrigerating and heating catered food; and office space for airport staff.

More than 5,000 square feet of lease space is targeted toward aviation-related businesses, including space next to the lobby for a rental car agency. Outside the terminal is an expanded ramp, or tarmac, that covers approximately 5.5 acres.

“For big football games, we will have as many as 200 planes arriving on those weekends,” Hutto said.

A life-size, fiberglass Auburn tiger wearing a flight jacket greets visitors as they enter the lobby. Aviation artwork adorns the facility as well.

New terminal

The new terminal at the Auburn University Regional Airport provides a far different welcome to arriving air passengers than the 80-year-old building it replaced.

The modern terminal is the latest upgrade to the airport. A runway was lengthened in 2001 to a length of 5,265 feet to handle larger aircraft, including corporate jets; the airport also has a second runway of 4,000 feet. The airport’s all-weather landing capability was enhanced through a new instrument landing system in 2007 and new approach lights in 2008.

A new entranceway has been constructed, allowing guests to enter from Glenn Avenue if driving from Auburn, or Frederick Road if driving from Opelika. The entrance is located approximately one-half mile north of Interstate 85’s exit 57.

In 2009 the airport name was changed from the Auburn Opelika Robert G. Pitts Airport to the Auburn University Regional Airport and Robert G. Pitts Field.

— Charles Martin

New College of Education honors Auburn college’s new dean

New College of Education Dean Betty Lou Whitford thought her involvement in her alma mater’s recent anniversary celebration would consist of introducing the keynote speaker.

But her Sept. 25 visit to the University of North Carolina’s School of Education involved a second trip up on stage — this time to accept the school’s Alumni Achievement Award during its 125th anniversary celebration.

“I really was surprised and very pleased,” said Whitford, who began her tenure as Auburn’s education dean and Wayne T. Smith distinguished professor on Aug. 1. “One committee planning the event had contacted me about introducing the keynote speaker. About three weeks later, I got a letter from the director of alumni affairs congratulating me on being selected for the alumni achievement award. I thought somebody in the office had mixed it up.”

Before coming to Auburn, Whitford served as the dean of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Southern Maine. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate students, Whitford has served as a consultant for numerous school districts, as well as school and university partnerships. She also held academic and research positions at Columbia University, the University of Louisville and UNC.

Whitford has served as an advisor to the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education’s Professional Development Schools Standards Project, the U.S. Office for Educational Research and Improvement, the Council of Chief State School Officers’ Arts Education Partnership, the Appalachian Educational Laboratory, the Lucent Technologies Foundation and the Schlechty Center for Leadership in School Reform.

The latter center was founded by former UNC faculty member and Associate Dean of Education Phil Schlechty, whom Whitford introduced as the anniversary event’s keynote speaker. “I’m really thrilled, particularly since he was my mentor,” Whitford said.

Whitford earned a bachelor’s degree, a master’s degree and her doctorate in curriculum and instruction and sociology of education at Chapel Hill.
Education faculty visit Egypt, discuss potential student exchange program

Jose Llanes and James Witte of Auburn’s College of Education accomplished two goals during a summer trip to Ismailia, Egypt. They tested the knowledge of Mohammed Sywelem, a former visiting scholar at Auburn, as members of his doctoral dissertation defense panel. They also made progress in creating opportunities for other Egyptian scholars to follow Sywelem.

Llanes and Witte, faculty members in the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology, engaged in discussions with officials at Suez Canal University to further strengthen a partnership outlined in February 2010.

“We discussed the possibility of both student and faculty exchanges, beginning on a one-for-one basis,” Witte said. “These discussions focused on graduate-level exchange, allowing graduate students from different colleges throughout the university engaged in different projects and research to participate.”

Suez Canal University, which features four campuses, is the most recent institution to express interest in a partnership with the College of Education.

While still in the formative stages, Witte said collaboration with Suez Canal University offers great potential for faculty exchanges of from two weeks to an entire semester. “We’re also looking at developing a curriculum where (Auburn) students would attend six hours of study at Suez Canal University and the Egyptian students would take six hours of study at Auburn,” he added.

Auburn, AUM win collaborative grant to update, enhance their emergency management plans

Auburn University and Auburn Montgomery were jointly awarded an Emergency Management for Higher Education grant by the U.S. Department of Education. Public safety and emergency management officials from Auburn and Auburn Montgomery, along with the Auburn Montgomery Center for Government, or CGOV, will use the funding to enhance emergency preparedness planning efforts on both campuses.

The two-year grant for $708,000 is one of only 17 awards given nationwide. The Auburn University System is the first in Alabama to receive funding through the grant.

“This is a great opportunity to better prepare our university system as a whole and to show the collaboration among the two campuses and our community partners,” said Chance Corbett, associate director with the Auburn University Department of Public Safety and Security.

“In recent years, Auburn has shown great improvement in the area of emergency preparedness,” Corbett said. “This funding will give us the opportunity to continue to update procedures, addressing the emergency operations plan, evacuation plan and other key emergency preparedness plans that are currently, or soon will be, in place. We also plan to implement systems to manage and track emergency incidents and events that occur on campus, which will promote a more coordinated response and recovery.”

Additionally, the grant will provide for the mapping of buildings on both campuses into Virtual Alabama, a 3-D geospatial imagery toolset based in Google Earth technologies, which serves as the state’s common operating platform for disaster planning, response and recovery.

“The floor plan maps we create in Virtual Alabama will identify a number of critical features found in and around the buildings, such as where hazardous materials are stored and where the various emergency staging areas are located,” said Matthew L. Duke, senior director of the Center for Government at Auburn Montgomery. “Through this virtual environment, we can provide first responders the information they need, including the location of and access to live security camera feeds, anywhere they have Internet connectivity. Having this information, at the time and point of need, is essential to saving time and saving lives.”

The Emergency Management for Higher Education program supports institutions of higher education projects designed to develop, or review and improve, and fully integrate campus-based all-hazards emergency management planning efforts. The planning process utilizes the framework of the four phases of emergency management including prevention-mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

“The public safety collaboration between Auburn and Auburn Montgomery continues to build, and as a result, we have been able to make huge strides in being prepared for anything that could happen on our two campuses,” said Ricky Adams, director of Public Safety at Auburn Montgomery.

— Carol Nelson

Visiting exhibitions at Auburn University’s Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Arts

“As Above, So Below,” recent works by American artist Suzanne Scherer and Russian-born Pavel Ouporov, on loan from several private collections, through Nov. 27.

“Audubon’s Final Achievement: The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America,” through Oct. 30.

“Old Master Drawings From the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art,” through Nov. 6.
Outreach technology program for schools wins $4.6 million grant

The U.S. Department of Commerce has awarded an Auburn University outreach initiative $4.6 million to expand broadband technology in Alabama’s rural libraries and schools.

In announcing the awards, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke said that when you don’t have access to high-speed internet, you are missing access to all the educational, business and employment opportunities the service provides.

Overall, the initiative will deploy 1,000 new computer workstations and replace nearly 500 more at 94 rural libraries and 21 public schools across Alabama. Auburn plans to use the new equipment to offer online training programs and telemedical applications to underserved rural areas.

Auburn was one of only 35 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grants awarded in this latest announcement to expand broadband internet access to citizens through key anchor institutions such as schools and libraries.

University Outreach will provide overall leadership for the Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program initiative. Campus partners include Outreach’s Center for Governmental Services, the Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center, University Libraries, the Office of Information Technology and Harrison School of Pharmacy. External partners in the project include the Alabama Public Library Service and Tuskegee University.

The Center for Governmental Services will coordinate the overall project, and directly implement technological training of librarian personnel that will prepare them to do much of their own tech support.

The center’s faculty and staff, along with the Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center, the University Libraries and Information Technology will provide Alabama libraries and schools with a detailed evaluation of their technological needs and service options. The Harrison School of Pharmacy will provide consultation regarding the installation of 20 audio-visual conference facilities at library locations.

Auburn will work with Tuskegee University personnel to install the new internet workstations and with the Alabama Public Library Service on providing continuing technical support of these resources. The Wireless Engineering Research and Education Center will oversee the installation of Rural Connectivity Platforms that will expand broadband internet access in approximately thirty communities.

"Too many Alabamians are without broadband internet access and the learning resources it provides," said Auburn University President Jay Gogue. “This project will help bridge the technological divide and open doors for thousands of students and adults.”

“Supporting Alabama’s educational infrastructure through innovative outreach is a key objective of Auburn’s strategic plan,” says Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach. “I commend center director Don-Terry Veal and the dedicated team of campus and external partners for their efforts in developing such a far-reaching and high impact project.”

— Ralph Foster

Auburn’s Jule Collins Smith Museum receives regional, national honors for publications, communications efforts

The Southeastern Museum Conference, a regional museum professional organization, recently awarded the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art four different honors in the 22nd Annual SEMC Publication Competition.

The Auburn University art museum garnered two awards for the “Art in the Garden” fundraising gala material. The invitations for the event received the gold award while the “Art in the Garden” poster earned the silver award. The museum’s newsletters captured both the gold award for newsletters and journals and Best in Show for community communications.

The SEMC Publication Design Competition was begun in 1988 to recognize and reward excellence in graphic design in southeastern museum publications. Last year, JCSM took home five awards including two gold and three silver.

The Jule Collins Smith Museum has also been selected by the American Association of Museums as the first place winner for the 2010 Publications Design Competition in the newsletter category. This is the third consecutive year that the AAM has recognized the JCSM’s newsletter.

The American Association of Museums has acknowledged and promoted excellence in the graphic design of museum publications for more than 25 years. The national association’s website states that the competition is “the only national, juried competition of its kind. Winners are chosen for their overall design excellence, creativity and ability to express an institution’s personality, mission or special features.”

For more information about the museum or the awards, visit www.jcsm.auburn.edu or call Colleen Bourdeau at 844-7075.
Campus News Briefs

Bruce Mazey, husband of Auburn’s provost loses lengthy battle with cancer

Bruce W. Mazey, husband of Auburn University Provost Mary Ellen Mazey, died Monday after a lengthy battle with cancer. Memorial services will be Saturday in his hometown of White Sulphur Springs, Va. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Cancer Society or the Bruce W. Mazey Spirit of Auburn Scholarship Fund.

National awards presented to Industrial and Graphic Design faculty at Auburn

Graphic Design Professor Ross Heck received a 2010 bronze award from the Association for Excellence in Communication in Agriculture, Natural Resources, Life and Human Sciences recently at the national conference in Oregon.

Ann Bartuska, acting undersecretary for research, economics and education of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Roger N. Beachy, director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture in the U.S. Department of Agriculture presented a letter of acknowledgment to Heck recognizing his award.

Also at the conference, Industrial Design Assistant Professor Jerrod Windham received the Industrial Designers Society of America Young Educator Award. Each year, one young educator who has demonstrated a unique and valued teaching strategy to his or her students is selected. Windham’s expertise centers on sustainable materials and processes in industrial design.

Auburn University Theatre to present 50th anniversary staging of “The Fantasticks”

Auburn University Theatre will participate in the 50th Anniversary celebration of the world’s longest running musical, “The Fantasticks,” in performances at the Telfair Peet Theatre Oct. 13 through Oct. 24 in the Theatre Upstairs on the campus of Auburn University.

“The Fantasticks,” with music by Harvey Schmidt and lyrics by Tom Jones, opened off-Broadway in 1960 and played 17,162 performances in its original 42-year run at the Sullivan Street Playhouse. It continues its record run in a revival currently playing at the Snapple Theatre Center in New York City.

Word Baker, who directed the original off-Broadway production, taught at Auburn in the Theatre Department in the 1950s. Memorabilia from the original Sullivan Street Theatre production will be on display in the gallery of the Telfair Peet Theatre throughout the run.

Performances of “The Fantasticks” are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Oct. 13-15, Oct. 19-22 and Oct. 24, and at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday Oct. 17. Tickets are free to Auburn University students, and $10 for the general public. For more information call the Theatre Box Office at 844-4154 or view the website www.auburnuniversitytheatre.org.

Bennett to be inducted into Alabama Construction Hall of Fame

Dan Bennett, dean of the College of Architecture, Design and Construction at Auburn, will be inducted into the Alabama Construction Hall of Fame by the Alabama Associated General Contractors in January.

Bennett, a 1968 CADC graduate, has served as professor and dean since 2000. The Alabama Construction Hall of Fame honors and recognizes “outstanding individuals in the construction industry who are held in esteem by their peers and who have demonstrated their professionalism through active support of the industry through their civic and community

Auburn Report

October 1, 2010

1 Faculty, staff to receive merit-based supplements in December
1 Auburn enters top ranks for number of new National Merit Scholars
4 Sustainability-writing contest to offer trip to Germany for winner

5 Government officials predict boost to area economy from airport upgrade
6 Auburn, AUM share federal grant for emergency management planning
7 Outreach grant to help Auburn expand IT service to rural schools

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