

October 11
2004

Vol. 37 No. 31

Inside

Page 2

Human Sciences
creates new
professorship

Page 3

Professor wins
technology
history award

Page 4

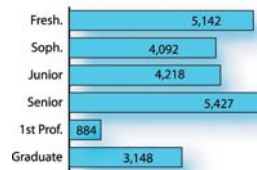
Dobson named
Fulbright
Scholar to India

Page 4

Rural Studio
documentary
wins Emmy

How AU Stacks Up

AU enrollment by class, 2004 fall semester



Source: Institutional Research
and Assessment

Updates between issues
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[www.ocm.auburn.edu/
au_report/aureport.html](http://www.ocm.auburn.edu/au_report/aureport.html)

AU report

FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY

President outlines initiatives, board passes AU budget

Interim AU President Ed Richardson on Thursday outlined to the Board of Trustees six major initiatives for AU in 2004-05.

Richardson presented the initiatives shortly before the board approved a 2004-05 AU System operating budget of \$608.6 million, retroactive to Oct. 1, when the fiscal year started.

The budget is 4.5 percent higher than in the fiscal year that just ended and makes permanent salary increases that the university awarded as one-time employee salary supplements a year ago.

With trustees asking for ways to meet rising costs without double-digit tuition increases, Richardson described the six initiatives for 2004-05 as an opportunity for Auburn to control its destiny. The initiatives, which are scheduled for completion by next June, will set the stage for a successful tenure for the next president and better define the responsibilities of the board and the administration, he said.

Those initiatives include:

- Establishing a research park near campus to bolster faculty research and state economic growth.
- University involvement in a privately financed and operated beachfront hotel at Gulf Shores State Park in connection with AU academic programs.
- Thorough review and possible reorganization of Auburn's agricultural and related programs, with a fresh look at future uses of AU's agricultural lands.
- Repositioning the AU-owned Auburn-Opelika Robert G. Pitts Airport as a more attractive, more modern and self-supporting economic-development enterprise for East Alabama.

• Defining the relationship between AU and Auburn University-Montgomery. Options range from making AUM a separate, independent college to fully integrating it into AU.

• Reviewing all academic programs. Richardson said primary consideration will be on strength of programs rather than cutting costs.



China connection

Three staff members from Communications and Marketing accompanied Peter Weiss of AU's College of Architecture, Design and Construction to China this month to document Auburn initiatives in that country involving the colleges of Architecture, Design and Construction, Agriculture, Education and Engineering. Above, Jim Jackson, in orange shirt, and Mike Clardy, conduct an interview on the campus of SIAS International University, for which Weiss was the master architect. In the background are several buildings designed by Weiss. The third OCM staff member, Communications Director Deedie Dowdle, spoke to an assembly of SIAS faculty and students and discussed with Chinese education officials efforts toward mutual promotion of international activities.



CVM at night
Despite an electrical storm in the distance, all appears peaceful in this early evening scene of the College of Veterinary Medicine's new J.T. Vaughan Large Animal Teaching Hospital. The scene is one of the images in "Twilight on the Plains," the 2005 calendar produced by AU Photographic Services. Copies are available at bookstores on and near campus.

In Human Sciences

Pettit named to new professorship

Greg Pettit, a professor of human development and family studies in AU's College of Human Sciences, has been named to a new professorship, Human Sciences Professor of Child Development.

"Dr. Pettit is viewed both nationally and internationally as an exceptionally talented scholar and one of the pre-eminent leaders in the child development field," said June Henton, dean of the College of Human Sciences.

Pettit, who holds a doctorate in interdisciplinary child studies from Indiana University, came to Auburn in 1990 and in 1998 was named Alumni Professor.

He has been the recipient of AU's Creative Research Award and a Director's Research Award

from the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and the past associate editor of the journals *Developmental Psychology* and *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

Pettit is the author or co-author of more than 100 research-based journal articles and book chapters. His research focuses on the development of social competence in childhood and adolescence.

For the past 18 years he has directed a major longitudinal study of family, peer and socio-ecological factors in children's development. This research was made possible by grants from the National Institutes of Health. Pettit's research currently is supported by grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Science Foundation.

Unit gets grants to develop multimedia materials

Auburn's Laboratory for Innovative Technology and Engineering Education has received two grants from the National Science Foundation to develop multimedia instructional materials for use in India and Chile.

The instructional technology, multimedia-development unit is the outgrowth of pioneering work in the field by P.K. Raju, Thomas Walter Professor in the Ginn College of Engineering's Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Chetan S. Sankar, Thomas Walter Professor in the College of Business' Department of Management.

An interdisciplinary program of the two AU colleges, the instructional materials laboratory develops programs that use case studies, multimedia information technologies and cross-disciplinary teams to bring real-world problem solving experiences to students.

The LITEE team will conduct a workshop in

Chile in collaboration with Mario Letelier, director of the Center for Research in Creativity and Higher Education at the University of Santiago. During this workshop, a Spanish version of a LITEE case study and associated competency materials will be tested and fine-tuned for Spanish speaking audiences in Chile and the U.S.

The second grant will address problems that occur when engineers in the U.S. are called upon to work with their counterparts around the world to service customers, manage research teams, improve business processes and produce quality products.

LITEE will team with A. Ramachandriah, a professor from the Department of Civil Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras, India, to document issues that commonly arise in collaborative design projects and to provide engineering students from both countries with the tools to address them.

Upcoming Events

Continuing

- Art Exhibit: "La Fotoz Hatom: Snapshots of Hungarians," unique portraits by artist Mitch Kern, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday, Biggin Gallery, through Nov. 5.
- Art Exhibit: "Auburn Collects," eclectic works from the private collection of William Dunlop, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, through Nov. 14.

Tuesday, October 12

- Seminar: "Complying with the TEACH Act and Copyright Issues in Distance Education," 3 p.m., O.D. Smith Hall 328. For information, call 844-3476.
- Meeting: University Senate, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.
- AU Theatre: "Galileo," 7:30 p.m., Oct. 12-15, Telfair Peet Theatre. Box Office: 844-4154.

Thursday, October 14

- Human Resources Seminar: "Financial Planning for Retirement," Cathy Colquitt of Johnson, Sterling and Paul investment advisers, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., HR Training Facility, North Gay Street. Open to all faculty and staff; for registration or related information, contact Kelli Henderson, 844-7939.

Friday, October 15

- Benefit Concert: "Nashville Star" Brad Cotter, 5 p.m., in front of Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum. Proceeds benefit Worldwide War on Hunger. For information, call 844-4240.

Monday, October 18

- Next AU Report.

Tuesday, October 19

- Meeting: Staff Council, 10 a.m., Foy 217. Guest speakers include AU basketball coaches Jeff Lebo and Nell Fortner and Auburn Mayor Bill Ham.
- Distance Education Seminar: "How to Design a Hybrid Course for Distance Learners," 3 p.m., O.D. Smith Hall 328. Call 844-3476.



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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.

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AU professor wins Edelstein Prize for book challenging myth of cotton gin

Angela Lakwete of the Department of History in Auburn's College of Liberal Arts has won a major international award in her field from the Society for the History of Technology.

Lakwete, an assistant professor in the College of Liberal Arts, won the historical society's Edelstein Prize for the best scholarly book published about the history of technology in the three-year period, 2001-03. She won the award for her book "Inventing the Cotton Gin: Machine and Myth in Antebellum America," published in November 2003 by the Johns Hopkins University Press.

The Society for the History of Technology represents 1,500 scholars at 1,000 institutions worldwide. Lakwete received the Edelstein Prize last week in the Netherlands at the society's annual meeting.

An AU faculty member since 1999, Lakwete teaches undergraduate courses in U.S. history and in technology and civilization and a graduate seminar in Southern industrialization. She holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Delaware.

In her book, Lakwete traces the history of the cotton gin from its Asian and African origins and

addresses the myths that Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin and that his invention was responsible for the development of society and the economy in the South during the Antebellum Era. In fact, she says, the machine that Whitney patented in 1794 was one of several types of cotton gins in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Lakwete says most county seats and port towns in the South had industrial sectors. She notes that manufacturing thrived in the region before the Civil War, and Southern industries attracted a skilled labor force of whites, free blacks and slaves.

The book challenges the idea that the South was handicapped economically until Eli Whitney, a Northerner, gave them the cotton gin. "That belief unjustly denigrates the South, which had fully operational steam-powered cotton gins long before Whitney came along. It detracts from the accomplishments of both blacks and whites in a Southern manufacturing environment that was really quite strong in Antebellum America," she said.

State association presents award to Michael Tullier

Michael Tullier, director of external relations for AU's College of Education, has been named the 2004 Philip R. Forrest Jr. Practitioner of the Year by the Public Relations Council of Alabama.

Tullier, outgoing president of the state association, received the award recently at the PRCA annual conference. The award is based on a portfolio review by judges who assess nominees' professional, career and community achievements.

Before joining the College of Education staff last April, Tullier was an academic program assistant in the Samuel Ginn College of Education from 2001-04. He helped establish the local branch of LifeSouth Community Blood Centers in 1995 as its community relations coordinator and was its branch director from 1998-2001.

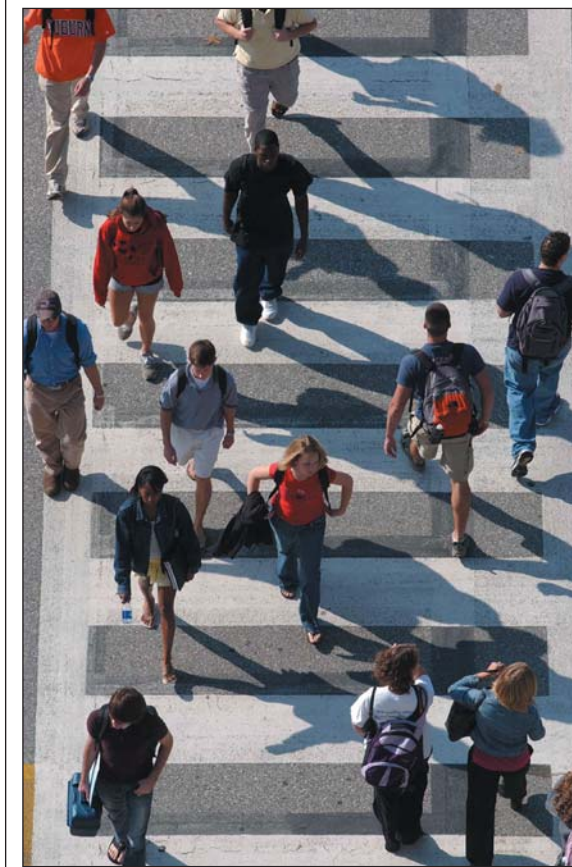
He chaired PRCA's 2003 joint state and regional conference in Auburn in 2003. He also is a former president of the East Alabama chapter.

Forum to discuss opportunities for University Outreach grants

University Outreach will provide \$100,000 in 2004-05 to support outreach scholarship grants to Auburn faculty.

Grants will range in value up to \$20,000 in one year with the possibility of a renewal.

Outreach administrators will host a forum at 2 p.m. Thursday at Dixon Conference Center to discuss the grant program with faculty. For information, contact Royrickers Cook at 844-5700.



Patterns

Jeff Etheridge of Photographic Services captured the geometric patterns in what these students regard as their usual morning walk to class.

Stargazing

Visiting actor Drew Pillsbury of Los Angeles studies the heavens in this scene from AU Theatre's presentation of "Galileo." The new adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's classic play is in its second and final week at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday at Telfair Peet Theatre. For tickets or related information, call 844-4154.



For studies in India

Dobson named Fulbright Scholar

Stephen Dobson, a professor of biological sciences at AU, begins a six-month stint as a Fulbright Scholar in India during October.

The U.S. State Department selected Dobson, a faculty member in Auburn's College of Sciences and Mathematics since 1988, for the Fulbright grant to work with scientists at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore in studies of the dispersal behaviors of mammals.

"This topic is interdisciplinary because it involves behavior, ecology, genetics and conservation biology," said Dobson, describing the work with bonnet macaques, which are also known as old world monkeys. "We will be studying the dispersal of individuals among troupes of these highly social monkeys, examining the evolutionary biology of such transfers and discerning the ways that such research can be used in their conservation."

Besides studying bonnet macaques in their natural habitat, Dobson said he will observe how new

technology works in an antiquated, rural setting. "Bangalore is the Silicon Valley of southern Asia," he said. "This should be a fascinating combination of very primitive and high-tech environments. I hope that it will give me new ideas and concepts to bring back to my teaching and research at Auburn."

Approximately 800 American faculty and professionals go abroad on academic-related endeavors through the State Department's highly competitive Fulbright Scholars program each year.

Dobson is the fifth AU faculty member selected for the program in 2004. Other Fulbright Scholars from Auburn this year are Virginia O'Leary of the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts, Jack Williams of Landscape Architecture in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction, Henry Thompson of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology in the College of Agriculture and Alexander Vazsonyi of Human Development and Family Studies in the College of Human Sciences.

Honoring Sambo Mockbee

CBS documentary on Rural Studio wins Emmy

"Heart of the Country," a documentary on CBS chronicling the life of the late Samuel "Sambo" Mockbee and the work of Auburn's Rural Studio, has won an Emmy Award for 2004 from the National Television Academy of Arts and Sciences.

"Heart of the Country" tells the story of Mockbee, who along with fellow AU Architecture Professor D.K. Ruth, founded Auburn's Rural Studio. The documentary, produced by Irene Taylor Brodsky, shows many of the houses and structures built by Auburn students from free or low-cost materials in economically stressed rural West Alabama.

The documentary was one of five submitted in the category, "Outstanding Feature in a Regularly

Scheduled Broadcast" and judged by a panel of prominent broadcast industry professionals.

Mockbee taught that architects could change lives by building houses and structures for people in need. He argued that West Alabama towns, which have few economic opportunities, provide an ideal setting for a unique approach to architecture.

"Irene Taylor Brodsky, correspondent Martha Teichner and editor Terry Manning invested a huge amount of time in this project, and they did an excellent job of telling the story of Sambo Mockbee, our faculty and the students who participate in the Rural Studio," said Dan Bennett, dean of Architecture, Design and Construction.

Veal speaks at economic development workshop in South Africa

Don-Terry Veal, associate director of AU's Center for Governmental Services, was a panelist at the recent international workshop on "Black Economic Empowerment and Investment in South Africa."

The workshop was part of the "Increasing Capital Flows to Africa Conference" in Johannesburg.

The conference was sponsored by the Corporate Council of Africa and the U.S. Export-Import Bank and initiated by the Financial Task Force to mobilize private sector capital flow to Africa.

Veal, who is editor of the Entrepreneurship Policy Journal, previously served as conference chair of the African-American Entrepreneurship Summit, an international conference that explores economic opportunities for minority enterprise development.

The audience for last week's conference included representatives from financial institutions, businesses and governments from the United States and Africa. Veal was the only academician on the conference agenda.

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