

International Quality of Life Awards

CHS to honor Tim Cook, Howard Buffett for achievement, service

Auburn University's College of Human Sciences will honor Howard Buffett, president of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, and Tim Cook, CEO of Apple and a 1982 alumnus of Auburn's Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, for the 20th International Quality of Life Awards on Dec. 10 at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

The College of Human Sciences established the International Quality of Life Awards in 1994 to recognize people and partnerships that made significant and lasting contributions to individual, family and community well-being locally and around the world.

Buffett, this year's IQLA Laureate, is president of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, a private charitable foundation working to improve the standard of living and quality of life for the world's most impoverished and marginalized populations.

Buffett is also a farmer, operating his own 1,500-acre family farm in central Illinois and overseeing three foundation-operated research farms in Arizona, Illinois and South Africa, working to improve production practices for smallholder farmers in developing countries in Latin America and Africa.

Buffett, the eldest son of billionaire investor Warren Buffett, serves on the corporate

boards of Berkshire Hathaway, Coca-Cola, Lindsay Corporation and Sloan Implement. He has traveled to more than 130 countries and authored seven books on conservation, wildlife and the human condition.

Cook is receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes individuals who have brought distinguished recognition to Auburn University and/or the state of Alabama.

As Apple CEO, Cook has encouraged greater collaboration and creativity among the corporation's leadership team, which is widely regarded as the most innovative in the world. In his time at Apple, he has helped improve conditions for workers who make the company's products, and is overseeing a companywide effort to use 100 percent renewable energy at all Apple facilities.

Cook has encouraged his coworkers to give to charitable organizations in their community, and initiated a program at Apple to match employee donations. Apple has given millions of dollars to the American Red Cross to assist in disaster relief around the world.

Apple is the largest corporate donor to (RED), providing \$65 million to the fight against AIDS in Africa. (RED) was created in 2006 to help get businesses and people involved in the fight against AIDS. Money is

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Auburn in autumn

Jeff Etheridge, Photographic Services

Thanks in part to a near-perfect combination of cool temperatures and low humidity, early November has been particularly colorful at Auburn this year, as in this scene between Cater Hall and Haley Center.

Senior, recent graduate named finalists in Rhodes competition

Auburn University senior Patrick Donnan and 2012 graduate Ashton Richardson have been named finalists for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship for an opportunity to study at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. If selected, they would be among only 32 U.S. students to receive the honor.

Donnan will interview in Birmingham as part of Rhodes District 7, while Richardson, now a veterinary student at Texas A&M University, will interview in Houston as part of District 8. The interviews will take place Nov. 22-23.

Approximately 1,000 students are endorsed annually for the scholarship by their respective universities, with 200 being named finalists. The criteria include high academic achievement, integrity of character, a spirit of unselfishness, respect for others, potential for leadership and physical vigor.

Donnan and Richardson are Auburn's sixth and seventh Rhodes Scholar finalists since 2009, including Jordan Anderson who was named a Rhodes Scholar that

year. Richardson was also a finalist last year while at Auburn and was re-nominated by Auburn this year.

"Ashton and Patrick have excelled throughout their academic careers," said Melissa Bauman, Auburn University assistant provost and director of the Honors College. "They have earned many honors due to commitment and hard work and are excellent representatives for the Auburn family. We are thrilled about the possibility of adding the Rhodes Scholar title to their list of accomplishments."

Auburn native Donnan, who has a 3.98 grade-point average, is a student in the Honors College double-majoring in physics and music, concentrating on the bassoon, and minoring in mathematics. He is also a 2013 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar and recently was named a finalist for the highly selective Marshall Scholarship.

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College's design programs retain high national ranking

Auburn University's College of Architecture, Design and Construction programs continue to be ranked among the nation's best by a publication of the Design Futures Council, a national interdisciplinary network of design, product, and construction leaders.

In the annual DesignIntelligence survey, "America's Best Architecture and Design Schools 2014," the Auburn college's graduate and undergraduate programs in industrial design and undergraduate architecture program are ranked in the top 10 degree programs in their fields nationally. The rankings are based on annual surveys of leading practitioners in the fields.

Auburn's Industrial Design graduate program is ranked third nationally in 2014, up from fourth last year. The Industrial Design Graduate program has been ranked in the top 12 programs nationally seven out of the last eight years. Ranked sixth in 2014, the undergraduate Industrial Design program in the School of Industrial and Graphic Design has been ranked in the top 10 since 2007.

Hiring firms have ranked the Auburn Industrial Design program first nationally in the skill areas of research and theory and first in sustainable design

practices and principles; second in cross-disciplinary teamwork; third in communication and in computer applications; and fourth in design.

The Auburn Architecture program is ranked eighth for 2014, up from ninth in 2013. This marks the ninth consecutive year the Architecture program has been ranked in the top 20 architecture programs nationally.

Hiring firms have ranked the Architecture program second nationally in the skill areas of construction methods and materials and second in cross-discipline team work. It is ranked third in sustainable design practices and principles.

"I am delighted that our programs continue to receive national recognition," said Vini Nathan, dean and McWhorter Chair in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction. "It serves to support the high academic rigor and professional relevance of the design programs in the college."

Nathan continued, "The extremely strong reputation of our programs is testimony to the convergence of our bright students, dedicated faculty and staff and supportive administration, alumni, advisory board and industry partners."

The College of Architecture, Design and Construction is comprised of the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture, the McWhorter School of Building Science and the School of Industrial and Graphic Design.

— Colleen Bourdeau

IQLA ceremony

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raised through the sale of (RED) products from companies like Apple and from (RED) events.

In 2012, Cook was named a runner-up for Time magazine's Person of the Year and topped Vanity Fair's New Establishment list. Before being named CEO in August 2011, Cook was Apple's Chief Operating Officer and was responsible for all of the company's worldwide sales and operations.

Cook earned an MBA from Duke University, where he was a Fuqua Scholar, and a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Auburn.

— Amy Weaver



Jeff Etheridge, Photographic Services

Diplomat from Brazil

Hermano Telles Ribeiro, Atlanta-based consul general of Brazil for the Southeastern United States, visited Auburn on Oct. 29 for meetings with faculty, students and administrators. The visit was part of the university's program to enhance international education through contact with diplomats from countries around the world. The program is led by Bob McGinnis, senior counsel to University President Jay Gogue. Shown from left are McGinnis, Consul General Ribeiro, Consulate education administrator Elaine Boing and Gogue.

Campus Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

FESTIVAL Women's Health and Wellness Chocolate Festival, 12-3 p.m., Student Center ballroom; admission \$5; hosted by Women's Resource Center

DOCUMENTARY FILM "Brother Outsider," Examining role of political activist Bayard Rustin in the Civil Rights Movement, 2 p.m. Multicultural Center Reading Room, 1330 Student Center

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

UNIVERSITY THEATRE "Harvey," 7:30 p.m. Telfair Peet Theatre, also 7:30 p.m. Nov. 15, and Nov. 19-22, and 2:30 p.m. Nov. 17; ticket information at auburnuniversitytheatre.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

MEETING Auburn University Board of Trustees, The Hotel at Auburn University, committee sessions start at 9:30 a.m.; Board meets at approximately 10:50 a.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

PUBLIC LECTURE Carol Ann Bachl Dennis, "Whispers of Freedom: Exploring Laura Beecher Comer's Diary Through the Prism of the Corner Slaves' Resistance," 3:30 p.m., Special Collections, Draughton Library; part of the Discover Auburn Lecture Series

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

THANKSGIVING BREAK No classes this week

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

NEXT Auburn Report, posted online Tuesday afternoon

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS Offices closed for remainder of week

Profiles in Excellence

Leischuck winner shares joy of search for knowledge

David Umphress, a software engineer who recently received Auburn University's top award for teaching, knows the importance of properly working software in this age of computer-dependency.

A key challenge facing college faculty in his field, the associate professor says, is to convey that knowledge to today's students, the next generation of engineers who will be designing and testing future generations of software.



David Umphress

Since it was first presented in 2005, the Gerald and Emily Leischuck Endowed Presidential Awards for Excellence in Teaching have been Auburn's top awards for teaching. This year's awards went to Umphress, who is a faculty member in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering's Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering,

and Casey Cegielski of the Raymond J. Harbert College of Business.

Umphress, who joined the Auburn faculty in 1999, has been named Outstanding Instructor five times by the students in his department. He also received the William Walker Teaching Award from the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering for teaching excellence in 2008.

Umphress said he believes the Leischuck Award demonstrates Auburn University's recognition that teaching is valued and that what goes on in the classroom is the most important thing done at the university.

"The foundation of a university is the students," Umphress said. "I really want them to learn something, and they can't learn something if it's dull material or if I'm not excited about it so I want them to understand the excitement. I feel like if I have a sufficient amount of kinetic excitement that it'll rub off on them."

The engineering professor said he enjoys learning and sharing his knowledge with students. "It's that ability to learn more every single day," Umphress said. "To be able to share it with someone else and to see light bulbs go off in other people's heads, that's what keeps me going."

The key to successful teaching, he said, is simply to remember that students are people. He makes sure he knows each student in his classes.

"I know them all by name, usually by the second week," Umphress said. "One of the ways I do that is I stand at the door at the beginning of class. I get there a little bit early and I say hello to each one as they walk in. It helps me put a face to a name and it helps them understand that I know who they are."

While Umphress received an award for teaching, his contributions far exceed just his work in the classroom. He also diagnoses bad software and suggests innovative ways to fix it. "My primary focus in teaching and research is in defining ways to build software that exceeds expectations in terms of function, cost and quality," he said.

For 35 years, Umphress has worked in areas including academic, military and industrial software and systems engineering. His areas of expertise include software engineering, systems engineering, software process, software vulnerability analysis and mobile device development.

Umphress received his bachelor's degree in computer science from Angelo State University and then went on to get his master's and doctoral degrees in computer science from Texas A&M University. Umphress also holds the Certified Software Development Professional credential and is a former Air Force officer.

— Jordan Cooper

Rhodes Scholar finalists

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Donnan conducts research in the College of Sciences and Mathematics as a member of the theoretical and computational atomic physics group. He is an editor of the Auburn University Journal of Undergraduate Studies and has co-authored four peer-reviewed publications, including articles in *Nature: The International Weekly Journal of Science*.

Upon graduation from Auburn in 2014, Donnan aims to complete a doctorate in theoretical atomic physics and ultimately become a physics professor. If awarded the Rhodes, Patrick will work with faculty at the Center for Quantum Computation at Oxford.

Richardson, a former linebacker on the Auburn Tigers football team, majored in animal sciences with a concentration in pre-veterinary medicine in Auburn's College of Agriculture, earning a grade-point average of 3.94. He was a four-time SEC Academic Honor Roll honoree and winner of the 2012 Bobby Bowden Award, presented by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes to the NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision player who best epitomizes a student-athlete.

A native of New Orleans, Richardson grew up help-

ing his father raise quarter horses and has aspirations to become an equine surgeon. He wrote his Honors College thesis under the direction of Reid Hanson, professor of equine surgery in Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Beyond the classroom, Richardson volunteered for four years as a mentor at the Lee County Youth Development Center.

"Inside and outside the classroom, Ashton and Patrick stand with a select group of their peers," said Paul Harris, associate director for national prestigious

scholarships in the Honors College. "They are engaging scholars, world class researchers and kind souls. On top of their impressive grades, service and undergraduate research, Ashton was a four-year letterman on the Auburn football team and Patrick is an accomplished musician."

The Rhodes Scholarships, founded in 1904, are the oldest international fellowships and are administered by the Rhodes Trust, a British charity established to honor the will and bequest of Cecil J. Rhodes.

— Charles Martin

Auburn Employment Center relocates to coliseum

The Auburn University Employment Center, previously located at 146 N. Gay St. in downtown Auburn, has been relocated to the Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum, Suite 1084. The new address is 650 Biggio Drive.

Access is from Biggio Drive off Samford Avenue. There is an exterior entrance near the visitors' parking spaces in the lot on Biggio Drive.

The parking spaces are available for applicants seek-

ing employment through the university's Temporary Employment Services or wishing to use the center's public access computer kiosks to apply for regular employment.

The Employment Center houses the offices for Temporary Employment Services and Human Resource Development. Call 844-7363 for directions or other assistance.

Easing access for walking-impaired visitors, Raptor Center replaces old gravel path with eco-friendly type of concrete

A collaborative effort among several Auburn University units led to the construction last weekend at the Southeastern Raptor Center of a walkway with a type of concrete that is both environmentally friendly and a boon to persons with walking difficulties.

Students in a Structures III class taught by Michael Hein, a professor in the McWhorter School of Building Science, prepared the site at the Raptor Center off Shug Jordan Parkway for more than 300 linear feet of pervious concrete – a type of concrete that allows water to pass through, reducing the environmental effects of stormwater runoff.

In addition to approximately 30 College of Architecture, Design and Construction students, Auburn Facilities Management employees and construction professionals, the work was under the watchful eye of 26 birds of prey, including War Eagle VI (Tiger), War Eagle VII (Nova) and Spirit.

The idea to replace the gravel walkway came from Southeastern Raptor Center staff Marianne Hudson

and Andrew Hopkins, who conduct numerous tours of the center.

“The gravel has caused issues for the disabled, those with strollers and the elderly,” Hudson said.

Hopkins was walking with a friend in the university’s Davis Arboretum and learned about pervious concrete and began conversations as to the best way to pave the area at the Southeastern Raptor Center. “We’ve wanted it done for years because we average about one private tour each week and we have had challenges walking behind the mews.”

“We are excited and glad they are here and are thrilled to become more accessible to all of our visitors,” Hudson said.

Students in the service-learning project will be able to include it in their professional portfolios as experience, Hein said.

Although pervious concrete has been around since the 1970s and is considered a Best Management Practice by the EPA, it is not a widely used material in

Alabama, so students will learn information they can take to the workforce. Over the past 10 years, Hein and previous students in his structures classes have used the material on several previous campus projects, including parking lots and more than 1,000 linear feet of walkways in the arboretum.

Pervious concrete is a mixture of coarse aggregate, Portland cement and special admixtures. The stiff mixture is deposited and compressed with a spinning roller. The result is a high-permeability concrete that supports loads and drains quickly.

Hopkins noted that Auburn University Facilities Management staff and equipment played an important role in the project. Several corporations were also involved, including the National Pervious Concrete Pavement Association, Alabama Concrete Industries Association, Ready Mix USA Concrete of Opelika, FORTA Corporation and Estes Landscape Design.

– Janet McCoy

Campus News Briefs

Based on national survey, website ranks Harrison School of Pharmacy among best

Auburn University’s Harrison School of Pharmacy was ranked number 17 among all pharmacy schools in a recent national survey of current pharmacy students and recent graduates conducted by Graduateprograms.com.

The results are based on student and alumni perceptions about academic competitiveness, career support, financial aid and quality of network, among other ranking categories. Program rankings, compiled using data gathered between Sept. 1, 2012, and Sept. 30, 2013, encompass reviews posted by more than 40,000 students participating in over 1,300 graduate programs nationwide including pharmacy, law, business, engineering and others.

Five Pharmacy Practice faculty elected to national leadership positions

Five faculty members in the Department of Pharmacy Practice in Auburn’s Harrison School of Pharmacy have been elected as leaders of their respective practice and research networks, PRNs, within the professional pharmacy organization, the American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

Among those faculty leaders are Assistant Clinical Professor Emily Armstrong, chair-elect of the Ambulatory Care PRN; Associate Clinical Professor Kristi Kelley and Associate Clinical Professor Lori Hornsby, chair and chair-elect, respectively, of the Education and Training PRN.

Also, Associate Clinical Professor Anne Marie Liles was named chair-elect of the Nephrology PRN, and Assistant Dean and Associate Pharmacy Practice Department Head Karen Marlowe was named chair of the Pain and Palliative Care PRN.

Auburn’s Liberal Arts dean named Lineberry Award winner for best journal article

College of Liberal Arts Dean Joseph Aistrup is the winner of the Robert Lineberry Award from the Southwestern Social Sciences Association for his article “Structured Partisan Competition: A Vote Shares Model of Party Alignments and Realignment.”

The article was published in *Social Sciences Quarterly*, a journal nationally recognized since its inception in 1919 for interdisciplinary research.

“This is a great award for Joe,” said Steven Brown, chair of the Department of Political Science, “and I think it sets a fine example for the university as our dean, with everything else he has to do, continues to contribute important research to the discipline.”

The Lineberry Award will be presented to the Auburn dean at the association’s annual meeting in April.

Professional societies name Agriculture’s Weaver, Guertal as 2013 Fellows

David Weaver and Beth Guertal of Auburn University’s College of Agriculture have been awarded Fellow status in professional societies that are com-

prised of crop and soil scientists worldwide. The two are professors in the college’s Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences.

Weaver is one of 11 Crop Science Society of America members named to that organization’s 2013 class of Fellows. This is Weaver’s second such honor: In 2009, he was named a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy.

Guertal’s 2013 Fellow award is from the Soil Science Society of America. She already holds Fellow status in both the Crop Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy, and with the new honor, she is one of only 43 individuals to have received all three Fellow awards and only the third female to have that distinction.

Weaver and Guertal are being recognized during the three scientific societies’ joint annual meeting in Tampa this month. The organizations, because of their common interests, share a working relationship as the Alliance of Crop, Soil and Environmental Science Societies. Each organization is autonomous with its own bylaws and governing boards of directors.

Air Force Association names Auburn Air Force ROTC best unit in Alabama

Auburn Air Force ROTC was recently named by the Air Force Association as the Alabama winner of the Outstanding Air Force ROTC Unit Award, which recognizes the best detachment in the state.

The unit received a trophy during a ceremony at Maxwell Air Force Base on Nov. 6.