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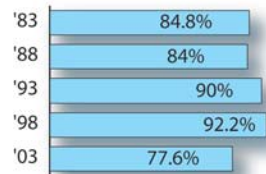
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Source: Planning & Analysis

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AU report

For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

Vol. 36 No. 30

Holiday lights

Auburn University began its holiday celebration Thursday evening with the annual lighting of the 40-foot-high holly tree in front of Samford Hall. Fall semester classes will end Wednesday, with finals starting Friday, followed by graduation on Dec. 19. The university will close for the holidays on Dec. 22 and reopen on Jan. 5. Classes for spring semester start Jan. 13.



Inquiry in final stage

AU, SACS officials meet in Nashville

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools may complete its examination of AU's governance structure this week.

Representatives from Auburn were scheduled to meet with a SACS panel in Nashville on Saturday. Barring new developments, that meeting could finalize a two-year inquiry into allegations that the AU Board of Trustees violated SACS rules for governing bodies of its member institutions.

SACS launched the review in 2001, after receiving a request from the Joint Assessment Committee, an ad hoc panel of representatives of several AU constituent groups.

AU has denied the allegations and, citing concerns about possible abuses of due process protections under the U.S. Constitution, the university filed suit in federal district court in Atlanta in 2001. AU and

SACS settled the case by agreeing to the court's appointment of Columbus, Ga., attorney Richard Bradley to conduct the inquiry.

Bradley issued a report in late 2002, and he conducted an expanded study last spring at the request of SACS.

The regional agency delayed its regular 10-year accreditation review until 2004 to avoid overlapping the two reviews.

Final AU Report of fall semester

This is the final scheduled issue of the AU Report for fall semester. The first issue of spring semester will be Jan. 12. For updates on news between issues, see the daily e-mail transmissions of AUDaily or the AU Home Page on the Web at www.auburn.edu.

Letter from President William Walker

To the Auburn University community:

By now, most of you have had a chance to read or see the news regarding Coach Tuberville and the Auburn football program. When I met with the coach on Monday, we had a frank and extended discussion about his future at Auburn, my expectations for the football program and the significant mistakes that were made in the last two weeks. I apologized to the coach and to his family for the clumsy manner in which I set about addressing the football program. I am most pleased he has decided to stay and I want to assure the Auburn faithful that the coach has my full support.

I want to take this opportunity to extend my apology to the Auburn community — faculty, staff and students. Please know it was not my intent to violate the unwritten rules of protocol in college athletics. Now, through oversights, the matter has become a source of embarrassment for those who most deeply love and care for Auburn.

If there is any good to be found in the situation, it is that Coach Tuberville and I agree to much more open lines of communication in the future, and I know we will come out of this stronger than we were. As I have told many reporters, I am glad to confirm that our program is in much better shape than it was when Coach Tuberville first arrived. Our athletes are now true "student" athletes who are here to learn; our program is clean;

our depth of talent rich. Coach Tuberville embraces positive values and imbues his players with a sense of loyalty and responsibility.

I believe strongly that just as we hold our academic standards at the highest level, we should expect no less for all of our athletic programs. During our meeting, Coach Tuberville and I discussed and agreed upon our mutual expectations for Auburn University's football program. We believe Auburn should contend consistently for the SEC Championship and should also be a perennial contender for the national championship. I have assured the coach that I will remain in close communication with him and will help, if he calls on me, in recruiting players and coaches. I have also assured him that should I ever have questions or concerns about the football program, I will call him first.

In conclusion, I want the Auburn family to know the errors that were made here were mine. I take full responsibility. Having done so, I believe it is time for the Auburn community to join with Coach Tuberville and me in looking to the future. We have much to accomplish in the coming months and years both on our athletic fields and in our classrooms and labs. I pledge to you my continued effort to see that we reach for and exceed the goals we have set for Auburn.

War Eagle!
William F. Walker

Retired pharmaceutical executive to receive honorary degree at Dec. 19 commencement

Auburn University will present an honorary Doctor of Sciences degree to retired pharmaceutical executive Edward L. Wampold of Atlanta during fall commencement ceremonies on Dec. 19.

Wampold will become the 151st person in 147 years to receive an honorary degree from Auburn.

AU also will confer 1,421 degrees on new graduates at the 2 p.m. ceremony at Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum. AU will award 1,116 bachelor's degrees, 243 master's degrees, 55 doctorates and seven specialists' degrees.

A native of Montgomery, Wampold twice had his studies at Auburn interrupted by volunteer service in World War II and the Korean war before earning his degree in biological science in 1953. He also did graduate studies at Syracuse University and Columbia University.

"Ed has recently stepped down from the Alumni Association Board, where he was a strong advocate

for calm and reason," said AU President William Walker. "He has been a great asset to the Board of Trustees and a friend to the university."

After earning his degree from Auburn, Wampold joined Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation, a division of Johnson & Johnson, where he rose through the ranks during his 22 years with the company to become a member of the board of directors.

Retiring from Ortho in 1974, he then co-founded Biological Cooperation of America, a diagnostic immunohematology company that grew to become the second largest firm in the industry in just two years. In 1985, he retired again and moved to Florida, where he later became president, CEO and a member of the board of directors of Technimed Corporation. Wampold retired a third time in 1990, returning to Atlanta.

At that time, he became a member of the AU College of Sciences and Mathematics Advisory Council and a football scholarship donor. He is also a member of the university's 1856 Society, which recognizes major benefactors.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 9

- Health Insurance: Blue Cross-Blue Shield representative available for consultation, 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m., Ingram 212.
- AU Libraries Book Club: Sessions at 11:45 a.m. and 5 p.m., Draughton Library. See page 4.
- Concert: AU Community Orchestra, 7:30 p.m., Auburn High School.

Wednesday, December 10

- Classes end for fall semester.
- Author's Reading: "Pie in the Sky" by local author Jim Buford, 4 p.m., Pebble Hill.

Thursday, December 11

- Special Meeting: University Senate, 9 a.m., Broun Hall auditorium. Agenda online at www.auburn.edu/administration/governance/senate/2003dec11.htm

Friday, December 12

- Final Examinations: Finals continue through Wednesday, Dec. 17, excluding Sunday, Dec. 14.

Friday, December 19

- Graduation: Presentation of diplomas and honorary degree at 2 p.m., Beard-Eaves-Memorial Coliseum.

Monday, December 22

- Campus closed for holidays.

2004

Monday, January 5

- Campus reopens following holidays.

Monday, January 12

- First AU Report of spring semester.

Tuesday, January 13

- First day of classes for spring semester.
- Meeting: University Senate, 3 p.m., Broun Hall auditorium.

AUreport

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Sounds of Auburn
Assistant Choral Director William Powell directs the AU Gospel Choir during the recent Sounds of Auburn concert. The choir was one of several vocal and instrumental ensembles from the Department of Music to perform in the annual holiday concert.

College of Education names three to distinguished professorships

The AU College of Education recently honored its three newest distinguished professors in a ceremony at the Auburn Alumni Center.

Honorees for 2003-04 were Joseph Buckhalt, Wayne T. Smith Distinguished Professor; Glennelle Halpin, Mildred Cheshire Fraley Distinguished Professor; and Marie Kraska, Mildred Cheshire Fraley Distinguished Professor.

Buckhalt, a professor in the Department of Counseling and Counseling Psychology, is a licensed psychologist and nationally certified school psychologist. His contributions to school psychology, special education and child development have been primarily in the areas of intellectual and personality assessment, and in risk and protective factors for children who are at risk for cognitive, emotional or behavioral problems.

Buckhalt, a faculty member since 1979, received his bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology from Auburn, and his doctorate from Vanderbilt University in 1974.

Halpin, a professor in the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology, has been active at all levels of education through teaching, research, service and outreach. A frequently cited authority in education and psychology, she has authored or co-authored more than 250 research publications and presentations.

Halpin has been a faculty member in the College

of Education for 29 years. She received her bachelor's degree from Jacksonville State University, and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Georgia.

Marie Kraska, a professor in the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology, has served as a consultant for research, data analysis, program planning and evaluation for local school systems nationally and the World Bank internationally. Kraska joined the College of Education faculty in 1988. She holds a doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia, a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

The Wayne T. Smith professorship was established in 1996 through a gift from prominent health systems financial officer Wayne Smith, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the AU College of Education.

This is the first year the Mildred Cheshire Fraley Distinguished Professorship has been awarded. It was established in 1997 by Mr. and Mrs. Charles I. Fraley of Richmond, Va., as a bequest and was funded through the Fraley estate in 2002. Mildred Fraley was a native of Lee County and met her husband while both were students at Auburn. The estate gift also provided endowed scholarship funding and an endowed fund for excellence.

Pebble Hill to host reading of essays by local author Jim Buford

The AU Center for the Arts & Humanities at Pebble Hill will host a reading by author Jim Buford at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

Buford will read from his new book "Pie in the Sky." Published this fall by River City Publishing of Montgomery, "Pie in the Sky" is Buford's third in a

series of essay collections. His first two collections, were "The Kindness of Strangers" and "The Best of Times."

A resident of Auburn, Buford is a management consultant and adjunct professor at AU.

Senior art

Seniors in the Department of Art marked the end of their final semester with a Biggin Hall display of their work. Among those students was graphic design major Jessica Helvey, center, who discussed her senior project with faculty members Wei Wang, left, and Ray Dugas, right.



Multidisciplinary

Conference links AU, South Africa

A delegation from Auburn established links between Alabama and South Africa at a recent international conference on entrepreneurship organized by AU faculty and administrators.

Experts from five AU colleges and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System had key roles in the "Empowerment Through Entrepreneurship" conference in November in Cape Town, South Africa. AU colleges represented were Business, Engineering, Education, Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

Organized by an Auburn-based organization, the conference examined ways to boost regional economic development in a global economy through individual and small-business initiatives.

With the Western Cape of South Africa as a context, the 14 presenters from AU gained fresh perspectives and new ideas for addressing problems in economically stressed sections of West Alabama, said Keenan Grenell, AU's interim assistant provost for multicultural affairs.

Grenell is founder of the African-American Entrepreneurship Summit, which coordinated the conference. Don-Terry Veal, associate director of AU's Center for Governmental Services, was conference director.

"The purpose was to get South Africans talking about new ways to create business opportunities in their own country, but we learned at least as much from them as they learned from us," said Grenell. "It was truly a symbiotic relationship."

"The conference really opened my eyes to opportunities for collaborative research and outreach between our faculty and professors in the South African universities," said Bill Sauser, associate dean for business and engineering outreach. "There are wonderful opportunities in business, engineering, nursing, education and agriculture."

Grenell said the United States could learn from some of the initiatives South Africa has taken to help entrepreneurs succeed. For instance, he said, the South African government is much more aggressive

in use of laws and empowerment charters that encourage and support entrepreneurship among all citizens.

Grenell said he plans to explore ways to create similar opportunities in economically stressed areas of the United States.

The conference introduced some South African participants to concepts of entrepreneurship taught at AU and other U.S. universities. However, Grenell said both South Africa and the United States could benefit from more instruction about entrepreneurship in their education systems, especially in K-12.

Veal, who is editor-in-chief of the Entrepreneurship Policy Journal, is compiling a collection of the conference's highest-rated papers for publication. He said participants on both continents will collaborate on future projects that will break new ground in entrepreneurial studies.

"In a sense, we were ambassadors for Auburn University and the state of Alabama in a part of the world where there is a great deal of economic potential but where our university and our state were not well known until we went there," said Veal. "We did not go there as trade ambassadors for Alabama, but we were that and much more."

Willie D. Larkin, leadership and organizational development specialist with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, said he saw many similarities, good and bad, between South Africa and Alabama. He said both have much potential for development but both need stronger leadership and more attention to personal empowerment at the grassroots level.

Larkin stressed a multidisciplinary approach to produce sustainable communities. Noting that the conference examined success stories as well as challenges, he added, "What I really gained from the trip is that one honest and committed person can make a difference in the world. And, that if one person can persuade one other person to do the same, we can create a whole new order of how we treat people."

Book club to discuss holiday classic

The AU Libraries Book Club will meet at 11:45 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday in the first floor systems classroom of Draughon Library to discuss "The Story of the Other Wise Man" by Henry Van Dyke.

"The Story of the Other Wise Man" has long been cited by literary critics as a classic holiday short story. First published in 1886, the book was re-released on its centennial. The story follows the physical and spiritual journey of a wise man who sets off to see one very special infant in Judaea, but gets sidetracked when he helps a dying man.

In January, the book club will discuss "The Last Girls" by Lee Smith. A meeting date will be announced later.

Herbal medicine is subject of HR seminar

Norman Doorenbos of AU's Harrison School of Pharmacy will present the Human Resources Development seminar "The Healthy Employee: Herbal Medicine" from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Thursday in Foy 202.

For information or assistance, contact Melissa Askew or Pat Deery at 844-4145.

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