For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

April 17

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Teaching science
Robert Lishak of Biological Sciences teaches a class in the auditorium of AU's new Sciences Laboratory Center in the College of Sciences and Mathematics. College faculty and administrators recently held open house at the three-building complex, which has state-of-the-art technology for courses in AU's core curriculum as well as for science majors.

For next AU president
McCrary to lead search committee

Board of Trustees President Pro Tem Earlon McWhorter appointed Trustee Charles McCrary on Friday to head a nine-member search committee for a new president of Auburn University.

McWhorter said he and McCrary, the CEO of Alabama Power Co., would select the other eight members within 10 days and soon thereafter call the committee together to discuss the search process and timetable with executive search consultant John Kuhnle.

“Understanding that President (Ed) Richardson is scheduled to retire no later than Dec. 31, 2006, I recommend that an Auburn University Presidential Advisory Committee be appointed and the search begun as soon as is feasible,” Kuhnle said in a letter to McWhorter.

As recommended by Kuhnle in the letter and by speakerphone on Friday, the committee will consist of five trustees, two faculty members, one student and one alumnus. Kuhnle said the board, because of its financial responsibility for the university, should retain a majority on the search committee.

Representatives from the faculty, students and alumni should be selected, he said, to provide the committee with the benefit of varied experiences and perspectives while the members act collectively in the best interests of the university. Committee appointments should not reflect specific constituent organizations, he added.

Kuhnle said a small search committee would make it easier to protect the confidentiality of candidates, which he described as essential to attracting the strongest candidates.

Auburn’s prospects for attracting a strong list of candidates has improved tremendously, he said, because of the board’s commissioning of a state-of-the university study by James L. Fisher and associates and the board’s pledge to address the Fisher team’s recommendations.

Discussing administrative recommendations in the Fisher Report, Richardson said there would be no major changes in the relationship between AU’s main campus and AU-Montgomery and the titles of each executive should not be changed. But, he said, the AUM chancellor should be appointed by and report to the president of AU. He also put on hold further consideration of AUM moving to a higher division in intercollegiate athletics until a new president is on board.

In the academic area at AU, Provost John Heilman said the university will test a plan for academic program review during the 2006-07 academic year.

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

See Board of Trustees, page 2
Speakers to examine agriculture at AU and in-state rivalry between AU and UA

The popular musical is "Whorehouse in Texas." Events section, at right.

On Wednesday, April 19

**INTERCONTINENTAL COLOQUIUM** on Medieval Studies “New Worlds/Words Amen,” 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Eagles Nest South, Haley Center; also Friday, April 21

Friday, April 21

**PICTURE** Tiger Day celebration, 11:30 a.m., lawn of Foyston Union; sponsored by Auburn University Area Race Relations and Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs

**PUBLIC LECTURE** “Auburn v. Alabama: The Political Rivalry,” Anthony Donaldson, doctoral candidate in history at Auburn University and a history instructor at Columbus State University.

**OPENS CERemonies** College of Veterinary Medicine, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.; School of Nursing, 10 a.m.-noon

Saturday, April 22

**APRIL REPORT**


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 every two weeks in summer term, except on the Monday of the Monday after some major U.S. holidays. Copies are available in the tamuss mall and full-time faculty and staff at campus offices. Deadline for delivery of items for publication is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday before publication date. For more information, suggestions and news items to AU Report, 23 Samford Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849. Telephone: 334/844-9999. AU Report is published by the Auburn University College of Agriculture. The interlocking AU symbol, shown above and at the top of page 1, and the AU Sesquicentennial Lecture Series logo is on pages 2-3 are registered trademarks of Auburn University and may not be reproduced without written permission from the AU Office of Trademark Management and Licensing, 44 Samford Hall.

Sponsors of Earth Day events include the AU Environmental Institute, the AU Sustainability Initiative, Davis Arboretum and Keep Auburn Beautiful. Ultimately, the prestige of a university and its programs is determined by the quality of its students,” he said. “The competition for these high-performing students continues to increase. Attracting these students often hinges upon the scholarships offered by an institution.”

A native of Camden and veteran of World War II, Roy Lee Farish graduated from Auburn in 1950 with a degree in business administration. Farish spent much of his career with Camden National Bank as first vice president until his retirement.

Survey to seek faculty opinions on tenure


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Veterinary Medicine gets $1 million gift to support research of diabetes

The AU College of Veterinary Medicine has received a $1 million gift from the Birmingham-based Diabetes Trust Foundation to support its studies of the disease, which affects both humans and animals. “Most of the money will go into an existing endowment and the rest will be used immediately toward our research efforts,” said Timothy Boosinger, the college’s dean.

Boosinger said $900,000 will be added to the Boshell Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases Research Program Endowment that was created in 2001, bringing the total to $1.9 million. Interest from the account is used to support diabetes research projects.

International office seeks faculty, staff assistance with international contacts

Does your research or academic program extend beyond the United States? Are you collaborating with researchers in other countries or have you done so in the past? If you answer yes to any part of these questions, the Office of International Education in Hargis Hall is seeking your assistance.

International Education is seeking widespread faculty and staff input as it expands its database with information about research and experience in other countries. Director Jim Ellis said the information will help the university develop Auburn Abroad opportunities for students and help faculty identify potential collaborative activities around the world.

Ellis noted that many international activities are unknown outside the individual’s department, school or college. Contacts established abroad as part of those activities can lead to additional contacts, often in different academic areas, in the same countries.

By sharing information with the larger university community through OIE, faculty and staff may be helping their colleagues and students in other academic fields establish programs or research projects in those countries, Ellis said. “This information will be invaluable as we develop Auburn Abroad opportunities for students and other collaborative activities around the world.

Ellis asked faculty and staff who are or have been involved in international activities to notify him by electronic mail at ellijam@auburn.edu. Include your name, title, department and Web links, along with basic information about the project, including country, time period, collaborators and any granting agencies, such as Fulbright or NSF, that provided assistance.

“We are asking that people not assume that their project is well-known and already on file,” Ellis said. “Some of the information may already be available, but even then we may gain new information that could help students and your colleagues in other colleges and schools get established in the international arena.”

Bevly wins investigator grant from U.S. Navy

The Office of Naval Research in the U.S. Department of Defense has awarded a Young Investigator grant to David Bevly of AU’s Samuel Ginn College of Engineering.

The grant will support work by Bevly, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering, in the use of global positioning sensors and micro-controllers to enable specially trained dogs to perform security duties without the immediate presence of a handler. Faculty from the College of Veterinary Medicine are also participating.

How Auburn Stacks Up

Distribution of fall 2005 undergraduate lecture classes by class size

- 150+ (5%)
- 100 to 99 (14%)
- 90 to 49 (24%)
- 40 to 39 (12%)
- 30 to 29 (7%)
- 20 to 19 (7%)
- 10 to 19 (13%)

Source: Institutional Research and Assessment

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