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new Transportation Technology Center, which will house research, instruction and administrative offices designed to support multidisciplinary work in the field of transportation technology. Construction also will begin soon on a new parking structure at the southwest corner of Duncan and Roosevelt drives. Mouton said the four-level structure will be significantly larger than the library parking deck and will provide approximately 700 spaces. These will replace spaces for other parking areas lost to construction around campus.

"It is not really a net gain of any spaces," Mouton said. "We've already taken out a number of spaces associated with where the Science Laboratory Center is and we've closed a large parking lot for construction of the new Building Science facility."

In addition, the A and B zone lots near Haley Center will be eliminated for construction of the new student center, a project now in the planning stages. An unusually wet summer has caused experienced setbacks due to weather. Located on the north side, "It is in the heart of campus where there is a limited amount of parking but also a limited amount of traffic space," he said.

Another project Mouton describes as disruptive is the installation of pipes for chilled and hot water, which has caused the closure of several streets throughout campus.

"Ultimately we need to have the entire campus on central utilities," he said. "We typically bring in new utilities with a major project and then connect other buildings to it."

For example, Mouton said central utilities can be installed for the Ross Hall project but Samford Hall and other area buildings can be added at the same time. Several other projects are in the planning stages, including a student center, an outdoor pool for the swim team, an equestrian facility and the second phase of the Transportation Technology Center as well as a facility for the Office of Information Technology.

Upcoming Events
Tuesday, July 26
AUDIO CONFERENCE "Best Practices for Blended and Hybrid Courses," 1 p.m., Foy 205. Sponsored by Office of Distance Learning and Outreach Technology. See www.auburn.edu/out- reach/dli/diot_events.php?id=96.

LAST DAY of classes for summer term.

Monday, August 8
NEXT AU Report; final issue of summer.

Friday, September 16
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Committee sessions are scheduled to start at 9 a.m. and the board is scheduled to meet at 1 p.m., Dixon Conference Center. Meeting times may change; for updates, see www.auburn.edu/administration/trustees.

Extreme makeover in Ross Hall, Auburn has its own version of the reality television show 'Extreme Make- over.' One of the most historic AU buildings of the 20th century, Ross is undergoing a complete renovation of its interior as well as the addition of a new wing on its north side, shown here. The work is one of the largest restoration and renovation projects in AU’s current construction program.

Audio conference: Monday, July 25
Dr. Gramberg is a dynamic and energetic educator and, as demonstrated during her tenure as chair of her department, a highly qualified administrator," said Heilman. "She is respected by peers and by students. I’m convinced the College of Liberal Arts will flourish under her leadership."

Gramberg came to Auburn as an assistant professor of German in 1993. She was promoted to associate professor in 1997 and to full professor in 2002. She has been chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures since 2001. Before coming to Auburn, she taught at Central Michigan University and Michigan State University.

In addition to publishing in refereed journals and being involved in the production of multimedia publications, she has been author, editor or co-editor of nine books on German language for business and economics.

Gramberg earned her master’s degree from Georg-August-Universitaet in Gottingen, Germany, and her doctorate in German from Michigan State University.

Happy camper
Shown here at a recent TIGER camp on engineering topics for seventh and eighth graders, Hannah Pitts of Spanish Fort gets her model car ready for racing competition. TIGER stands for Teams and Individuals Guided by Engineering Resources. The Samuel Ginn College of Engineering is one of several AU colleges hosting students from schools across Alabama and neighboring states this summer for camps focusing on topics of special interest to elementary, middle school and high school students.

Sid McAnally named director of external relations at AU, to seek additional funding
Interim President Ed Richardson has announced the appointment of Sid McAnally as AU’s director of external relations.

"Auburn is beginning to work more in areas external to the university to strengthen its position as an economic and public policy leader in the state," said Richardson. "We are working externally with regard to funding, defining programming better suited to meet the state’s needs and to give the Auburn system more definition and focus for its future.

He added, “As part of my recommendations to the board in June to better connect the university, I included the appointment of an external affairs director. Sid is well suited to lead Auburn’s efforts in coordinating these external relationships.

“Sid played a critical role in the joint legislative efforts of Auburn and the University of Alabama System in the most recent legislative session and was instrumental in our outstanding results. Certainly, the continuation of that partnership, as well as increasing Auburn’s presence in Washington, D.C., will be among his chief responsibilities.”

McAnally received his undergraduate degree from Auburn in 1985 and a law degree from the University of Alabama in 1990. He has worked for governors Jim Folsom Jr., who is a Democrat, and Bob Riley, a Republican.
Two from AU advise region’s leaders on growth

Two AU administrators recently spoke to more than 450 rural leaders at a Southern Growth Policies Board conference at Point Clear hosted by Alabama Gov. Bob Riley.

Vice President for Outreach David Wilson and Joe Sumners, director of the Economic Development Institute, addressed business, government and community leaders at the conference, “Rising Together: The Summit on the Rural South.” Wilson served as a panel member for the conference’s concluding Town Hall meeting, which was moderated by the Alabama governor.

Wilson advised the regional leaders to reassess their local growth plans, ensuring that no segment of the population is excluded from planning, developing and benefiting from development.

Sumners served on a panel of the nation’s top rural development experts. He urged the participants to look beyond industrial recruitment and develop strategies for improving quality of life.

Groundbreaking

Local and state officials and construction industry leaders joined AU officials for the formal groundbreaking for construction of the M. Miller Gorrie Building Science Center on July 15. The building north of Samford Avenue will house the Department of Building Science in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction. The building’s namesake is chairman of the Birmingham-based Brasfield and Gorrie Construction Co.

Trustee publishes children’s book about Auburn, profits going to AU

Auburn trustee and Huntsville businessman John Blackwell has written and published a colorfully illustrated children’s book, “The ABC’s of Auburn,” and announced plans to donate profits from its sales to the university.

The 34-page book, which relates each letter of the alphabet to an Auburn tradition, is available at Auburn-area bookstores.

“It was a fun and interesting project,” Blackwell said. “My wife Shirley had seen a book similar to this one and basically told me, ‘You ought to do something like this.’” Blackwell added that his interest in penning a children’s book was spurred on by his role as a grandfather of six.

“The idea was to make it sort of a family affair,” he said.

For the design, Blackwell recruited students from the Art Department at Auburn. “It worked out great. I was really pleased with the designs they came up with. He said the toughest part of putting the book together was deciding which art to use from the drawings that were submitted.

“The students knew what each letter was going to stand for and we would have more than one student draw an illustration for a particular letter,” Blackwell said. “They would approach them in different ways and they had a lot of fun with some of them. Making the final decisions on what we used and what we didn’t was certainly the most difficult part of the project.”

To acknowledge the contributions of the student artists, Blackwell not only gave each a credit line on their page, but also included in the book a group photo of all whose artwork was included.

“I wanted to make sure they were acknowledged and I thought the group photo was a neat way to do that,” Blackwell said.

The AU trustee said he hopes Auburn receives as much financial benefit from the project as he did enjoyment. “I’d like to see the book sell well, of course,” Blackwell said. “Not because of any personal reason — I have already gotten my satisfaction. But I would like to see it generate some significant funds for the university. That would be a double payoff for me.”