COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Awards Ceremony

April 26, 2012
Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art
Order of Events

Masters of Ceremony
Daydrie Hague and Chris Qualls, Department of Theatre

Welcome
Anna Gramberg, Dean

Promotion of Excellence in Teaching and Learning Awards (PETL)
James Shelley, PETL Chair

Competitive Research Grants
Paula Bobrowski, Associate Dean of Research, Faculty Development & Graduate Studies

Department and Individual Assessment Awards
Dan LaRocque, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Community and Civic Engagement Awards
Giovanna Summerfield, Associate Dean of Educational Affairs

Staff and A&P Employee of the Year Awards
Anna Gramberg, Dean

Closing and Remarks
Anna Gramberg, Dean

Please join us after the ceremony for a reception honoring the award recipients in the museum lobby.
I am pleased to recognize our 2012 award winners. Our selected faculty, advisers, staff, and teachers excel in the crucial areas of education, research, assessment, community and civic engagement, and teamwork. We take time every year to acknowledge the people who are core to the College’s mission, and as we approach the 25th anniversary of our founding, it is clear that our commitment to the success of our students remains strong. I sincerely thank all of our award winners for their immeasurable contributions.

Dean Anna Gramberg
College of Liberal Arts

We are committed to the ideals of a liberal education and to the highest level of intellectual excellence. Our distinguished faculty are dedicated to teaching, scholarship, and outreach. We teach our students to think creatively, critically, and independently; to communicate effectively; and to adapt to change. Furthermore, we foster a community in which students, faculty, and administration have an understanding of the human condition, a respect for individual and cultural differences, and a desire for the free exchange of ideas. We emphasize integrity, inquiry, and civility for the sake of educated, thoughtful citizenship.
Description of Awards

University Awards
These award recipients received recognition from Auburn University for their pursuit of excellence.

Promotion of Excellence in Teaching and Learning Awards (PETL)
The PETL Committee reviews nominations for outstanding teachers in the college. Faculty submit nominations to the committee, with supporting documents from colleagues and students, and then the committee reviews the submissions and votes on the winners. This year, PETL awards include Teaching Excellence Awards, a Graduate Teaching Assistance Award, an Academy of Outstanding Teachers Award, and Advising Awards.

Competitive Summer Research Grants
The College of Liberal Arts recognizes the importance of opportunities for professional growth. Each of these awardees receive a $10,000 summer salary to support their research.

Competitive Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Grant
The College of Liberal Arts has established the Competitive Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Grant to promote, encourage, and support faculty involved in high quality collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects that advance the mission of the college and university.
Departmental & Individual Award for Outstanding Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

The College of Liberal Arts has established these awards to recognize the department and individual that has demonstrated during the previous year the most serious commitment to the Student Learning Outcomes assessment process. The awards also promote responsible assessment practices by encouraging an annual meeting in each department devoted to assessment.

Community and Civic Engagement (CCE) Award

The CCE Teaching Award is given to a liberal arts faculty member who demonstrates civic commitment and excellent teaching skills in meaningful experiential courses that support the development, retention, and graduation of civic-minded students.

Staff and A&P Employee of the Year Award

The College of Liberal Arts established the Staff and A&P Employee of the Year Award to honor Staff and A&P members who have made exceptional contributions to their departments and the College. The award recognizes our outstanding employees for their efforts to go above and beyond to provide outstanding service to others, create an inspiring work environment, and foster positive relationships across the university.
Morris L. Bian earned his PhD from the University of Washington and is a recipient of Auburn University’s Creative Research and Scholarship Award. He is the author of *The Making of the State Enterprise System in Modern China: The Dynamics of Institutional Change* and has been published in journals such as *Enterprise & Society, Frontiers of History in China* and *Modern China*. He teaches a range of undergraduate and graduate courses, including History of Modern China, Survey of Asian History, World History, The Historian’s Craft, and Seminar in Modern World History.
Martha Escobar is an associate professor of psychology. She completed her undergraduate studies in psychology at the University of Deusto (Spain), and her graduate studies in Cognitive and Behavioral Sciences at the State University of New York at Binghamton. Her research focuses on the mechanisms of learning, memory, and forgetting, which she investigates in various species. Her recent contributions to the field relate to the processes that lead to acquisition of fear responses and the effectiveness of the procedures that can ameliorate these fear responses, the processes that lead to causal attribution, and the effects of various developmental insults on cognitive function. Among the honors she has received are the CLA Lanier Professorship, the Psi Chi Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, and funding from the National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH).
Chase Bringardner is an assistant professor in the Department of Theatre who specializes in the study of popular entertainments such as medicine shows and musical theatre, regional identity construction, and intersections of race, gender, and class in popular performance forms. Bringardner has directed and acted in many musicals and plays including *Cabaret*, *Hair*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *The Birthday Party*. He has a chapter in the new *Oxford Handbook of the American Musical* on Region, Politics, and Identity in Musical Theatre. His current book-length project details the socio-cultural history of the Fabulous Fox Theatre in Atlanta and both its complicated relationship with the city and its role in larger narratives of regional and national theatrical/performance histories.
Derek G. Ross is an assistant professor at Auburn University in the Technical and Professional Communication program in the Department of English. He received his PhD in Technical Communication and Rhetoric from Texas Tech University, and his research interests include perceptions of environment-related rhetoric, audience analysis, and student understanding of research and research methodologies.
Known for his passion for both solo and collaborative piano performances, Jeremy Samolesky, a native of Manitoba, Canada, has appeared in concert as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Canada, the US, Italy, Austria, China, Malaysia, and Singapore, including a recital at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, which was broadcast nationally on NPR’s “Performance Today.” Samolesky achieved the rare distinction of graduating with two doctoral degrees from the Eastman School of Music: Piano Performance and Literature under the direction of Barry Snyder, and Accompanying and Chamber Music with Jean Barr. He also holds a Master of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Washington. He currently serves as assistant professor of piano and piano area coordinator at Auburn University, where he has been teaching since the fall of 2007.
Steven P. Brown is an associate professor of political science. He received his bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and his master's degree and doctorate from the University of Virginia. Brown teaches courses in constitutional law and specializes in First Amendment and church and state issues. His first book, Trumping Religion: The New Christian Right, the Free Speech Clause, and the Courts received the Franklyn S. Haiman Award for distinguished scholarship in freedom of expression. His second book, Justice John McKinley and the Antebellum Supreme Court: Circuit Riding in the Old Southwest, will be published this fall. In 2006, Brown was the national winner of the National Society of Collegiate Scholar’s Faculty of the Year Award. He and his wife Melanie have seven children.
Heather Pavletic is a PhD candidate in the Department of English. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and her master’s degree from Marquette University. Pavletic has taught English Composition, World Literature, Business Writing, and Technical Writing at Auburn. Her interests lie in social literacy, cultural performance, drama, and engaged learning.
Jeffrey Katz is an Alumni Professor of psychology. His research focuses on the comparative mechanism of learning and cognition. Ongoing projects involve behavioral and functional neuroimaging methods to investigate change detection, visual search, same/different concept learning, and the mechanisms by which pigeons learn matching to sample. He has been honored with the APA’s Division 3 (Experimental Psychology) 2001 Young Investigator Award, Psi Chi Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of Liberal Arts Early Career Teaching Award, Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers, and an Auburn University Alumni Professorship. Katz has a history of teaching and research grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).
Gail Holmes currently serves as an academic advisor in the Department of Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work and a Master of Arts in Education, specializing in Educational Leadership/Education and Training Management from the University of West Florida in Pensacola, Florida. She joined the College of Liberal Arts in 2008 and provides academic advising services to approximately 750 students which include political science, public administration, health services administration majors, and political science minors. She is the current chair of the Auburn University Advisors and Counselors Caucus, a member of the University Undergraduate Advising Council, a member of the Political Science Department Scholarship Committee, and a member of the National Academic Advising Association.
Judith Sanders is the senior academic advisor in the College of Liberal Arts. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Family and Child Development from Auburn University and has completed work toward a Master of Science in Human Development and Family Studies. Sanders joined the College of Liberal Arts in 2005 and sees approximately 1,800 student appointments each year. She is actively involved with both student and professional organizations on campus. She has advised the College of Liberal Arts Student Council and has served as chair-elect and chair of the Auburn University Advisors and Counselors Caucus (AUACC). She was also chair of the AUACC Committee for the Alabama State Drive in Conference in 2009. Sanders is a member of the Associate Academic Provost’s Practical Advising Seminar Committee and a member of National Academic Advising Association.
Jennifer Brooks came to Auburn University in 2006 and teaches courses in American and labor history. In 2004, The University of North Carolina Press published *Defining the Peace: World War Two Veterans, Race, and the Remaking of Southern Political Tradition* and other work has appeared in the *Journal of Southern History* and in *Labor: Studies in Working Class History of the Americas*. She also curated a public history exhibit based on her research into a 1950 textile strike, entitled, “American Enka and the Modern Labor Movement in East Tennessee,” which is currently in its third exhibit venue. Her most recent work is entitled, “No Juan Crow!: Documenting the Immigration Debate in Alabama Today,” will appear in the forthcoming Southern Politics issue of the journal, *Southern Cultures*. 

Jennifer Brooks

*Associate Professor, Department of History*

PhD – The University of Tennessee  
MA – The University of Tennessee  
BA – University of Massachusetts Boston
Aimee Callender is an assistant professor of psychology in the Cognitive and Behavioral Sciences Program. She received her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Wheaton College (Illinois) and her master’s and doctorate from Washington University in St. Louis. Her research interests focus on memory processes and individual differences in reading comprehension. Callender is particularly interested in applying the findings of cognitive psychology to improve educational practice. She is a recipient the Daniel F. Breeden grant from the Biggio Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning at Auburn. Her research has appeared in journals such as the Journal of Educational Psychology and Contemporary Educational Psychology.
John Carvalho is an associate professor of journalism. Before embarking on an academic career, he worked as a sports writer and editor for both newspapers and magazines. He plans to use his research grant to put together a proposal for an autobiography of Ford Frick, commissioner of baseball from 1951 to 1965. Carvalho, who has been a member of the Auburn faculty since 2003, earned his doctorate from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned his master’s degree from California State University, Fullerton. Carvalho is a 1978 Auburn graduate and was editor of *The Auburn Plainsman* (where he now serves as faculty advisor) from 1977 to 1978.
Christopher Ferguson is an assistant professor in the Department of History. He earned his doctorate from the University of Indiana. A specialist in Modern British History, his research investigates the social, cultural, and intellectual responses to rapid urbanization during the first half of the 19th century.
Keren Gorodeisky’s main research areas are philosophical aesthetics, the philosophy of Immanuel Kant, and 18th to 19th century German philosophy, but she also has interests in philosophical approaches to judgment and in varieties of skepticism. Currently, Gorodeisky is working on a reconstruction of the philosophy of the “Early German Romantics,” and on a book-length interpretation of Kant’s view of the special form that characterizes aesthetic judgments entitled “A Matter of Form.” Among her papers are: “A Tale of Two Faculties” (*The British Journal of Aesthetics*) and “(Re)encountering Individuality: Friedrich Schlegel’s Romantic Imperative as a Response to Nihilism” (*Inquiry*). Gorodeisky is the recipient of the 2012–13 Philip Quinn Fellowship for Young Women in Philosophy at the National Humanities Center.
Michael Kozuh received his doctorate with honors from The University of Chicago in 2006 and his bachelors with high honors from the University of Michigan. He teaches in the Technology and Civilization sequence, as well as undergraduate and graduate classes on topics in ancient Near Eastern history, ancient Mediterranean history, and historiography. Before coming to Auburn, Kozuh taught at The University of Maine at Farmington and at Western Washington University. His research interests are on the ancient economy, Babylonian temples (especially their relationship with royal administrations), the empires of the first millennium BC, ancient technology, Elam and the Elamites, and intercultural connections in the ancient world. His book, *The Sacrificial Economy*, will be published in the near future.
Adrienne Wilson earned an Master of Fine Arts in Choreography and Performance from State University of New York at Brockport, and bachelor and master’s degrees in music performance from Ithaca College. Her choreographic works have been performed throughout the country. She performs nationally with mentor and colleague Bill Evans. Wilson teaches courses in dance techniques in the Department of Theatre, while choreographing and coaching movement for mainstage productions, directing and choreographing for the annual student dance concerts, and hosting dance residencies.
Kelly Alley joined the Auburn faculty in 1991. Her primary research has been in northern India and she has worked on public culture and environmental issues. Her collaboration with the Center for Forest Sustainability began on the West Georgia project and she has served as a member of the Executive Board. Alley is the author of numerous book chapters and articles on religion and ecology, river and water policy, and environmental law and justice in India and the United States. To connect research with outreach, she directed a project to facilitate professional exchanges between environmental lawyers, scientists, and NGOs to address river pollution problems in India and the US. She also worked with an interdisciplinary team to create a radio series on the Ganga for NPR. She is currently studying water governance in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna river basin that spans India, Bangladesh, China, Nepal, and Bhutan.
Department Assessment Award

Department of Communication Disorders
Ann Knipschild received the doctor of musical arts degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and the master of music degree from Yale University, studying oboe with Ronald Roseman. She holds bachelor degrees in music and agronomy from the University of Missouri. She teaches oboe, woodwind methods, and music theory at Auburn. She has been featured on concerts throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico, Greece, Italy, Austria, England, and The Netherlands, and she has performed as oboist and English hornist for Amy Grant and Vince Gill in two national tours. In addition to her performing, she creates scholarly editions of baroque music for Musica Rara, Breitkopf & Härtel, and Doblinger. She currently serves on the CLA and music department assessment committees.
Kevin Roozen is associate professor of rhetoric and composition at Auburn University, where he teaches first-year composition as well as a range of undergraduate and graduate courses. Roozen’s studies of literate activity focus on the interplay between writing for multiple contexts and the implications those linkages and disconnects have for the extended development of literate persons and practices. His work has appeared in *College Composition and Communication*, the *Journal of Basic Writing*, *Text and Talk*, *Kairos*, *Research in the Teaching of English*, and *Written Communication*, and in a number of edited collections as well. His other research interests include qualitative methods, basic writing, sociohistoric theory, writing pedagogy, and writing program administration. Roozen also serves as the co-chair of the Qualitative Research Network, an organization that provides mentoring and support to qualitative researchers at all levels of experience and working in diverse areas of study within the field of writing studies.
Jane Teel, A&P Award Recipient
Advisor, Department of Communication and Journalism

Jane Teel is an academic advisor in the Department of Communication and Journalism. She advises the more than 800 majors and pre-majors in communication; journalism; public relations; and radio, television, and film. In addition, she coordinates the department’s student application process and manages the enrollment and waitlist priority systems. Serving as the CMJN representative, she attends university recruiting events and meets with prospective students and their families. Teel recently completed her PhD at Auburn. Her research focuses on the relationship between nonverbal immediacy behaviors and student learning styles. Teel enjoys teaching whenever she can work it into her schedule.

Denise Smith, Staff Award Recipient
Office Administration Specialist, Department of Political Science

Denise Smith is the office administration specialist in the Master of Public Administration program in the Department of Political Science and the budget administrator for the Women’s Studies Program. She is actively involved with the Pi Sigma Alpha and Pi Alpha Alpha honor societies and their induction ceremonies. She was instrumental in starting the first College of Liberal Arts Staff Retreat under Dean Gramberg’s leadership. She won the university’s Spirit of Excellence Award in 2008 and 2011. She is always available with a listening ear to assist and mentor the students, especially those away from their parents. Smith and her husband, Boris, have four children and one grandchild.
University Awards

**Chris Newland, Department of Psychology**  
**Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lectureship**

Chris Newland joined the Department of Psychology at Auburn in 1998. His research, which has been funded mainly by the National Institutes of Health, has emphasized the behavioral consequences of exposure to drugs and environmental contaminants that act on the brain. Newland says his greatest pride, professionally, has been in seeing the stellar undergraduate and graduate students he has worked with grow professionally and begin impressive scientific careers.

**Sridhar Krishnamurti, Department of Communication Disorders**  
**Alumni Undergraduate Teaching Award**

Sridhar Krishnamurti joined Auburn University as an assistant professor in 1996. Krishnamurti has authored journal articles and book chapters that cover the areas of electrophysiology, hearing conversation, auditory processing disorders, and hearing aids. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology and a past recipient of the New Investigator Research Award from the American Academy. An avid cricket player in India, Krishnamurti now enjoys football games at Jordan–Hare Stadium.
William Trimble, Department of History
New Alumni Professor

Bill Trimble, who joined Auburn in 1985, is an Alumni Professor and former chair of the Department of History. The author of several aviation books, Trimble is the 2011 winner of the Admiral Arthur W. Radford Award for Excellence in Naval Aviation History and Literature from the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation. Twice, Trimble was visiting professor at the Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base, and held the Charles A. Lindbergh Chair of Aerospace History at the National Air and Space Museum.

Nan Fairley, Department of Communication and Journalism
Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach

Nan Fairley, associate professor of journalism, is a College of Liberal Arts Engaged Scholar. She teaches a variety of courses ranging from Feature Writing to Community Journalism. Fairley is the founder and current co-director of Auburn University’s High School Summer Journalism Workshop. Currently, she is working with CLA’s Dr. Mark Wilson on the Living Democracy Project. Before joining Auburn in 1992, she worked for a variety of newspapers across the South.
Kelly Alley joined the Auburn faculty in 1991. Her primary research has been in northern India and she has worked on public culture and environmental issues. Her collaboration with the Center for Forest Sustainability began on the West Georgia project and she has served as a member of the Executive Board. To connect research with outreach, she directed a project to facilitate professional exchanges between many organizations to address river pollution problems in India and the United States.

Subvention Awards

The following College of Liberal Arts faculty were selected through a competitive process to receive a book subsidy:

John Mazaheri, Foreign Languages & Literatures
Traci O’Brien, Foreign Languages & Literatures
Aaron Shapiro, History
Stewart Whittemore, English
2011-2012 Committee Members

Promotion of Excellence in Teaching and Learning Committee Members
Paula Bobrowski, ex officio, Associate Dean for Research, Faculty Development & Graduate Studies
James Shelley, chair, Philosophy
Elizabeth Brestan-Knight, past chair, Psychology
Wiebke Kuhn, ex officio, Information Technology Manager
Cal Clark, Political Science
Allyson Comstock, Art
Cate Giustino, History
Richard Good, Music
Allison Plumb, Communication Disorders
David Sutton, Communication and Journalism

Research Grants Committee Members
Paula Bobrowski, ex officio, Associate Dean for Research, Faculty Development & Graduate Studies
Morris Bian, History
Susan Brinson, Communication and Journalism
Chris Correia, Psychology
Karen Garrison, Music
Nancy Haak, Communication Disorders

Department and Individual Assessment Awards Committee Members
Dan LaRocque, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Chase Bringardner, Theatre
Michael Watkins, Philosophy
Margaret Fitch-Hauser, Communication and Journalism
Ana Franco-Watkins, Psychology
David Adams, Dean’s Office

Community & Civic Engagement Committee Members
Brigitta Brunner, Communication and Journalism
Christopher Qualls, Theatre
Mark Wilson, Community & Civic Engagement

Staff and A&P Employee of the Year Award Committee Members
Charles Israel, History
Mike Waldrop, Advising
Beth Weed, College of Engineering
Special Thanks

Office of External Affairs
Gabrielle Hoyt
Adriene C. Simon
Vicky Santos
Kelly Walker
Jillian Tomberlin
Courtney Glass
Michael Gutierrez
Alessio Summerfield

Auburn University Brass Quintet
Student Eminent Society
Photographic Services
Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art

Produced by the College of Liberal Arts Office of External Affairs. April 2012.
Auburn University is an equal opportunity institution/employer.