

Charge of the Joint AU/AUM Committee Investigating Allegations of BOT Influence on Grade Changes at AUM

It has been alleged that members of the Auburn University Board of Trustees attempted to intervene in one or more grade assignments at Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) during the term of Chancellor Dr. Roy Saigo. These allegations were detailed in an interview with former President W.V. Muse by Dr. Wayne Flynt, and in articles posted to the Internet by Mr. Paul Davis. The allegation of trustee interference in the assignment of grades is of serious concern to all faculty members. The responsibility and authority for evaluation and grading, as a matter of governance, resides with the faculty. A six-person joint AU-AUM committee has been formed to investigate the allegations. The committee will report to the Faculty at both Universities when their work is completed. The committee members are:

Clara Young, AUM Faculty and Senate President (cyoung@mail.aum.edu)

John Mouton, AU Faculty Chair and Senate Chair (moutojo@auburn.edu)

Rosine Hall, AUM Faculty and Senate Past-President/AUM Faculty Advisor to the Board of Trustees (rhall@mail.aum.edu)

Barbara Struempfer, AU Faculty and Senate Immediate Past-Chair/AU Faculty Advisor to the Board of Trustees (struebj@auburn.edu)

Peter Zachar, AUM faculty and Chair, AUM Academic Standards Committee (pzachar@strudel.aum.edu)

Conner Bailey, AU faculty (cbailey@acesag.auburn.edu)

To the extent possible, the committee will investigate whether there is any evidence that any trustees improperly intervened or attempted to intervene in the assignment of grades. Improper intervention would consist of undue pressure, influence or threats directed against members of the faculty, staff, or administration. Although the sources above do not allege that any grades were changed, the committee will attempt to satisfy itself that no grades were, in fact, changed, while complying with all applicable laws concerning student privacy.