RESOLUTION ON DIVERSITY AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY
Auburn University Senate
September 7, 2004


WHEREAS, diversity in all its forms fosters an environment where creative scholarship can flourish, and

WHEREAS, a prime responsibility of Auburn University is to prepare students to succeed in a world where success increasingly depends on the ability to communicate and function effectively in an increasingly interconnected world, and

WHEREAS, a Strategic Diversity Plan has been prepared but not yet released, and

WHEREAS, Auburn University has made important strides but has not as yet accomplished its stated goal of instilling diversity as a core value of its culture, as witnessed by the proportionately small numbers of African-American and other minorities on the faculty or in senior administrative positions on this campus, and

WHEREAS, similarly the small number of women on the faculty and in senior administrative positions belies Auburn University�s commitment to diversity both to the university community and our state and nation, and

WHEREAS, Interim President Ed Richardson has reaffirmed Auburn University�s commitment to diversity as a core campus value, and

WHEREAS, the recent staff changes within the central administration of Auburn University appear to be at variance from the stated commitment to diversity as a core campus value, and

WHEREAS, Auburn University�s Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity office, prior to August 2004 an autonomous unit reporting to the Executive Vice-President, is now housed within the Office of Human Resources, with the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources designated as the University�s chief AA/EEO officer,

THEREFORE, the University Senate asks Dr. Richardson to release the Strategic Diversity Plan, present to the University Senate at its October 12, 2004 meeting a strategy for implementing this Plan, and report to the University Senate at its March 8, 2005 meeting progress made to that point and what further efforts are planned to achieve the goals of this Plan.� �