# Auburn Connects! THE COMMON BOOK PROGRAM



## Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World



"Remind[s] us that we're implicated in all the problems [Farmer is]working to solve .... His complicated humanity only makes him more like the rest of us in our shortcomings – and leaves us asking why we aren't all a little more like him in our virtues." -- Newsday

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# Why have a common book program?

- Improved Graduation Rate Task Force, Spring 2009 http://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/announcements/ 20090115 Improved Graduation Rates Report.html?200901 15--1232062689016572-Improved Graduation Rates Report.html
- Research links connections between first-year students & faculty with persistence
- Enrollment Management Council -- Increased Student

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#### Goals of Auburn Connects!

- 1. promote intellectual community on campus (to aid in retention)
- help students gain a global/broad perspective promote a culture of service
- emphasize individual empowerment/the need for hard work
- prompt the academic engagement students will need for success during their Auburn careers.
- be able to link to a range of programming during the academic year

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## **Mountains Beyond Mountains:**

What are the Major Topics?

- Global Awareness
- Public Health
- Infection and Disease (esp. Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS)
- Multicultural Communication & Understanding
- Haitian Life, Culture, and History
- Personal Determination
- Obligations & Responsibilities
- Making a Non-Profit Organization Work

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# **Mountains Beyond Mountains:** What's Next?

- March 9, 7:45-8:45, 8009 Haley Center, casual introduction for ENGL 1100-1120 instructors
- March 23, 4-5:30, Workshop for ENGL 1100-1120 Instructors
- March 31, Deadline for proposal submissions
- April 13, 5-6pm AUSC 2310, Pizza and kick-off event featuring the film, *Sun City Picture House*
- Early May- Faculty Development Activities Keep watching AU
  Daily

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# How can you participate?

- Propose to bring in a related speaker or sponsor a connected event.
  Proposals due March 31 (link at
   <a href="http://www.auburn.edu/auburnconnects/resources.html">http://www.auburn.edu/auburnconnects/resources.html</a>
  )
- Organize a panel showcasing your colleagues' or your students' research
- Assign the book as a required or supplemental text in a class you are teaching next year
- Encourage your students to participate in events
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