

# Faculty Recognition Ceremony

Auburn University  
Tenure and Promotions  
October 7, 2010



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# Preface

It is a long-awaited and significant event when an Auburn University faculty member receives the letter announcing that he or she has been awarded tenure or promotion. Individual and local celebrations of this success are many and varied, but a University-wide ceremony seems fitting to celebrate such an important personal and professional milestone at Auburn. The Faculty Recognition program is such a ceremony, and in the five years of its existence, it has become a tradition of the Auburn campus.

Newly promoted or tenured faculty members are invited to name a book that is special to them. A copy of each book identified, with a commemorative bookplate including the faculty member's name and the year of promotion or tenure, will be added to the libraries' collections. The selected books and the descriptions provided by the faculty are included in this program. They range from appreciations of that scholarly monograph that was crucial to research to distant memories of a book read — or heard — during childhood; from the book that articulated ultimate truths to the book that inspired or encouraged its reader. I am grateful to the faculty who took the time to provide these book selections and descriptions.

Thanks are also due to the sponsors and planners of this event: Mary Ellen Mazey and Margaret Manley in the Provost's Office, and Kim Fleming, Carole Covington, Chris Mixon, Jayson Hill, Cayce Van Horn, and Glenn Anderson in the Library.

*Bonnie MacEwan  
Dean of Libraries*



# Faculty Promotions, 2010

## Auburn University

### **Robert Agne**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Communication and Journalism

#### *Interaction Ritual*

by Erving Goffman

When I started graduate school, I had no real understanding about why I was interested in human communication. Fortunately, I was exposed to Goffman's work early in my graduate career because he clarified for me why social life is worth studying. *Interaction Ritual* was everything I imagined studying human communication to be, especially the chapter, *On Face-work*. In the book, Goffman explains that who we are is influenced by who we are to others and who others are to us. He tackles important and complex social issues like pride, honor, dignity, and trust. Their meanings are not derived from what people think but from what they say and do with each other. "Not," as Goffman says, "men and their moments. Rather moments and their men."

### **W. Robert Ashurst**

College of Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering

#### *Intermolecular and Surface Forces*

by Jacob Israelachvili

I had met Jacob several times during my graduate work, and attended his seminars on the topic of molecular lubrication and surface forces whenever I had the chance. This classic text is a great starting point for scientists and engineers looking for fundamental insight on the topic of surface and interfacial forces. Jacob's passion for the field and his considerable depth of knowledge on the topic are clearly evident from the text. It is a technically inspiring book (also in my personal library), and a text I often recommend to students that stop by with related questions.

## **Rodney Barnett**

College of Architecture, Design and Construction, Department of  
Landscape Architecture

*One Thousand Years of Nonlinear History*

by Manuel De Landa

This book enabled me to understand the wide applications of nonlinear theory, and inspired me to use it in my own field. I never looked back.

## **Jonathan Bolton**

College of Liberal Arts, English Department

*The Great War and Modern Memory*

by Paul Fussell

I first read *The Great War and Modern Memory* in graduate school and it completely altered my way of thinking about how one could write about literature. Fussell uncovered all kinds of interesting and relevant things about the lives of his subjects – Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Isaac Rosenberg, and others – melded a deep understanding of history, an innovative (at the time) use of culture studies, and incisive literary analysis, and he wrote it up in a lively, engaging, and accessible style. I think everything I've written since has in some way sought to approximate his intelligence, enthusiasm, and readability.

## **David Mark Carpenter**

College of Sciences and Mathematics, Department of Mathematics and  
Statistics

## **James Carr**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Psychology

*Science and Human Behavior*

by Burrhus Frederic Skinner

My undergraduate advisor, Dr. Iver Iversen, recommended the book to me when I expressed an interest in formally studying Behavior Analysis. He said that I should follow my interest only if I found the worldview expressed in the book appealing. I did and since have been recommending the book to my own students.

## **Michael J. Clay**

College of Architecture, Design and Construction, School of Architecture

*Urban Economics--Sixth Edition*

by Arthur O'Sullivan

When I was a graduate student this book changed my understanding of how city's work and the underlying economic forces which cause urban areas to develop when, how, and where they do. As a professor of city planning, I have spent my career researching and pursuing the ideas that were first presented to me in an early edition of this text.

## **Nancy R. Cox**

College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Pathobiology

*Zoo Doctor*

by William Bridges

I selected this book because it was my first insight into comparative medicine. I found it intriguing that veterinarians knew how to treat many different kinds of animals. Up until that point in time, I only thought of veterinarians as doctors for dogs and cat and farm animals such as cows and horses. The book taught me that there were many more similarities among different animal species than there were differences.

## **Rebecca S. Curtis**

College of Education, Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling/School of Psychology

## **James Davidson**

Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering

## **D. Allen Davis**

College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures

*Nutrient Requirements of Fish and Shrimp*

by Committee on the Nutrient Requirements of Fish and Shrimp,  
Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, Division on Earth and  
Life Studies

The NRC series of nutrient requirements for fish, and other species, has been an exceptional guide for me over the course of my career. It has served as a cornerstone for nutrient requirement data and compositional data for ingredients. This series has provided not only invaluable information on nutrient requirements but presents and explains nutrition concepts at a level that is easy to understand yet scientifically sound. I have found this series as one of the most helpful resources for me and my colleagues throughout my career. I hope this new version will be as helpful to future generations of nutritionists

## **Virginia A. Davis**

College of Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering

*Fountains of Paradise*

by Arthur C. Clarke

When I was a child, Arthur C. Clarke was one of my favorite authors. This particular book envisioned a carbon filament strong enough to form the cables for an elevator to space. Decades later my doctoral research was partially based on the idea that carbon nanotubes were inherently strong enough to enable a space elevator, IF their individual properties could be retained in large fibers. While no one knows if a space elevator will ever become a reality, ongoing research into the assembly of nanoscale building blocks to form advanced materials continues to blur the boundaries between historic science fiction and current engineering accomplishments.

## **Maralikirshnan Dhanasekaran**

Harrison School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmacal Sciences

## **David DiRamio**

College of Education, Department of Educational FLT

*Teacher in America*

by Jacques Barzun

I came across this book in an interesting and “funky” used bookstore in Atlanta. Even though this is the “digital age,” I still enjoy perusing book stacks and I encourage my students to get out from behind the computer and regularly visit the library or a bookstore. Of course, Barzun’s work is considered a classic and is probably one of the most widely read in the field of education. His witty, often provocative, and irreverent writings about college teaching have given me food-for-thought when considering the craft of teaching and my own career in academe.

## **Mark Dougherty**

College of Engineering, Department of Biosystems Engineering

*Rough Translation of the Meaning of The Noble Quran in the English Language*

by Muhammad Al-Hilali

Along with the Bible and the Torah, the Qur’an is often misunderstood and misquoted. This English translation of the meaning of the Qur’an is a well-respected rendition of the original Arabic text, which is provided alongside the English text for reference by scholars of Arabic. This book serves as an important bridge across cultures - Jewish, Christian, and Muslim - that have seen terrible atrocities committed in the name of religion. For those who trust their own faith and intellect enough to open up and read the book(s) of another faith tradition, enlightenment and the spark of common understanding are possible. We are not so different from one another, this book The Noble Qur’an tells us. We are all children of the same mortal father, Adam; we are all sons of Adam. It is a simple lesson that we all need to be reminded of. The first five chapters of this book, although translated imperfectly into English, are a powerful reminder that the three “Abrahamic” faiths share a tremendous heritage and a common message that the Muslim believes did not end with Jesus, peace be upon him.

## **Jeremy Downes**

College of Liberal Arts, English Department

### *Walden*

by Henry David Thoreau

Thoreau's *Walden* has followed me about since I was young. We moved a great deal, and *Walden* constructed a stable dwelling place, always returning to the essentials, to the marrow of life. What appeals to me most is how the text draws together both the challenge and the responsibility for reconstructing one's life, reinventing it, both individually and culturally ("let us have noble villages," he says). We all perhaps live "lives of quiet desperation," but *Walden's* deep engagement with the natural world, with poetry, with the rewriting of powerful texts in new ways--all of these offer ways of thinking through and coping with those complicated lives.

## **Lori Eckhardt**

School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences

### *Advice for a Young Investigator*

by Santiago Ramon y Cajal

This book was given to me as a graduate student by a committee member that is still an important mentor to me. It changed the way I thought about scientific investigation and I now give it to the graduate students that come through my laboratory.

## **Xing Fang**

College of Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering

### *Principles of Surface Water Quality Modeling and Control*

by Robert V. Thomann

This book was the textbook for my first graduate course in the University of Minnesota and introduced me to the research area "surface water quality modeling". This book provides valuable information in theory and practical applications for me to conduct advanced research, and eventually for me to publish various journal papers in the surface water quality modeling area. I have used this book as textbook and reference book to teach my graduate course "Surface Water Quality Modeling" after I graduated and became a faculty member.

## **Yucheng Feng**

College of Agriculture, Department of Agronomy and Soils

*Naturalist*

by Edward O. Wilson

I consider E. O. Wilson one of the most respected ecologists and science writers. In my soil microbiology class, I try to explain to my students the process of making scientific discoveries and tell them stories about the scientists who made significant scientific discoveries. The most frequently mentioned scientist in my class is E. O. Wilson. Quite a few of the stories I tell in class came from his autobiography, *Naturalist*.

## **Bill Hardgrave**

College of Business

*What Got You Here Won't Get You There*

by Marshall Goldsmith

This book reminds us that we cannot continue to do the same things over time and in different environments and expect the same results. Rather, one must change and adapt to the environment and the challenges one faces.

## **Paul Harris**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Political Science

*The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere*

by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

I chose Longfellow's poem as it was the first book I checked-out in my grade school library. Early in the fall of my second-grade year, on a Friday afternoon to be more exacting, our second grade teacher, Ms. Mottel, lined up books along the front of the class on the ledge of the chalk-board. We were then allowed to check out one book for the weekend and as fate would have it I checked out a wonderfully illustrated copy of Longfellow's poem on the colonial patriot Paul Revere. I remember going home that Friday afternoon reading each page until the end. It was a memorable reading experience which propelled me to become an avid reader. The following week, my mom took me to the public library where I applied for my first library card.

## **Huajun Huang**

College of Sciences and Mathematics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

*Mathematical Thought from Ancient to Modern Times*

by Morris Kline

The classical three volumes give a comprehensive introduction to the history of mathematics. As Galileo said, “Nature’s great book is written in mathematical language”. By reading the development of mathematical ideas and the history of mathematicians, I am always moved by the marvelous truths discovered by mathematical thoughts.

## **Kevin Huggins**

College of Human Sciences, Department of Nutrition and Food Science

*Principles of Fluorescence Spectroscopy*

by Joseph Lakowicz

This book provides a clear and concise overview of fluorescence spectroscopy. It was instrumental in providing me with the basic knowledge to undertake studies leading to my first scientific publication. I credit this book for giving me the inspiration to become a “real” graduate student.

## **Jeffrey Katz**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Psychology

*The Principles of Psychology*

by William James

I first read *Principles* the summer before I started graduate school. I still go back to this monumental set of lectures from time-to-time for a few pearls of wisdom to share with my own students.

## **Robert Kennis**

College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences

*Veterinary Immunology; An Introduction*

By Ian Tizard

Dr. Ian Tizard is a scholar, mentor and friend. His text book (3rd ed.) was the text I used as a veterinary student. The 8th edition is currently in press. It continues to be the best selling introduction to veterinary immunology text in the world. I met Dr. Tizard while I was on faculty at Texas A&M University. His enthusiasm about immunology was contagious. I convinced him to become my major professor in pursuit of a Master of Science degree (completed in 2003). My favorite graduate class was the evolution of the immune system. I have used his text to teach veterinary students and graduate veterinary students. It is a standard reference for correlating the immuno-pathogenesis of a disease with its clinical condition. Dr Tizard has worked countless hours updating and refining each new edition. I am flattered that he has allowed my input and contributions to his stellar publication. Dr Ian Tizard is a true gentleman and one of the greatest, most influential veterinarians in the world. His literary contributions cannot be overstated. I will always be grateful for the positive impact he has had on my life and career.

## **Christopher Kerth**

College of Agriculture, Department of Animal Sciences

## **Pambanisha King**

Auburn University Libraries, Inter-Library Loans

*A Foot in Each World: Essays and Articles*

by Leanita McClain

This book contains a collection of Chicago Tribune articles written by the late Leanita McClain. McClain was born on Chicago's South Side, raised in the Ida B. Wells housing development, and eventually served as the first black and youngest Chicago Tribune editorial writer. McClain poignantly writes of the social isolation she faced as she pursued her career goals. It was uplifting to read the reflections of fellow Midwesterner with a similar family background.

## **Scott Kramer**

College of Architecture, Design and Construction, Department of Building Science

## **Wi-Suk Kwon**

College of Human Sciences, Department of Consumer Affairs

*The Structure of Scientific Revolution (3rd ed.)*

by Thomas S. Kuhn

This book made me realize what I got myself into when I chose to become a researcher.

## **Roderick Long**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Philosophy

## **Tina Loraas**

College of Business, School of Accountancy

*The Enchanted*

by Enid Blyton

This book is about three children who find friends and adventure after moving to the country. Growing up in a military family then marrying into a military family, I found solace in this book many times as we uprooted and changed addresses every few years. After moving across the country to pursue a PhD, I found that this book still had comfort value and I strive everyday to find friends and adventures in all aspects of my life!

## **Jo Mackiewicz**

College of Liberal Arts, English Department

*Tao Te Ching*

by Lao-Tzu Translated by Stephen Mitchell

My research centers on politeness in evaluative discourse, such as editing or tutoring sessions. The book that influences my work is *Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage* by Penelope Brown and Stephen C. Levinson. But Stephen Mitchell's translation of the *Tao Te Ching* is beautiful and wise – and I try to use it to guide my life inside and outside of work.

## **Kenneth Macklin**

College of Agriculture, Department of Poultry Science

*Master and Commander*

by Patrick O'Brian

I am an avid reader and have been since I was very young. Deciding which book to choose was difficult; however I did choose *Master and Commander* by Patrick O'Brian. Why? Well simply it is a great read, at times a little difficult but very rewarding. If you have any interest in the "age of sail" this is the book for you! Also for those that have seen the movie, the book is completely different and much better. Then again, when is the movie ever better than the book?

## **Margaret Marshall**

College of Liberal Arts, English Department

*The Sneetches and Other Stories*

by Dr. Seuss

I got this book as a Christmas gift when I was in the third grade and appreciated my parents' effort to support my love of school, books and learning even though they probably chose the book from the sale rack. "The Sneetches" story was my favorite because it was the first time I realized that an entertaining story could really be about something else altogether, in this case stereotypes and prejudice. Even at an early age I appreciated the way Seuss played with language and the fun he had with logical illogic, though I didn't know until several years later that that's what he called his approach to telling stories for children.

## **Linda G. Martin**

College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences

## **Suresh Mathews**

College of Human Sciences, Department of Nutrition and Food Science

## **J. Scott McElroy**

College of Agriculture, Department of Agronomy and Soils

## **Xiao Qin**

College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering

*Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach, 4th Edition*

by John Hennessy

This book provides an excellent resource for students and researchers to become more familiar with computer architecture concepts such as advanced processor and memory system design techniques, multithreading and chip multiprocessors, storage systems, virtual machines, and other advanced concepts.

## **Karen Rabren**

College of Education, Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling/School of Psychology Department

## **Kevin Roozen**

College of Liberal Arts, English Department

## **Douglas Rosener**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Music

*How To Win Friends and Influence People*

by Dale Carnegie

This book allowed me to foster positive relationships with people at work as well as my outside life. Its message was instrumental in my preparations for tenure, and continues to help me effectively work with others.

## **Scott Santos**

College of Sciences and Mathematics, Department of Biological Sciences

## **DeWayne Searcy**

College of Business, School of Accountancy

*Toyota Production System*

by Taiichi Ohno

This book opened my eyes to the simple sophistication of lean manufacturing. It was the first book my dissertation chair (Jim Reeves, University of Tennessee) required me to read to better understand the manufacturing side of business. Mr. Ohno's book greatly expanded my horizons of what role accounting can have in manufacturing operations. It also challenged me to continuously improve every aspect of my life.

## **Andrew Sinclair**

College of Engineering, Department of Aerospace Engineering

*Bread, Beer and the Seeds of Change*

by Thomas & Carol Sinclair

## **Michael Stern**

College of Liberal Arts, Department of Economics

## **Janet E. Steiss**

College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Anatomy, Physiology, & Pharmacology

*The Baron in the Trees*

by Italo Calvino

After graduate school, finding time (or making time) to read fiction has been difficult. But this novel was a gift from a dear friend, and it was a book that I couldn't put down. Reviewers describe it as "utopian literature" or "magical realism." Whatever the appropriate label may be, the story is a scholarly description of the life of a young Italian nobleman who rebels against society by climbing into a tree in his village and remains living in the trees all of his life.

## **Chippewa Thomas**

College of Education, Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation,  
Counseling/School of Psychology

### *The Giving Tree*

by Shel Silverstein

This book was given to me as a gift for my 7th birthday by my maternal aunt. It is a book that helped me understand concepts of love, joy, forgiveness, purpose, and acceptance at a very early age. It was one of the many books that told a story about aspects of the human dynamic and the experiences that people have with change over time, disappointment, loneliness and neglectfulness in relating to others. It taught me what it means to give; a profound concept that permeates every aspect of my personal and professional life today. As a helping professional, a counselor and counselor educator/supervisor, I use myself as a tool to help others. Whether that is in the inter-personal or intra-personal process of counseling or teaching, I give in service to the endeavor of my work. I have found that “giving of one’s self” is a very necessary dispositional characteristic for being and becoming a successful professional counselor. My profession demands my very humanity: to show up, be present, and be engaged and to engage the world within and around me, and yes, it is extremely rewarding.

## **Thomas Shea Tillman**

College of Architecture, Design and Construction, Department of  
Industrial and Graphic Design

### *Ten Faces of Innovation*

by Tom Kelley

Illustrates through a series of successful new products and services the power of selecting a diverse set of viewpoints for an innovation team in order to create new ideas.

## **L. Octavia Tripp**

College of Education, Department of Curriculum & Teaching

*Dare to Dream . . . Then Do It: What Successful People Know and Do*

by John Maxwell

Everybody has dreams. Dreams are part of what makes us uniquely us. But the question is does everybody knows how to make their dreams come true? This book that I have chosen guides one through proven ways to bring your dreams to life. It is full of encouragement and hope. It allows you to discover ways to maximize your gifts to really make a difference and succeed in your personal dreams. I feel that it is important to dream. Dreams give you insight to your future and if you hold on to your dreams they will come true. This idea has made me reach for my potential as a friend, a teacher, a professor, a colleague, and a person. Without a dream your future is deferred. Dream to your fullest and believe in them, for you will be successful as you travel your life journey.

## **Richard Waguespack**

College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinical Sciences

## **Salisa Westrick**

School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmacy Care Systems

*The Little Prince*

by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Beyond the surface of a story for children, *The Little Prince* is profound and has deeper implications. It reminds me of how I should live my life, “rather than focusing too much on matters of consequence, we should tend to simple pleasures of life.”

## **Peng Zeng**

College of Sciences and Mathematics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

*Statistics*

by David Freedman

When I began to study statistics, I focused on formulas and mathematical derivations. Only after reading this book, I realized that statistical thinking is much more important. This book introduces important statistical concepts using a lot of real examples and stories, and helps readers develop statistical thinking and understand the application of statistics. It explains why statistics may tell a lie if it is not used correctly. I strongly recommend this book to anyone who is interested in statistics.

## **Claire Zizza**

College of Human Sciences, Department of Nutrition and Food Science

*Dune*

by Frank Herbert

Many reviewers have commented on the incredibly complex and multi-layered interactions of politics, religion, and technology presented by Frank Herbert in his *Dune* novels. However for me the most amazing element of these masterpieces was the ecology of the planet, Dune. Human survival was grueling because water was scarce on Dune. I was a teenager when I read *Dune* and it started me thinking about our body's vital nutrient needs, especially our water needs.





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