FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rosetta Giuliani Caponetto, Auburn University, Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, 334-844-6371; rgc0006@auburn.edu

Date: September 8, 2010

VISITING ITALIAN FILM SCHOLAR TO DISCUSS “IO, L’ATRO” AT SCREENING AND ON AIR

On Monday, September 13, Dr. Fulvio S. Orsitto, a film scholar from California State University, will speak in conjunction with a screening of Italian director Mohsen Melliti’s 2007 film, "Io, L'altro " (The Other, I). The program, which begins at 5 p.m. in Haley Center 3195, is free and open to the public.

Orsitto is director of the Italian and Italian-American Studies program at Cal State and has lectured widely on Italian film. "Io, L’Atro" is set in Sicily and concerns two fishermen, Giuseppe, a Sicilian, and Yousef, a Tunisian, who have worked together for years but whose lives and friendship are changed forever in the aftermath of the U.S. terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

On Tuesday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m., WEGL (91.1 FM) will air a live interview with Orsitto that focuses on immigration in Italy, the film and such issues as national identity, self-discovery and integration of foreigners.

The screening and radio interview are part of a course developed by Auburn University College of Liberal Arts Italian Professor Rosetta Giuliani Caponetto. Designed to critically examine Italy’s current posture against foreign immigration as represented in recent Italian cinema, the course focuses on such topics as national identity and self-discovery, xenophobia and integration, immigration and underground economy, class, interracial unions and the legacies of a half-century experience of colonialism in Africa.

The “Io, L’Atro” screening is also part of the Auburn Connects! common reading program. Focusing on Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, Auburn Connects! is designed to promote a shared academic experience for incoming freshman, though all university faculty and staff, as well as townspeople, are welcome to participate.

For more information on the program, please contact the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts at 334-844-4946. For information on Auburn Connects! and its offerings, go to www.auburn.edu/auburnconnects

#####