Champion for Health

Barbara Struempler Receives Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach
Beyond Auburn is published by Auburn University twice per year as a joint project of the Office of the Vice President for University Outreach and the Office of Communications and Marketing.

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Motivated by a sense of responsibility for giving back and contributing to the development and improvement of our community and beyond, many Auburn students engage significantly in the institution’s outreach initiatives. This issue of Beyond Auburn includes examples of how Auburn students—from freshmen to seniors—are leading the way in engaging with the local community. Other initiatives featured in Beyond show our university’s engagement beyond our community and around the world.

- In its second year of serving the community through local projects, the Freshman Focus Committee in the Harbert College of Business partnered with the BigHouse Foundation, a non-profit organization in Opelika. Nine freshmen in the college spearheaded multiple donations of clothes, toys and other essential needs for dozens of foster children in Lee County.
- Kylie Mimnaugh transferred to Auburn at the beginning of her sophomore year and immediately began looking for ways to give back to the community. She said she knew Auburn had a great campus and community and that there would be others like her that would want to share their time and knowledge. She saw a need for a tutoring program in the local school district and teamed with Auburn’s Honors College to launch a tutoring program at Auburn Junior High School.
- The PEAK program, or Promoting Engineering at Auburn for Kids, also got its start from an Auburn student who wanted to put her spirit of service to work in the community. Lauren Levenhagen was a senior in engineering when she pitched the idea of a camp for elementary school children to teach them the importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The PEAK program is now a camp for third- through fifth-graders hosted by the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering.
- Auburn University and the City of Gulf Shores are moving forward with plans to build an educational complex in Gulf Shores. A cornerstone of the complex will be a referral center that will serve as an extension of Auburn’s College of Veterinary Medicine’s teaching hospital and will provide specialty veterinary services as well as expanded educational opportunities for veterinary students in south Alabama and the surrounding region.
- Ten members of Auburn University’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, or OLLI at Auburn, traveled to Cuba for a 10-day trip that marked the first foreign travel experience sponsored by OLLI at Auburn in partnership with Cuba Travel Adventures Group. The trip was an opportunity to engage in person-to-person exchanges and with the Cuban people and to learn about their culture, history and social life during a period of changing relations between the United States and Cuba.

Beyond Auburn’s cover story features Barbara Struempler, the recipient of this year’s Auburn University Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach—Auburn’s highest recognition of engaged faculty scholarship. Dr. Struempler is a professor of Nutrition, Dietetics and Hospitality Management in Auburn’s College of Human Sciences and also a nutritionist and program leader in the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. Throughout her 33-year career at Auburn, her work has focused on improving the health and nutrition of citizens who live in underserved communities throughout Alabama and across the nation.

She has led and contributed to many outreach activities on our campus, including serving as chairperson of the Auburn University Senate, as faculty advisor to the university Board of Trustees and on Auburn’s Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics.

She mentors and inspires young faculty members and professionals and is described as an educator, researcher and author whose career represents the highest standards of the land-grant university.

War Eagle,

JAY GOGUE
PRESIDENT
AUBURN UNIVERSITY
Recognizing and supporting faculty engagement is a major priority in Auburn’s strategic plan, and University Outreach has three major initiatives to fulfill that objective – the Award for Excellence, Competitive Outreach Scholarship Grants, and the Engagement Scholarship Conference.

The Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach is Auburn’s highest recognition of engaged scholarship and one of the university’s premier annual awards for faculty. Launched in 2004, the Award for Excellence has recognized some of Auburn’s very finest scholars, and this year is no exception. Our newest recipient of the award is Barb Struempler, a professor in the Department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Hospitality Management in the College of Human Sciences and nutritionist/program leader in the Extension System. Dr. Struempler has an exemplary record of scholarship and engagement promoting good nutrition and healthy living across Alabama, particularly in underserved communities. Over the span of her career, Barb has helped countless people across the state and the nation improve their lives. She is certainly one of Auburn’s most eminent scholars and is most deserving of this Award for Excellence. Enjoy reading Barb Struempler’s profile in this edition.

The Competitive Outreach Scholarship Grants program encourages faculty initiatives that address critical societal needs in Alabama or beyond. This spring, we presented some $100,000 for five new Outreach Scholarship Grants to projects engaging 20 faculty from eight of Auburn’s schools and colleges. Overall, this long-standing program has provided more than a million dollars to support faculty outreach work. The program is supported from revenues generated by our Office of Professional and Continuing Education as part of its faithful commitment to our engagement mission.

Auburn University Outreach has long been a member of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium, or ESC, an international higher education organization committed to promoting excellence in the scholarship and practice of engagement. This year’s ESC conference is hosted by Auburn and its fellow southern institutions in the consortium right here in Birmingham, Alabama. The annual conference is one of the largest and most prestigious meetings devoted to engagement in the academy. We are proud to be selected to host the conference this year, and I encourage all of you to consider attending.

These three important programs help us to celebrate our outreach and engagement mission at work in our individual scholarship, with our collaborative outreach initiatives, and among our colleagues across the nation. Through these collective recognitions, we not only celebrate engagement, but also we extend our opportunities to engage with others. I welcome you in being a part of our outreach mission -- join us in making a difference!

War Eagle,

ROYRICKERS COOK
VICE PRESIDENT
FOR UNIVERSITY OUTREACH
AND ASSOCIATE PROVOST
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“Human Sciences’ Barbara Struempler Receives Award for Faculty Outreach”

Innovative… unrelenting… remarkable. These words are just a few of many which describe Barbara “Barb” Struempler and her career-long efforts to improve the eating and exercise habits of countless people across the state and the nation.

Struempler, who is professor of Nutrition, Dietetics and Hospitality Management in the College of Human Sciences and nutritionist/program leader in the Extension System, is this year’s recipient of the Auburn University Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach. The award is Auburn’s highest recognition of engaged faculty scholarship.

“Barb Struempler has an exemplary record of scholarship and engagement promoting good nutrition and healthy living across Alabama, particularly in underserved communities,” said Royrickers Cook, vice president for University Outreach. “The career impact of Dr. Struempler’s innovative work is immeasurable.”

Over her 33-year career at Auburn, Struempler has secured more than $133 million in funding to support her work focusing on high rates of infant mortality, escalating obesity and obesity-related disease conditions. Committed to team building with health advocates and educators within and beyond Auburn, she has conceived and
implemented a number of successful health and nutrition programs. Well known and respected across the Academy, Struempler’s achievements are reflected in the more than 50 community education awards presented to her by her peers.

Struempler received her bachelor’s degree in nutrition from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and her master’s and doctoral degrees in nutrition from Iowa State. Following undergraduate school, she worked several years in the German civil service, and later began a program for women, infants and children in Nebraska. Arriving at Auburn in 1984 as an extension nutrition specialist, Struempler quickly became established as a champion for health and wellness in a state that sorely needed her expertise and vision.

As her bio states, Struempler is a “passionate community nutritionist,” whose “laboratory and classrooms are the streets of Alabama.” As she says, “I work with all 4.5 million citizens of Alabama.” The segment of Alabama’s population that has most benefited from her work has been the most impoverished and disadvantaged. Indeed, Struempler’s career work has focused on maladies common to those in poverty, among
the most challenging health issues in our state – infant mortality, escalating obesity and obesity-related disease.

Among all the programs conceived, designed and implemented by Struempler, none better reflects her concern with limited-resource individuals than “Today’s Mom,” which she designed to address Alabama’s high infant mortality rate. For more than a quarter century, Today’s Mom program has helped pregnant women throughout the state to improve birth outcomes. Equally impressive is the success of Struempler’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education, or “SNAP-Ed,” which has instructed some 800,000 vulnerable adults on healthy food selections over the last 20 years.

Building upon these extraordinary achievements, Struempler has continued to create innovative programs to reach a new generation facing nutritional challenges. Over the last five years, “Body Quest,” an interactive online obesity prevention program, has helped more than 25,000 third-graders to embrace healthy eating habits. Additionally, Struempler was the impetus behind a team effort to secure a major obesity prevention grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control. Struempler subsequently assumed leadership of Extension’s statewide Nutrition Program Team to ensure that the program’s efforts were carried out in counties with obesity levels exceeding 40 percent. Since securing the grant, Struempler has worked tirelessly to organize community coalitions and other grassroots efforts to increase access to healthy food and physical activity.

“She is the embodiment of community nutrition outreach,” says Alabama Cooperative Extension System director Gary Lemme. “The programs she has established … have not only altered the nutrition landscape in Alabama but have set the benchmark for other states.” Indeed, Struempler’s model works have helped elevate the standards for community nutrition in other states. Her programs were the first in the nation to incorporate computer-based assessment, and many of her award-winning instructional materials have influenced educational applications across the nation.

In the course of her career, Struempler has produced literally hundreds of publications and presentations on subjects related to nutrition and healthy living. “Dr. Barb Struempler is a highly accomplished outreach scholar,” says June Henton, dean of Human Sciences at Auburn. “[She is] a truly exemplary extension educator, researcher, and author whose career symbolizes the highest standards of the land-grant university.”

In addition to maintaining her vigorous programmatic and scholarly pace, Struempler has also invested her significant leadership skill and talents into enhancing the quality of academic life on the Auburn campus. Struempler served a term as chairperson of the Auburn University Senate, and also as faculty advisor to the university Board of Trustees. She served on Auburn’s Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, as well as many other university committees, professional organizations and service projects. She has held multiple leadership roles within the state as well as nationally. Struempler was the first chair of the statewide Healthy Alabama Nutrition Coalition and has served in leadership positions in many other state and national nutrition organizations.

Struempler also has devoted countless hours to mentoring young faculty members and professionals, especially women faculty, whom she inspires with her
stellar career and high professional standards. Her own passion for changing eating and exercise habits throughout that state is reflected in the encouragement she conveys to her team members: “Alabama will not look the same in three years because of your efforts.”

For Struempler, her reward is in the proof that her extraordinary and unrelenting work has improved the quality of life for Alabamians. “Impact evaluations from these statewide obesity prevention efforts show positive changes in Alabamians toward a more healthful lifestyle; changes that are real and sustainable,” says Struempler. “This award through Auburn University validates my academic career to the citizenry of Alabama,” she reflects. “I can unequivocally state that our evidence-based extension nutrition education does make a difference.”

Body Quest iPad apps get students excited about nutrition by engaging their senses and using a game approach to facilitate learning.
The Government and Economic Development Institute recently partnered with the Alabama City/County Management Association to launch a new educational program, the Local Government Professional Management Certificate Program. Started in the fall of 2016, the program is designed to increase the specialized knowledge and skills of those working in local government to help them master the complexities of the political, social and economic environment of public administration.

Components of the program include leadership, financial management, ethics, communication, personnel management, public service, community development, public policy, strategic planning and relations with local elected officials. The program is composed of five courses as well as continuing education. The core courses, which are 10 hours in length each, are: Leadership and Effective Public Management; Human Resource Management and Staff Effectiveness; Public Budgeting and Financial Management; Public Management and Community Development and Laws and Ethics for Public Management.

When a participant completes the five courses, they will receive an ACCMA Local Government Professional Management Certificate. The participant’s certificate status will be reviewed every three years. To maintain the certificate, a person must attend three ACCMA or ICMA conferences and one ACCMA training course over the three-year period.

For more information on the program, visit the GEDI website at www.auburn.edu/gedi or ACCMA at www.accma-online.org.
A longstanding concern to wildlife around the world is free-roaming house cats. These cats, both owned and unowned, range the gamut from those with no human contact, which we often call feral cats, to those that live in our homes and are allowed to go outdoors. Common to all these animals, however, is that they are predators and require other animals as food for survival.

What is surprising to many unsuspecting cat owners is that even well-fed cats will kill nearly any type of animal they can capture, even if they are not hungry. Recent estimates place the number of birds and mammals killed by cats each year in the billions for the United States alone. Aside from just killing animals, cats can also harbor a number of diseases that are of concern to other animals and human welfare, including plague and toxoplasmosis.

Free-ranging cats have received a great deal of attention in recent years over their rise in number and issues concerning their management. One researcher who has spent a great deal of effort on cat management over the past 15 years is Christopher Lepczyk, associate professor at Auburn University’s School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences. A wildlife ecologist and conservation biologist, Lepczyk is an expert in cat management and has worked around the world researching the topic with his students.

Recently, Lepczyk’s work was featured in a variety of high-profile publications. Last fall, he was featured in both Outside and Smithsonian magazines on the impact of feral cats on the environment and how to manage them. He was also featured in two notable books that were recently published: “The Lion in the Living Room: How House Cats Tamed Us and Took Over the World” by Abigail Tucker; and “Cat Wars: The Devastating Consequences of a Cuddly Killer” by Peter P. Marra and Chris Santella.

“We are very interested in the environmental impacts of cats and the effectiveness of current management strategies,” said Lepczyk. “For instance, our research examines how economical it is to leave cats in the environment versus removing them; what levels of predation the animals’ exhibit in different environments; and the prevalence of toxoplasmosis in cats living in nature reserves, parks and public spaces.”

Lepczyk’s research has also focused on understanding how different groups of people, or stakeholders, view free-ranging cats and how they should be managed. He has worked with the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA, USGS, The Nature Conservancy and state and nongovernmental agencies on coalitions addressing cats and specifically in engaging different stakeholders.

As part of a research study carried out in Hawaii, where the public was involved in responding to surveys about how best to manage cats on the landscape, Lepczyk’s analysis of this feedback was used to help guide policy recommendations for Kauai’s Feral Cat Task Force and is being cited within proposed state legislation.

Conclusions from Lepczyk’s research suggest that addressing free-ranging cats is a tractable problem that requires developing policies for owning cats along similar lines of dog ownership and that most current management strategies are failing due to a lack of political will and enforcement.
Women’s Philanthropy Board Celebrates 15 Years of Educational Outreach

The 2016-2017 academic year marks the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Women’s Philanthropy Board, or WPB, as an educational outreach program and now the flagship division of the Cary Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies, an academic center in the College of Human Sciences. Since its beginning, WPB has served as the inspiration and impetus for a minor in philanthropy and nonprofit studies and outreach programs such as Camp iCare, REAL Cents REAL Change and Volunteers in Philanthropy. Annually, WPB provides educational opportunities for more than 1,000 participants, some from as far away as New York and California, in addition to Auburn University faculty, staff and students.

In 2000, Dean June Henton and several staff members and volunteers in the College of Human Sciences set out to establish an outreach organization to address the growing need of inspiring and enabling women to become knowledgeable and independent financial decision makers. “At the time, there were limited educational resources despite the fact that women did the majority of household consumer and philanthropic decision-making,” Henton said.

In response to the need for programs to educate women about personal finances, Henton and others established WPB in 2002. WPB was created to address the fact that women were on target to become the largest wealth owners in the country by the year 2010 and that specialized educational opportunities would better prepare women to be their households’ primary financial and philanthropic decision makers. Through its educational programs, WPB provides opportunities for individuals to learn from noted experts in the fields of personal financial planning and wealth management as well as inspirational philanthropic leaders.

Throughout its 15-year history, WPB has sponsored more than 100 educational programs featuring at least 200 different experts. Prominent financial speakers have included: Knight Kiplinger, editor in chief of The Kiplinger Letter; Gene Dodaro, head of the United States Government Accountability Office and acting comptroller general of the United States; and Jean Chatzky, financial journalist. Internationally recognized inspirational and philanthropic keynote speakers include: Laura Bush, former first lady; Charles Best, founder of DonorsChoose.org; and Andy Andrews, New York Times best-selling author. Participants have learned from speakers about topics such as estate planning, investing in a global economy, health care, retirement planning and strategic philanthropy.

To mark its milestone anniversary, WPB hosted its 15th Annual Spring Symposium and Luncheon April 3. Marlo Thomas, actress, author and national outreach director for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, served as the keynote speaker and presented “A Family Legacy of Philanthropy and Service.” Paula Polito of UBS Wealth and one of American Banker’s “25 Most Powerful Women in Finance,” served as symposium keynote speaker. Janet Bodnar, editor of Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine was a special guest panelist during the symposium session on “The Ties that Bind—How Generations are Redefining Family and Finance.”

For more information about WPB and its educational programs, contact the WPB office at (334) 844-9156.
Business Students Partner with BigHouse Foundation

Between English composition and introduction to business classes, nine freshmen in the Harbert College of Business found time during the fall semester to spearhead multiple donations of clothes, toys and other essential needs for dozens of foster children in Lee County.

In its second year, Harbert College’s Freshman Focus Committee partnered with the BigHouse Foundation, a non-profit organization in nearby Opelika, to collect and solicit items especially for children’s needs.

“Some of these children are removed from the only homelife they’ve ever known with only the clothes on their backs,” said Beth Ann Mabrey, director of Student Services and committee sponsor, whose office in Lowder Hall has become the “hub” for donated items. “The foster family might not have the right size or season of clothes and shoes when they receive a phone call about a child who needs immediate placement, so they rely on the BigHouse Foundation to help provide such items for that child.”

Committee members A.J. Stanley, Alex Harper, Alec Lyons, George Battle, Hollie Terry, Hunter Barron, Jessica Gulledge, Rae Martin and Rilee Humphries introduced the project to peer students within business classes, created their own Instagram page to help raise awareness, established business partnerships within the community to hold fundraising events, passed out fliers about their organization and the Big House Foundation and collected donations through a variety of bins placed in strategic campus and community locations.

Looking for a community project in August, the new committee was instantly sold on the BigHouse Foundation.

“When our advisors–Mabrey and Sarah Henry–introduced us to BigHouse, it didn’t take very long at all for everyone to jump on board,” said Stanley, a pre-business student from Huntsville who was elected Freshman Focus committee chair. “Ideas for what we could do started flowing during that introductory meeting. You could feel it in the room that this was where we needed to start and you could see it on our faces that we were excited and ready to get to work.”

BigHouse co-founder Blake Melnick said, “It is awesome to see how students who aren’t in a position to be foster parents right now can still have a part in helping kids in care. The help from the students will definitely brighten the lives and make the foster care experience a little bit better for these kids.”

Stanley said it was important for students to get involved in community projects.

“We are in a great position to create sustainable solutions to issues on campus and in the community,” he said. “As a freshman, it’s particularly imperative to experience firsthand giving back and to understand the significance of it. No act is too big or too small in order for you to make a positive impact in someone’s life. Seeing the ambition that my fellow committee members have really drives me to want to take this project as far as possible.”

For more information about the Big House Foundation, visit http://www.ourbighouse.org/.
The online Encyclopedia of Alabama, or EOA, at www.EncyclopediaofAlabama.org, plays a significant role in a new tool developed for the state’s teachers. The “Early Alabama Statehood Primary Source Packet,” created by the Alabama Bicentennial Commission, contains letters, maps, paintings, ledger pages and other artifacts that help bring lessons alive. The packet also includes links to related EOA articles.

“We selected primary sources that can help students see that history is tied to their own communities,” said Caroline Gibbons, program coordinator with the Bicentennial Commission. “The items tell Alabama’s stories from a variety of perspectives and show that Alabama history is connected to American history.”

The packet highlights 150 digitized artifacts from the Alabama Department of Archives and History. These items can be used to tell Alabama’s history prior to statehood, during the territorial period, while becoming a state and the period that immediately follows it. They are tied to third-, fourth- and fifth-grade social studies curriculum standards and are aggregated on eight spreadsheet pages.

Gibbons, who earned a master’s degree in history from Auburn University in 2016, spent approximately two months selecting artifacts to add to the packet. Information listed with each item includes a brief description, the curriculum standard it fits with and a link to a digitized image. She also selected more than 50 EOA entries to help provide historical context for the artifacts. The links to EOA articles are listed with the relevant item.

“One of our main goals is to use the 200th anniversary of Alabama’s statehood to generate new resources for curriculum development,” said Gibbons. Alabama became the 22nd state on Dec. 14, 1819.

The staff at the Bicentennial Commission wanted the packet to appeal to both teachers with many years of experience teaching social studies at the third- through fifth-grade levels and those who are relatively new to it. Teachers can write a new lesson plan inspired by the items highlighted in the packet or slide one or two artifacts into an already existing lesson.

The “Early Alabama Statehood Primary Source Packet” was unveiled to participants selected for the week-long Alabama Bicentennial Master Teachers Workshop that was held in Montgomery in July 2016. These 12 teachers, representing a specific geographic region of the state, will share what they learned with more teachers in workshops that will be held across the state over the next three years. It is estimated that the workshops will reach at least 300 teachers in each of the 12 geographic regions. The packet, with its links to EOA articles, will be one of the resources that will be shared with them.

The Encyclopedia of Alabama is a free, online reference resource on the state’s history, culture and environment. It currently offers more than 1,900 entries and new content is added monthly. The site was presented the 2016 Digital History Award from the Alabama Historical Association in recognition of its excellence in promoting state and local history in Alabama through a digital media project. EOA is a project of the Office of University Outreach.
A truly inclusive community is a place where all members, including the most vulnerable, feel safe, welcomed and connected and have roles and purposes which are recognized and valued. BraveHeart Center for Place and Purpose is creating the spaces, opportunities and strategies that personalize and illustrate “the human touch.” BraveHeart Center for Place and Purpose is an innovative and dynamic health and wellness program developed to create best practice strategies for community inclusion and community service and support.

Currently housed in the First Presbyterian Church in Auburn, the program provides adults with disabilities—who face moderate to severe life challenges—comprehensive opportunities for creative growth and development through structured, daily routine.
BraveHeart was developed to provide the preteens, teens, and young adults an opportunity to participate in an on-going arts enrichment program in a setting which supports the development and maintenance of positive peer interactions, relationships, and friendships. It also provides experiences which assist college students in understanding the strengths, needs and abilities of individuals with special needs while enhancing the community’s current offerings for youth and young adults with moderate to severe disabilities.

BraveHeart was developed by Angie Colvin Burque, associate clinical professor in Social Work, in response to the gap in programmatic activities for preteens, youth, and young adults with special needs, especially those with moderate to severe disabilities. BraveHeart is a collaboration of the Auburn University Social Work Program and the Presbyterian Church of Auburn.
focus on seniors

OLLII Members Pursue Trivia

Sometimes a blend of Jeopardy and Family Feud, Trivia contests at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Auburn University, or OLLI at Auburn, began in the Fall of 2016.

The program was sparked by a love of learning, the core characteristic of OLLI members. Along the way, it has combined fellowship, laughter and a bit of cordial competition. The synergy of three-person teams divining answers to diverse categories and questions is brain engagement at its best.

The trivia plan was rolled out in the fall of 2016 with an Auburn OLLI-developed promotion-to-presentation playbook. Measured and monitored at each session, the program asks participants two simple questions: “What is working well?” and “How can we improve?” The combined answers help steer the program.

“Our Trivia program had such a great connection to our mission of member-driven learning, we have submitted it to the national OLLI group for review. OLLIs from across the country are invited to get a copy of our trivia playbook,” said Linda Shook, OLLI at Auburn director.

In the summer of 2016, Frank Broz, Alan Hinds and Sue Mason met to develop a strategy and forms used to promote and administer a trivia program launched in the fall.

Frank Broz, one of the original trivia captains, moved here from Chicago three years ago knowing zero East
Alabama history. “The Trivia contest has been a great experience for me as it has allowed me to give back something significant to OLLI,” he said. “Being new to the community, I have made new friends and learned new things through OLLI.”

Trivia sessions are held once a month and it is interesting to note that a different team combination has won each time. Names of the first-, second- and third-place teams are capsuled in the next week’s OLLI bulletin.

One winning contestant, Herb Shivers, cites growing up with fact-based shows and games as his interest in the program. He calls trivia “facts that are on the edge of common knowledge, lurking in your mind. It gives a small sense of accomplishment when you dredge them out.” He and his teammates have an outstanding excavation record.

Conducted during a lunch hour, 10 questions are asked in four categories. Some of the topics have been America in the 60’s; Teams, Towns and States; Trees; Children’s Literature; Music; and the Year 1953.

In the matter of three-person teams, often pairs and singles are combined. New friendships can be launched by one brave soul having a simple correct answer. Another session champion, Janet Deutsch, pointed out that the size of the team allows for a tie-breaking vote when faced with differing recollections.

Frequent contestant Linda Broz would agree with the above sentiment and offers how surprised reluctant players are to find that their recall helps with the team answer.

Sue Mason, another originating Trivia captain, summed it up perhaps best in her famous description. It is called the Mason Trivia Line. “It is fun, challenging, a new adventure, laughter, new friendly folks to meet, brain enrichment and no pressure.”
Auburn Honors Student Student
Launches Tutoring Program
at Auburn Junior High School

Kylie Mimnaugh Found a Passion
for Tutoring at an Early Age

Kylie Mimnaugh sits across from a ninth-grade girl who doesn’t look much younger than she does, with notebooks and flashcards strewn across the science lab counter between them. She shuffles through the flashcards and reads aloud the question: “What is the ability to accept others differences?”

The girl across from her squints her eyes and scrunches together her eyebrows, the answer on the tip of her tongue.

“It starts with a T,” Mimnaugh says with a subtle smile and a slight head tilt.

“Oh! Oh! Tolerance!” the girl exclaims.

“You keep doubting yourself and you know it!” Mimnaugh says as she flips to the next card.

Mimnaugh, a junior at Auburn University, teamed up with the Auburn Honors College to launch a tutoring program at Auburn Junior High School which debuted last fall.
The program allows Auburn Honors students to tutor students at Auburn Junior High School in any subject they may be struggling with, especially math and English. The tutors meet with students for an hour after classes two days a week.

When Mimnaugh, 20, transferred from the College of Charleston to Auburn the beginning of her sophomore year, she immediately began looking for ways to give back to the community. After realizing there were no tutoring programs here in the local school district, Mimnaugh decided to start her own.

“I knew Auburn had a great campus and community and that there would be others like me that would want to share their time and knowledge,” Mimnaugh said.

Mimnaugh found a passion for tutoring at an early age. Her mother passed away from ALS when she was still in middle school. She was 12 at the time, and her brother Quinn was 9.

“My dad has offices out of New York and Portland so he travels a lot. He really struggled relating to my brother when it came to schoolwork. My brother needed someone more his age so I was the one to help him with school, which was something he really struggled with,” Mimnaugh said.

Quinn said his sister’s support meant everything to him. “Kylie would sacrifice her own study time to help me. She would put whatever she was doing aside.”

In high school, Mimnaugh was also part of an Honors Society tutoring program. Through this, she realized that “students as young as middle school struggle both with academics and life experiences, and sometimes all they need is a mentor, a friend or just for someone to care.”

Since the program has begun, 10 volunteer tutors have committed to the program and more than 15 Auburn Junior High students stay after school for tutoring. The only complaint from the students is that tutoring isn’t available every day of the week.

Assistant principal Liz Kenemer and ninth-grade counselor Donnie Payne realize the program’s impact on students.

“We already have a peer tutoring program here that students can go to and get help from kids in their same grade,” Payne said. “But it means a lot when you can tell parents Auburn Honors students are helping your kids study.”
Beginning in the Summer of 2016, Kamden Strunk and Hannah Baggett of Auburn’s College of Education began a community-involved research study of the experiences and needs of LGBTQ people. This project, funded by the University’s Competitive Outreach Scholarship Grants program, has resulted in meaningful community engagement and rich, useful data.

Strunk and Baggett, along with College of Education graduate students Andrea Riemer and Raina Hafftka, conducted training sessions in Birmingham, Dothan and Opelika in Alabama, as well as in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, training 21 community researchers in total. Community researchers received training on research ethics, interviewing skills and the conduct of the research study. Then, those community researchers returned to their home communities to interview LGBTQ individuals living in their area.

This project involves partnerships between Auburn University, the Research Initiative on Social Justice and Equity, or RISE, HRC Alabama, Equality Wiregrass, The Spectrum Center and other organizations. The project has yielded rich data that details the lived experiences of LGBTQ people in the Deep South, and have already produced new insights on educational experiences, mental health, identity development and community services.

One finding that has emerged thus far in this study is that LGBTQ people, especially LGBTQ people of color, face additional emotional and psychological burdens in navigating everyday life, their identity formation and even employment. Those burdens are imposed by a series of disaffirming, invalidating, dehumanizing and oppressive messages these individuals receive from their neighbors, employers, government representatives and religious leaders. One promising finding of the study is that individuals participating in the study were able to form new and meaningful connections with one another, which may be useful in building a resilient, supportive community.

This study, which has led to several research publications and provided field experiences for graduate students training in research methods, is ongoing. For more information about the project, contact Kamden Strunk at kks0013@auburn.edu. For more information on RISE, visit http://www.RISEinSolidarity.org/.
In 1892, women were admitted to study at Auburn, making it the oldest four-year, coeducational school in the state and the second-oldest in the Southeast. Almost from the start, women have contributed significantly to the Outreach mission of the university.

With the establishment of Cooperative Extension in 1914, women were hired as field educators to provide instruction in the community and in the home on food safety, nutrition, family health, home technology and other critical issues. By mid-century, women played an important role in extension program administration as well as establishing new outreach programs on campus, especially in continuing education, economic development and the arts and humanities.

In 1984, Ann Thompson was appointed the first woman director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, and in 1988 was named the first woman as vice president for what is now University Outreach. During her tenure, Thompson expanded the base of continuing education and community service programs, and oversaw the launch of the new hotel and conference center. At the time, Thompson was among just a few women in executive or academic administration at Auburn, along with Dean June Henton, whose leadership of the School of Human Sciences continues to this day. In subsequent years, the number of women in administration and programmatic roles at Auburn increased significantly, especially in Outreach. In 1994, there was only one woman serving as a director of a University Outreach office. Today, six of eight outreach directors are women.

Over the last 30 years, women have shaped the outreach mission at Auburn with the creation of many successful programs serving people of all ages. For example, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute was established by Mary Burkhart in 1990 as the Academy for Lifelong Learners. Now more than ever women are at the forefront of the development and leadership of many of the highest profile outreach programs and centers on campus, both in the schools and colleges as well as in University Outreach itself.
Securing our nation’s critical infrastructure against cyber threats is an urgent, high-stakes, ever-expanding task—too large and too critical to be delegated to an organization’s IT function alone.

University Outreach’s Office of Professional and Continuing Education is partnering with cybersecurity learning and development experts KnowCyber, LLC to present SmartCyber Leadership for Critical Infrastructure. This interdisciplinary executive education program, the first of its kind, is designed to build the cybersecurity knowledge and capabilities required by business, operational and technical leaders in organizations across the 16 industry sectors designated as U.S. critical infrastructure, including energy, health care and financial services.

The program’s foundational seminar, “Building the Cybersecure Organization,” provides a practical, simulation-based immersion in how leaders must work together to successfully manage an organization’s cyber risk. Specialized courses build expertise in addressing key challenges, including making cybersecurity an integral part of enterprise risk management, modeling and managing threats and implementing the best practices of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure. Participants in every course will head back to the job with a playbook of individual and organizational action items and realistic implementation plans.

Courses for 2017 are being held in Auburn, Birmingham and other locations throughout the Southeast. They can also be presented on site at organizations, customized to organizational leadership’s needs and goals. For a course schedule and more information, contact Alan Spencer at (334) 844-5193 or alan.spencer@auburn.edu, or visit http://www.auburn.edu/outreach/opce/smartcyber
Students Reaching Their PEAK Performance

Lauren Levenhagen, a 2016 Auburn graduate in electrical engineering, was preparing to interview for a spot as a Cupola Engineering Ambassador during her senior year when an idea she had since high school kept coming back to her.

During her years at Grissom High School in Huntsville, Levenhagen was part of a group that started an after-school math camp for first- through fifth-graders. So, as part of her Cupola interview, she pitched the idea of a camp for elementary school children to teach them the importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Thus, PEAK was born.

The PEAK program, which stands for Promoting Engineering at Auburn for Kids, is hosted by the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and is a camp for third- through fifth-graders to expose young students to engineering concepts through fun, hands-on activities with professors and college students.

“I’ve always believed that the younger a kid can see the impacts of engineering and other STEM fields on the world, the better,” Levenhagen said. “This camp may be the only time that some students are exposed to these types of careers. I think that children seeing all the cool things engineers do helps set long-term goals because at their ages the coolest careers are rock stars and NBA players. So, why not show them how they can be the next astronauts, cure cancer or even create the newest app?”

Levenhagen’s passion rubbed off on other engineering students, such as Conyers Coupland, a 2016 biosystems engineering graduate and current mechanical engineering graduate student. “Lauren was the impetus for this outreach, and she’s the reason I became involved and why I’m helping again this year,” Coupland said.

The four-day camp consists of three groups broken down by grade level. Each grade will cycle around to each of the college departments represented to participate in demonstrations and experiments. The final day features a team project, which is tentatively scheduled as an egg drop this year, and culminates with a graduation ceremony.

“Seeing the campers, their families and friends so excited at the graduation ceremony is definitely a highlight of the week,” said Jessica Taylor, a 2009 polymer and fiber engineering graduate and also director of recruiting and scholarships and advisor to the camp. “The students are so proud to showcase their accomplishments.”

For Coupland, just seeing the campers delight in learning about engineering, while also putting a face to real students, is a reward in and of itself.

“Knowing that you have an impact on these kids really means a lot,” Coupland said. “You see them take an interest in what we’re doing and you really feel like you made a difference. We’re here representing the college as role models and that is really humbling. Hopefully, some of them leave and tell their parents they want to be an engineer when they grow up.”

This year’s camp begins Monday, April 17, at 3:30 p.m., and culminates with the graduation ceremony Thursday, April 20, at 5:30 p.m. Cost per camper is $55, and each student will receive snacks each day, a T-shirt and a special prize at graduation. Twenty seats are available for each grade. To register, visit www.eng.auburn.edu/outreach/k-12/peak.
Students from Munford High School, in Talladega County, have partnered with School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences faculty to help estimate bear populations in Northeastern Alabama. Munford Schools focus on providing students with experiential learning experiences to better prepare them for college and future careers.

In its second year, the black bear study led by Auburn University with support from the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, is using minimally invasive hair snares to collect samples for DNA analysis. Once hair samples are identified to individuals, the pattern of capture and recapture of each individual bear across the landscape is used to model bear population size and density in the study area.

Student participation allows the researchers to broaden their study area while at the same time providing invaluable hands-on learning experiences for the students. Todd Steury, associate professor of wildlife ecology said, “This year we are able to partner with the Munford High School to help sample along the southern border of our study area in the Talladega National Forest and adjoining private land. Bear sightings have been confirmed in this section, but without the students’ assistance it is impractical for us to sample there while we focus on areas with a higher degree of bear activity.”

On Sept. 4, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences graduate student John Draper and undergraduate Alex Beaver led a group of three Munford High School teachers and five students into the field to deploy the hair snares within the research area. Following the initial set up, the high school class will be responsible for visiting the sites each week to check the snares, collect samples, record the data from their visits and manage the snare equipment.

Draper, a lead researcher for the project, noted, “Working with Munford Schools has allowed us to expand our sampling area while giving us the chance to reach out to future scientists and introduce them to the practical realities of field work.” He added, “This sort of outreach allows us to connect with the local community in a way that exponentially spreads knowledge about black bears in Alabama and their conservation.”

Among the participants, Talladega County Board Member Johnny Ponder expressed his enthusiasm for the students’ ability to participate in the first black bear research project focused on Northeastern Alabama. “It’s very exciting to them, to the organizers and to the general public. I’m proud of our students and thankful to all that are responsible for giving them this opportunity.”

Twelfth-grade student Rachel Wallace said of the experience, “Munford has taken a whole new spin on project-based learning when it comes to collecting DNA from bears. I have been exposed to so many amazing opportunities just by going out once a week setting and checking traps. This is a project that I will treasure and remember for the rest of my life, just because of the teachers I am working with and the skills I am learning.”
Outreach Global

Outreach Global was created to facilitate global education, training and development, business and trade programs with foreign universities, governmental agencies, businesses, NGO’s, and other external agencies to advance the engagement of our faculty, staff, and students’ work in all parts of the world.

As Dr. Royrickers Cook, the vice president for University Outreach and Associate Provost reiterated, “Outreach Global is about linking people and communities across the globe for sustainable educational and developmental programs. The goal here is to build true relationships abroad and explore significant opportunities that comes with global engagement.” And so the core goal has been exploration of significant opportunities across the globe.

In line with the mission, the office has made the African continent the priority for the past two years and will continue to do so until it identifies something in the continent that would enhance educational capacity and community development. Some of the programs that Outreach Global offers include: consultation, education, global sustainability, innovation and educational and cultural tours.

As part of networking strategy, the office has engaged with various African embassies such as Ethiopia, Morocco, Uganda, governmental agencies, NGOs, businesses, and universities for educational and business partnerships as well as for financial and other related support. In addition, the office has established partnerships with institutions like Galileo Universidad, Guatemala, University of Development Studies, or UDS, Ghana and other universities and governmental agencies in Egypt, Ethiopia, Venezuela, and South Korea.

On campus, the College of Education’s Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology, or EFLT, has also partnered and traveled with Outreach Global for opportunities in Ghana. From Oct. 25 to Nov. 5, 2016, Dr. Royrickers Cook,

AU Outreach delegation participated in the University of Cape Coast (UCC), Ghana School of Graduate Studies graduation program in March, 2017.
Mrs. Elizabeth I. E-Quansah, coordinator for Outreach Global, and a three-member delegation visited Cote D’Ivoire in West Africa, Kenya and Uganda in East Africa to explore opportunities and also identify key partners for Outreach Global’s African Education and Cultural tours and alternative spring break program.

The office also hosted visitors from Higher Education Resource Services of East Africa, or HERS-EA, the CEO and diplomat from TIRET, Ethiopia and delegation from University of Cape Coast, or UCC Ghana. The UCC four-member delegation visited Auburn University from Dec. 4-9, 2016, for an informational visit. Auburn University and UCC partners are working on several collaborative programs including outreach and community services, youth development, training for faculty, staff and students, faculty and student exchanges, spring and summer programs, teaching, research, and technology related programs.

The UCC delegation, led by UCC Pro Vice Chancellor Dr. George Oduro, also included Professor Rosemond Boohene, dean of the Center for International Education; Dr. Rosemary Bosu, director for the Institute for Educational Planning and Administration and Dr. Hippolyt Angbing, head of the Department of Basic Education.

For additional information, visit http://www.auburn.edu/outreach/global/.
Recipients of the 2017 Outreach Scholarship Grants Announced

First conceptualized and described in the early 1990’s by Earnest Boyer, the “scholarship of engagement” is an “emergent concept that redefines faculty scholarly work from application of academic expertise to community engaged scholarship that involves the faculty member in a reciprocal partnership with the community. It can be characteristically interdisciplinary and it integrates faculty roles of teaching, research, outreach and service” (NERCHE, 2013). Annually, faculty at Auburn University produce engaged scholarship with the intramural support of the University Outreach Competitive Outreach Scholarship Grant, or COSG, program. Five grants in support of faculty engagement have been awarded this year. COSG recipients and collaborating community partners were recognized at the Outreach and Engaged Scholars Luncheon Feb. 22, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the ALFA Pavilion, known as the Red Barn, on Auburn University’s campus.
• Enhancing Diversity in Health Research Investigating Youth with Developmental Disabilities
  Dr. Melissa Pangelinan, Dr. Jared Russell, Dr. Danielle Wadsworth, Dr. Sheri Brock, Dr. Mary Rudisill, and Dr. Annie Newton
  College of Education (School of Kinesiology), School of Pharmacy (Via College of Osteopathic Medicine/Pharmacy Health Services)
  This project will expand the student learning and service outcomes of underrepresented backgrounds in a summer program to promote healthy eating and physical activity in families of youth with developmental disabilities.

• Improving Elder Care with Interprofessional Mobile Clinics
  Dr. Kathy Jo Ellison, Dr. E. Jean Dubois, Dr. Kristen Helms, Dr. Margaret Williamson, Dr. Patricia Marincic, and Dr. Emily Myers
  School of Nursing, School of Pharmacy (Pharmacy Practice and Experiential Learning), College of Human Sciences (Nutrition, Dietetics and Hospitality Management), College of Liberal Arts (Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work)
  This project was coalesced with the commitment of multiple disciplines (Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work, and Nutrition) from Auburn University, Edward via College of Osteopathic Medicine, and community healthcare partners to develop a community-based, interprofessional care model designed to improve the care of underserved groups, specifically the elderly, in the East Alabama area.

• Serving Alabama Fosters through Engagement (SAFE): A Pilot Program
  Dr. Amanda M. Evans and Dr. Jessica Fripp
  College of Education (Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling)
  The Serving Alabama Fosters through Engagement (SAFE): A Pilot Program was developed to obtain the funding needed to implement a trauma-informed model.
specifically designed for foster children, foster parents and birth parents that will be piloted in Chambers County’s Department of Human Resources (DHR).

• Improving Hearing Conservation Program Effectiveness for Alabama Industries

   Dr. Richard Sesek, Dr. Mark C. Schall, Jr., Dr. Sridhar Krishnamurti, and Dr. Norman E. Youngblood

   **Samuel Ginn College of Engineering (Industrial and Systems Engineering), College of Liberal Arts (Communication Disorders, Communication and Journalism)**

   This project aims to improve compliance with and the subsequent effectiveness of HCPs in Alabama by: 1) assessing a sampling of workplaces in Alabama, 2) creating/collaborating the most effective training materials, including engineering controls best practices, and 3) disseminating this material to Alabamians via multiple venues including the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) and video based “tool box” talks disseminated using podcasts among other methods.

• COPE – Canine Outreach Promoting Engagement

   Dr. Morgan Yordy, Dr. W. Stuart Pope

   **School of Nursing**

   The purpose of “Canine Outreach Promoting Engagement” (COPE) is to enhance individual social engagement behaviors among cognitively impaired adults in a community respite care program and better prepare caregivers and nursing students when caring for this population.
Government and Economic Development Institute Welcomes New Staff

The staff of the Government and Economic Development Institute, or GEDI, is pleased to welcome Morgan Saintjones to their team. Morgan joined the institute in December as a training program specialist and will coordinate many of the training programs offered to municipalities and economic developers around the state.

Morgan received her Master of Public Administration degree from American University and her Bachelor of Arts from Alabama A&M. Most recently, she worked for Technology Management Training Group in Huntsville helping historically black colleges and universities obtain grants, scholarships and research opportunities from the Department of Defense. Previously, her career focused on improving literacy in Washington, D.C., where she worked with the nonprofit Everybody Wins! D.C., coordinating an end-of-the-year celebration for over 200 children and mentors at Black Entertainment Television. Morgan also organized American University’s Kids On Campus Day to promote college awareness and student access for more than 500 disadvantaged youths in the Washington, D.C., area.

College of Veterinary Medicine Outreach Touches Many Areas and Many People

Throughout its more than 125-year history, Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine has served as a significant educational and supportive resource to the state and region. This past year has seen that tradition of service and community outreach continue to grow.

From providing free veterinary clinical services to underserved communities, helping organize and conduct free large-scale community animal care and educational initiatives, providing learning opportunities for young people who dream to someday become veterinary professionals, to expanding veterinary teaching and specialty service opportunities into other areas of the state, the outreach of Auburn's College of Veterinary Medicine touches many areas and many people.

Veterinary Outreach Course Elective Supports Underserved Communities

Through an educational elective program, “Veterinary Service Learning and Outreach,” 10 third-year students in the College of Veterinary Medicine partnered with local veterinarians in underserved communities in Alabama to provide veterinary services and education to pet owners.

Participating in three separate programs in Centre, Alabama, students provided one-day veterinary clinics at Centre’s Kilpatrick Hispanic Church. The students
provided free wellness exams, vaccines, spay and neuter certificates, heartworm testing, nail trimming and other basic pet care.

This year marked the second time Auburn veterinary students offered this program. Two more outreach clinics are planned.

Volunteer Projects Impact Seven Communities

Hundreds of volunteers displayed the important work of the veterinary medicine profession during the 2016 “Our Oath in Action” projects last fall. Held across seven locations, these events gave veterinarians, veterinary students, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants and veterinary staff members the opportunity to reach out and connect with the animal-loving public outside the veterinary hospital.

The program is coordinated nationally by the American Veterinary Medical Foundation. As part of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Foundation, College of Veterinary Medicine personnel at Auburn organized and staffed a veterinary educational booth at Auburn’s 2016 Fall Roundup and Taste of Alabama Agriculture event. This was the college’s fourth year to offer the program that provides information free to the public about pet care, pet emergency care and information. The college also had its Companion Animal Mobile Equipment unit on hand, which can provide supplies necessary to house up to 80 pets and can be deployed to care for pets during disaster situations. The college’s Canine Performance Sciences unit also provided a detector dogs demonstration for the public.

Referral Center Cornerstone of College of Veterinary Medicine Educational Complex in Gulf Shores

Auburn University and the City of Gulf Shores are moving forward with plans to build a 24,000-square-foot educational complex in Gulf Shores.

The referral center will serve as an extension of the College of Veterinary Medicine’s teaching hospital and will provide specialty veterinary services as well as expanded educational opportunities for veterinary students in south Alabama and the surrounding region.

By having a base of operations in Gulf Shores, Auburn will enhance its student engagement in veterinary clinical education and laboratory training in disciplines unique to Alabama’s Gulf Coast, including marine mammal medicine, aquatic animal pathology, zoology and wildlife medicine and emergency response.
Vet Camp Gives Youth A Miniature Veterinary School Experience

Each summer, junior and high school students travel from throughout the U.S. to attend the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Vet Camp. This past summer, 96 students attended Vet Camp and learned about public health, food animals, wildlife, anatomy, imaging and first aid. Participants also received career mentoring from the college’s professionals and students.

Current students serve as head counselors and lead the camp in preparing modules and activities for campers.

Vet Camp allows youth to experience the veterinary program through hands-on experiences in classrooms, laboratories and outdoor facilities that include the Southeastern Raptor Center and Auburn’s equine, dairy and beef units. Camp participants learn about physical diagnosis and participate in mock surgeries in the college’s labs.

The popular program is planned in partnership with Auburn’s Office of Professional and Continuing Education. Registration typically fills to capacity up to six months in advance of camp.

OLLI Inaugural Trip to Cuba

Ten members of Auburn University’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, or OLLI at Auburn, traveled to Cuba last December with the Department of History’s Tiffany Sippial. The 10-day trip marked the first foreign travel experience sponsored by OLLI at Auburn in partnership with Cuba Travel Adventures Group. The opportunity to engage in person-to-person exchanges with the Cuban people during this moment of historic change in U.S.-Cuban relations was priceless for all.

The goal of the trip was to help immerse the participants in Cuba’s extraordinary culture, history and social life. The group moved from the cobble-stoned streets of colonial Havana to the rich farmlands of tobacco country. Along the route, participants cooked Cuban cuisine, learned to dance salsa, cruised along the Havana seawall in classic American cars, visited the Museum of the Revolution, walked in Hemingway’s footsteps and dialogued with Cuban experts in a variety of fields. The OLLI members emerged from this trip with a uniquely personal knowledge of one of the world’s most fascinating countries.
**Kyes Stevens Named Among “Women Who Shape the State”**

Kyes Stevens, director of the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project, was recognized as one of 2016’s “Women Who Shape the State.” The recognition is part of a program created by AL.com and Birmingham Magazine to honor influential women civic leaders across Alabama. Stevens was one of 30 women honored from among 100 nominations submitted. Stevens founded the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project in 2002 as a way of sharing the arts and humanities with individuals in Alabama.

Department of Corrections’ facilities. Over the years, the project curriculum has expanded to include not-for-credit higher education course offerings in science, hunger studies, history and engineering in 10 of Alabama’s 18 prisons.

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**Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference**

Auburn University, along with nine other southern regional institutions, will host the 18th annual Engagement Scholarship Consortium, or ESC, conference this year.

The 18th annual ESC conference will take place in Birmingham, Sept. 26-27, with the pre-conference workshops taking place Sept. 24-25. Registration opened April 3. For more information about ESC and the 2017 conference, visit the official conference website at https://engagementscholarship.org/conference/esc-2017-meeting.
Francesca Adler-Baeder Receives Outstanding Engagement Award at APLU Meeting

Francesca Adler-Baeder, a professor in the College of Human Sciences at Auburn University, received the Outstanding Engagement Award from the Board on Human Sciences at the November 2016 annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). The award recognizes a campus-based or state-level faculty member for exceptional creativity and scholarship in the development, application and evaluation of outreach, extension and public service programs. Adler-Baeder leads the Alabama Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Initiative, and is a recipient of Auburn’s 2013 Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach.

BE A HERO at the 7th Annual Anti-Bullying Summit

The Office of Professional and Continuing Education and the Truman Pierce Institute will be hosting the 7th Annual Anti-Bullying Summit on June 21-22, 2017 in Peachtree City, Georgia.

Topics will include cyberbullying intervention, anti-bullying programs, research, restorative justice approaches, resources, and school climate. This is an excellent opportunity to share information and network with educators, mental health professionals, counselors, and school safety officers who are involved in bullying intervention. Last year’s conference attracted attendance from 14 states as well as Singapore and Canada.

For more information, go to our website: http://www.auburn.edu/outreach/opce/antibullying
“Korea Corner” Resource Center Established

With a generous grant from the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, the Global Leadership Training Initiative (GLTI) has established “Korea Corner,” a resource center featuring materials on Korean culture available for the public. GLTI is a program of the Office of Professional and Continuing Education in University Outreach. The mission of Korea Corner is to introduce Korean culture to the community. A grand opening ceremony was held in this spring with special guest Kim Seong-jin, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, cutting the ribbon for the facility. Korea Corner is located at 2235 Haley Center.

Outreach Hosts “Auburn’s Future with Cuba” Roundtable Discussion

University Outreach hosted a roundtable discussion on “Auburn’s Future with Cuba” on May 5th at the Hotel Conference Center.

The session, which included a continental breakfast and lunch, highlighted faculty interactions, upcoming activities, and a discussion of future opportunities with the country. Those that have participated in a previous AU delegation, are considering attending a future University Outreach delegation, or those simply with an interest in Cuba were invited to attend.
WISE Partners with Local School to Create Gardening Club

The Women in Science and Engineering Institute, a unit in the Office of Inclusion and Diversity at Auburn University, has partnered with Cary Woods Elementary School’s After School program to develop and implement STEMs for the Future After School Gardening Club. Children in grades K-2 are creating a farmer’s almanac featuring a variety of activities central to learning about agriculture with skills applicable to all STEM disciplines: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Madison Hutto, Auburn University graduate student in elementary education, and Cyndi Czerkawski, director of the after school program, implement activities each week with the students. The students say they enjoy everything from harvesting and eating vegetables to planting carrots, digging, flowers and worms. The goal of the program is to develop a flexible, hands-on curriculum to demonstrate to young learners the interdependence of biological systems in a fun and meaningful way. For additional information, contact Bonnie Wilson, WISE Coordinator, at bonnie@auburn.edu.

Members of the Campus Kitchens Project attended the fourth annual Food Waste and Hunger Summit, where they were named Kitchen of the Year.
Learn more about Auburn University Outreach and read additional issues of Beyond Auburn Magazine.