Supporting Alabama’s Economy
Auburn University is committed to expanding Alabama’s economic potential by creating opportunity for business and industry through innovative research and practical application. Auburn produces an annual economic impact of more than $4 billion for the state through its research, instruction and outreach. Auburn has an extensive base of knowledge and expertise for problem solving, technology transfer, workforce training, and community development. This booklet outlines in detail these successful programs and services. I hope you will find it a valuable resource.

- **Ed Richardson, Ed.D.**  
  Interim President  
  Auburn University

One of Alabama’s greatest assets for economic development is Auburn University. Each year, Auburn provides hundreds of hours of innovative programs and consultation to communities and businesses across the state. This publication illustrates effectively these resources and provides helpful contacts. Auburn is committed to working with business and civic leaders to improve community vitality and quality of life, and to engage innovative strategies to stimulate industry. We invite you to join us in promoting prosperity in Alabama!

- **David Wilson, Ph.D.**  
  Associate Provost and Vice President for University Outreach  
  Auburn University

Academic research is directly responsible for some 20 percent of new products and 15 percent of the new processes introduced into America’s industry each year. Auburn University is part of this. Our research program has achieved steady 17% annual growth over the past decade. Our research developments and discoveries have led to the creation of 52 intellectual property licenses agreements and 11 start-up companies. With construction soon to begin on a new research park, Auburn research will further shape the economic growth for the state and region. This publication describes some of Auburn’s research programs in detail. I hope it will compel you to want to learn more and to join with us in furthering the economic potential and prosperity of our communities and state.

- **Michael Moriarty, Ph.D.**  
  Associate Provost and Vice President for Research  
  Auburn University
Auburn’s Economic Impact on Alabama

Auburn University makes significant contributions to the Alabama economy. Graduates provide knowledge and leadership for state industries, and researchers develop new products and discover new ways to improve productivity. Through outreach, faculty work directly with clients to provide information and to solve problems. More than 50 current Auburn University programs and initiatives are making a positive difference for the state economy.

By the Numbers . . .

Overall, Auburn has a documented economic impact of more than $4 billion on the state’s economy, stimulating demand for new jobs, producing human capital and providing the principal academic expertise for industries that employ almost a half-million other individuals. More than 75,000 Auburn graduates live in Alabama, contributing to their local economies and to the productive capacity of industry. With a collective earning capacity of $2.4 billion, these alumni form a base of educated and skilled workers that enhance the production and earnings capacity of businesses throughout the state. AU makes a significant contribution to the maintenance of a skilled workforce through providing continuing education programs for more than 45,000 individuals each year.

Support for Industry

While Auburn provides essential knowledge and resources that benefit businesses throughout the state, the University is the principal source of academic support for a number of specific industries. Auburn produces unique research and outreach, as well as approximately 75% of the public university graduates for Alabama’s largest industries, including agriculture, construction, and manufacturing. AU also hosts the largest engineering school and the only industrial design program in the state. Auburn is the primary source of instruction and research for Alabama’s emerging aerospace, automotive, and microelectronics industries. In addition, the University recently launched the nation’s first wireless engineering degree program.
Knowledge in Action

Workforce quality of life has emerged as a primary issue for business and economic developers. Auburn initiatives for education, environment, health and cultural preservation positively impact Alabama’s desirability as an industrial location. The College of Education’s leadership initiatives are increasing the viability of the state’s schools. Auburn hosts Alabama’s only degree programs in wildlife, wetlands management, and environmental sciences, providing multidisciplinary research and outreach for the development of the state’s wealth of natural resources. AU’s food, nutrition, pharmacy, nursing, veterinary and biomedical programs are producing technological innovations that are saving lives and reducing medical costs nationwide. Auburn’s Center for Arts and Humanities promotes Alabama’s unique and diverse cultural heritage. Additionally, the University’s Intensive Economic Development Training Course has certified the majority of current economic development professionals in the state, contributing to a more sustainable and viable economy.

Auburn University has also committed more than $17.5 million to its “Peaks of Excellence” research initiatives. Technological advances from these programs make information systems more intelligent and reliable, roads and bridges safer to travel, vehicles safer and more fuel-efficient, woodlands more plentiful, food safer to eat, and quality of health improved. As a result of these initiatives, countless lives will be improved and hundreds of billions of dollars will be saved.

In all, Auburn contributes to a climate in which workers can learn and live, productively, safely and with dignity.
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Auburn University is committed to applying its educational resources to the problems and issues faced by citizens of the state, region, nation and world. Through academic departments, outreach centers and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn’s outreach programming addresses economic development, government, professional continuing education, youth, cultural preservation, agriculture and natural resources. The goal of Auburn University Outreach is to provide effective and efficient programs and services to Alabamians.

The Office of the Vice President for University Outreach provides coordination of, and leadership for, extension and outreach. It also circulates information, ideas, and resources among the colleges, schools, and outreach centers across campus in order to encourage and support faculty participation in the outreach mission. Further, the office promotes the University to the general public as a lifelong learning institution, which provides an ongoing set of educational experiences for all residents of the state in classroom, conference, and distance learning formats.

Staff members also assist University faculty with outreach programming. In addition to several outreach centers and programs, University Outreach maintains a representative in each school and college to provide support and coordination for school-based efforts.

“Outreach is . . . a central element of Auburn’s service to the people of Alabama and beyond, and is at the heart of Auburn’s land-grant tradition. It is a distinguishing, and perhaps the distinctive, mission of Auburn University.”

-University Outreach: University Connections to Society, 2000
Auburn University Outreach has provided several Auburn graduate students with internships to work in Wilcox, Marengo, Dallas and Perry Counties, which are located in Alabama’s Black Belt. The primary emphasis of these internships is to assist Black Belt residents in improving their quality of life. Past internships have placed students with local governments and community and economic development organizations.

In 1998, Auburn University Outreach launched a grant competition aimed at improving the quality of life of Black Belt residents. These “Do Something!” Grants funded a number of faculty projects, including a leadership program in Sumter County, a regional entrepreneurship program, and a jobs creation program in Thomaston, Alabama.

Inspired by the success of the “Do Something!” Grant program, AU Outreach has recently funded grants to encourage the use of faculty research to address critical needs throughout Alabama. These grants have helped fund the extension of Auburn’s outreach to Thomaston and the design for a development center to serve Alabama’s underserved communities.

In 1997, Auburn University Outreach initiated the planning for a Black Belt Regional Education and Economic Development Foundation. This foundation sought to address the critical needs of a twelve-county region including improved education, economic and community development, and grassroots leadership development.

Subsequently, Auburn has joined with Black Belt residents who were organizing a similar community foundation. This collaborative effort resulted in the establishment of the Black Belt Community Foundation. The Foundation became operational in 2004.
EDI is Auburn University’s outreach unit for economic and community development. Created in 1988, EDI has established itself as one of Alabama’s leading organizations for economic development education and professional development, research, and community assistance.

The Institute works to facilitate collaboration and information-sharing among the State’s economic development professionals and practitioners. It also provides educational opportunities for Alabama’s economic development community.

EDI conducts research related to Alabama economic policy and practice, specializing in rural development. Recent publications have included *Beyond the Interstate: Crisis in Rural Alabama* and *Crossroads and Connections: Strategies for Rural Alabama*. Taken together, these publications describe the plight and potential of rural Alabama and set forth a strategy for solving some of the problems faced by its residents.

EDI provides direct outreach assistance to Alabama communities in the areas of leadership, planning, and organization. The Institute helps small- and medium-sized rural and economically-distressed communities to build their capacity for economic development through facilitating strategic planning, promoting civic participation, developing community leadership, and promoting asset-based economic and community development.

I-85 Corridor Alliance™

The I-85 Corridor Alliance™ is a partnership among local government, private sector organizations, and educational institutions committed to increasing the prosperity of communities along Interstate 85 from Montgomery to the Georgia state line. This initiative began in July 2003 and includes leaders from Montgomery, Elmore, Macon, Tallapoosa, Bullock, Russell, Lee, and Chambers counties. Leadership for the Alliance™ is structured around an executive council that includes representation from university, business, and public sector interests located along the 90-mile stretch of Interstate.

As part of this initiative, Auburn University’s Economic Development Institute has compiled an inventory of assets located along the I-85 Corridor. This inventory offers a detailed listing and brief description of the region’s assets in the areas of educational services, technology, tourism and community development, and infrastructure services. The I-85 Corridor Alliance™ hopes to build upon these assets to strengthen communities along the Corridor and to promote growth and development throughout the region.
The Center for Governmental Services represents Auburn University’s commitment to excellence in state and local government. Since 1976, the Center has provided survey and policy research, technical assistance, and training to meet the needs of Alabama governments and public officials. CGS seeks to promote informed public policy, accountability, and effective administration. Through partnerships with Alabama governments, CGS strives to improve the lives of Alabama citizens by promoting quality management and operation of government at every level.

CGS offers five certification programs to enhance the knowledge and skills of public sector officials and employees including: Property Tax Administration, Public Personnel Administration, County Commissioners (through the Alabama Local Government Training Institute), and the Certified Revenue Examiners (Sales Tax Collection) program. In addition, CGS offers a certificate program for Alabama Office Administrators. The Center also provides on-site training to state and local governments in a variety of topic areas related to financial and human resource management.
Peaks of Excellence
http://www.auburn.edu/peaks

Auburn University has committed more than $17.5 million to its “Peaks of Excellence” research initiatives in cellular and molecular biosciences, detection and food safety, fisheries and aquaculture, forest sustainability, information technology, poultry products safety and quality, and transportation. Technological advances from AU’s Peaks of Excellence programs make information systems more intelligent and reliable, roads and bridges safer to travel, vehicles safer and more fuel-efficient, woodlands more plentiful, food safer to eat, and quality of health improved.

Auburn University established the Peaks of Excellence Program to create the infrastructure needed to promote, enhance and nourish research in carefully-selected fields where a high level of expertise has been demonstrated. Fundamental emphasis is therefore to recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty members in areas that complement existing strengths to position Auburn as a nationally- and internationally-recognized research leader. Each of the seven Peaks of Excellence research initiatives represents an interdisciplinary program that is positioned for rapid growth. The Peaks of Excellence will advance Auburn’s leading-edge capabilities to a higher level and raise the University’s competitive reputation throughout the world. As a result of this program, countless lives will be improved and hundreds of billions of dollars will be saved.

Auburn University Research Park
Auburn Research and Technology Foundation
307 Samford Hall - Auburn University, AL 36849
Dr. Syd Spain, Executive Director - E-mail: spainrs@auburn.edu

The establishment of a research park for Auburn supports the State of Alabama’s efforts to move to a knowledge-based economy. The project brings together the involvement and participation of a number of stakeholders ranging from Auburn University and the local communities served by the institution and this new research park to the Governor and State of Alabama.

The goal of this joint initiative between Auburn University and Auburn Research and Technology Foundation is to create a research concentration to enhance the University’s revenue and reputation as well as promote economic development within the region and state. The research park will become a significant factor in creating new academic, research, and entrepreneurial opportunities for Auburn faculty and students. The park will provide tenant companies with access to university research equipment and facilities and research collaborations with some of the finest university research faculty, staff, and students in the nation. The first of two buildings is to be completed by late 2006, followed by the second building in early 2007.
Auburn University-Aetos Technologies, Inc. Partnership

Aetos Technologies, Inc.
300 N Dean Road, Suite 5, PMB 157
Auburn, AL 36830
Ph: 877-238-6755 (Toll Free)
Fax: 334-749-2627
http://www.aetostech.com/
Mr. Charles T. Ludwig, President and Director
E-mail: sales@aetostech.com

AU Research Communications
202 Samford Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849
Ph: 334-844-5964
Fax: 334-844-5963
http://www.auburn.edu/research/vpr/
Mr. Mitch Emmons, Director
E-Mail: emmonmb@auburn.edu

Aetos Technologies, Inc. was founded as a financial partnership with Auburn University, its management team and private investors to commercialize and market technologies developed at Auburn as well as other academic and research institutions. This innovative “Auburn Model” takes high-potential new technologies from proof of concept through full commercial development.

Aetos is following the “Auburn Model” to commercialize a suite of technologies developed by Dr. Vitaly Vodyanoy and his 15-member research team in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Vodyanoy’s inventions, which are known collectively as Molecular Recognition Technologies, represent the first products to be marketed by Aetos Technologies.

In December 2004, Aetos announced the national market entry of Vodyanoy’s first product: an ultrahigh-resolution microscope that represents a major breakthrough in microscope technology. The patented technology is based on a model Vodyanoy developed nearly ten years ago to support his research on other projects. The veterinary researcher designed and built the first model because no other microscope could meet his needs. The new technology enables medical and other researchers to observe living cells in extremely fine detail and without the delays or extra steps for processing typical of current high-technology microscopes.

Auburn University owns a forty-five percent share in Aetos, but up to sixty percent of the company’s net income will flow back to the University. A portion of revenue from marketing the discovery will support additional studies in veterinary and human medicine by a research team that includes Vodyanoy and his colleagues.

Under the AU-Aetos agreement, the traditional technology transfer licensing process will be used for many of the university’s research developments. However, when a technology has extremely high commercial potential, Aetos will pursue the formation of a venture company to develop and market the technology at a higher value to the University.
The Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the primary outreach organization for the land-grant mission of Auburn and Alabama A&M Universities, delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Helping local businesses and industries thrive in an increasingly competitive global economy is an integral part of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System’s program efforts. Help is typically provided in two ways: through direct technical education and by working with public and private partners to create favorable climates for business development. Extension professionals have helped hundreds of restaurant and small-scale food processing operations comply with state and federal health regulations. Extension also conducts a professional logger certification program that is vital to Alabama’s timber industry. Extension has a broad impact on business and industry throughout Alabama through active participation on the Alabama Agribusiness Council, through a partnership with the AU College of Engineering to help small-scale manufacturers solve technical problems, and through hundreds of other educational programs and partnerships.

**Extension Community Resource Development (CRD)**

CRD helps people solve community problems, take advantage of opportunities, and build on their assets. It provides educational and technical assistance in the following areas: economic development, leadership development, strategic planning, environmental education, community health, workforce development, and public policy education. CRD also links community groups to internal and external resources.

CRD offers a wide variety of workforce preparation programs. These programs offer solutions to communities’ concerns about and desires for an economically-secure and sustainable future. The goal of this effort is to help connect classroom learning with career preparation so that students can make informed decisions and meet the needs of the new global marketplace.
The Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Auburn University’s Economic Development Institute conduct the annual two-week Intensive Economic Development Training Course (IEDTC) for Alabama’s economic and community development professionals and practitioners. Participants include city and county elected officials, chambers of commerce, industrial development boards, state agencies, regional planning commissions, and private industry. The course instructors include the top economic and community development practitioners and experts in Alabama. With over 600 course alumni, IEDTC has certified the majority of current economic development professionals in the state.
Auburn Technical Assistance Center (ATAC)

147 Lowder Building - Auburn University, AL 36849
Ph: 334-844-4659 - Fax: 334-844-5989
Mr. Henry Burdg, Director - E-mail: hburdg@business.auburn.edu
ATAC Website: http://www.business.auburn.edu/departments/bus_outreach/atac.cfm
ATN-AU Website: http://www.atn.auburn.edu/

Auburn Technical Assistance Center helps medium and large industries and organizations to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. Auburn faculty from more than 150 disciplines serve as ATAC project team members to help organizations address topics such as marketing, strategic planning, business retention, technology transfer, and industrial recruitment. ATAC has assisted more than 1,400 businesses since 1976. The Center is funded through a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), which is matched by University-appropriated funds and fee-for-service contracts.

As a part of ATAC, the Alabama Technology Network - Auburn University is a full-service outreach program that provides hands-on business assistance to established businesses, manufacturers, and other organizations. Although ATN-AU was originally conceived to help manufacturers increase their competitiveness in a rapidly-changing environment, its mission has since expanded to include established organizations in the non-manufacturing sector. ATN-AU core staff members partner with Auburn faculty and affiliated partners to achieve this mission by providing training programs in lean manufacturing, six sigma (black belt and green belt), process simulation, workforce development, strategic planning, and a variety of other topics.

“All of our centers are outreach-oriented . . . If you take the university’s total mission . . . the instruction mission definitely has an impact on economic development of the state, but it is a long term impact . . . The outreach work is taking knowledge that we have and helping businesses apply it to solve immediate problems.”
- Dr. Wayne Alderman, Torchmark Professor & Former Dean, College of Business
Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

108 Lowder Building - Auburn University, AL 36849
Dr. Jackie Alexander Di Pofi, Director - E-mail: dipofja@auburn.edu

The Small Business Development Center offers free consultation to existing small businesses and aids individuals who are interested in starting a small business. SBDC serves eight counties: Coosa, Chambers, Clay, Lee, Macon, Randolph, Russell and Tallapoosa. Residents of these counties utilize the Center’s expertise and advice to start new small business enterprises.

The Center offers personal consultation, workshops and seminars. It also provides assistance in the following activities: business planning, marketing, personnel training, cash flow analysis, accounting, inventory control, sales techniques, financing, and importing/exporting.

Lowder Center for Business and Entrepreneurship

105 Lowder Building - Auburn University, AL 36849
Ph: 334-844-2266 - Fax: 334-844-2234
http://aaes.auburn.edu/departments/bus_outreach/lowder.cfm
Dr. Michael Kincaid, Director - E-mail: mkincaid@business.auburn.edu

The Lowder Center for Business and Entrepreneurship combines outreach programming and academic studies to provide educational and training programs and technical assistance to family business owners and executives.

Efforts are directed at being responsive and proactive to the needs of family businesses, and to students interested in studying the dynamics of family businesses. The Center addresses a variety of issues, including leadership development, decision-making, organizational structure, management of economic and family changes, and the strategic planning process.
Business and Engineering Outreach

The College of Business has partnered with Auburn’s Samuel Ginn College of Engineering to create Business and Engineering Outreach. This partnership represents a unique organization that provides advanced degrees through distance education, shares expertise through programs of technical and business assistance, and enhances the professional development of engineers and business persons.

Business and Engineering Outreach offers seminars, conferences, workshops, and continuing education programs.

“We are always seeking new and innovative ways as we reach higher to serve the needs of the business community.” – Dr. William I. Sauser, Jr.

Blue Ridge Conference on Leadership

The Blue Ridge Conference on Leadership represents an 85-year tradition of excellence in leadership training and development. This annual conference at Black Mountain, North Carolina seeks to enhance human relations skills in the workplace by providing an exceptional leadership development experience for private and public sector principals, employees and representatives. The conference is conducted by a group of prominent business people representing leading corporations in the Southeast and the AU College of Business and Engineering Outreach.

Thomas Walter Center for Technology Management

The twofold mission of the Thomas Walter Center for Technology Management is to develop university curriculum materials and to research topics at the interface of traditional business and engineering programs through industrial involvement at the local, national, and international levels. Industry is invited to join the Thomas Walter Center for Technology Management in mutually-beneficial partnerships. The Center teams engineering and business faculty and students with industrial employees to work on the complex crossfunctional problems of developing and applying technology in competitive environments.
BECE provides opportunities through distance learning for engineers, business management, and government to help working professionals and organizations remain on the cutting edge of their industries.

BECE’s Professional Development Program offers a variety of noncredit education courses through seminars, workshops, conferences, DVD, videotape, and web-based instruction. Engineering and Surveying Professional Development courses are designed to comply with the requirements of state licensing boards. Business professional development courses are designed to meet the needs of professional personnel and those working in technical fields in their efforts to learn and update their skills. These courses do not count for credit towards a college degree but do provide continuing education units.

The Business and Engineering Graduate Outreach Program combines traditional instruction with modern delivery methods to offer educational opportunities beyond Auburn’s campus. This distance education program allows students to advance their education by pursuing a master’s degree in Engineering at their home or work site without disrupting their career or relocating their family.

This continuing education program provides a flexible, DVD-based delivery mode of on-campus programs. Outreach students receive the same lectures, assignments and professors as their on-campus peers. The admissions process, performance expectations and degrees received are also identical.

For engineers who are also business leaders, Auburn University’s Business and Engineering Graduate Outreach program also offers numerous distance learning opportunities in business, including a new joint MBA/MISE program.

The Media Resources Center (MRC) serves as the media production division of the Graduate Outreach and Continuing Education Programs. The Center provides video recording, editing, and dubbing on VHS, video CD, and DVD; posts class notes onto WebCT; and ships videos and handout materials for all courses in the outreach program. The MRC also makes short video promotional pieces for the College of Engineering. The Center’s current videotape and DVD delivery system is one of the largest programs of its kind in the country. The MRC began testing the delivery of courses on the Internet via streaming media in the fall of 2005. Additionally, the Center produces video media to support Business and Engineering Professional Development Distance Education programs and other offerings at BEO units.
Auburn Engineering plays a major role in the local, state, regional and national economy. Over the past ten years, Alabama has become the hub of a cluster of transportation-related industries. Engineering faculty work closely with regional, state and local economic development personnel to recruit new industry, support and grow existing industry, and develop new transportation technology.

Auburn Engineering offers business and government leaders a wide variety of services and resources to help their organizations thrive and grow to enhance the economy. It is a center of research innovation that fuels the development of new technologies, products and companies, and offers a wide variety of services.

These efforts have had a significant impact on the region and state, including the addition of major automotive facilities such as DaimlerChrysler and Hyundai to the economic base, as well as automotive suppliers such as Stahlschmidt and Mailworm and Hoerbriger Hydraulics.

**Alabama Microelectronics Science and Technology Center (AMSTC)**

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Ph: 334-844-1870 - Fax: 334-844-1888
http://spider.eng.auburn.edu/amstc/main/index.htm
Dr. Bogdan M. Wilamowski, Director - E-mail: wilam@ieee.org

The mission of AMSTC is to advance microelectronics science, technology, and education by providing facilities which encourage interdisciplinary research and educational activities within Auburn University and the State of Alabama. This mission is accomplished by focusing on long-term research while also addressing the shorter-term technological and manpower needs of the semiconductor industry. The AMSTC has grown to include nine distinct laboratories in the Electrical and Computer Engineering, Physics, and Mechanical Engineering Departments. Over 30 faculty and staff members and over 50 graduate students are involved in its research activities.

**Southern Regional Radon Training Center (SRRTC)**

217 Ramsay Hall - Auburn University, AL 36849
Ph: 334-844-5719 or 800-446-0382 - Fax: 334-844-5715
http://eng.auburn.edu/contedu/pd/radon/index.html
Ms. Jan Carrington, Program Manager - E-mail: janc@eng.auburn.edu

SRRTC provides technical training courses related to radon measurement and mitigation for persons who wish to provide professional radon services. SRRTC also targets other groups for training about radon problems that impact citizens in their homes, schools and workplaces. Through SRRTC, homebuilders are taught radon resistant new construction techniques, and home inspectors are taught skills for inspecting radon mitigation systems.
The primary objective of AETAP is to facilitate the transformation of knowledge from Auburn University into innovations that will create new wealth and strengthen Alabama’s economy. AETAP provides manufacturers with high quality technical assistance, technology transfer, and workforce training. A knowledge-sharing system based on the latest information technology is being used to expedite technology transfer. Students, faculty, and county technology outreach agents use the system to transfer knowledge from Auburn and federal research laboratories to Alabama industry in a systematic manner. Thereby, AETAP helps increase the competitiveness of Alabama’s manufacturers in a rapidly-changing world of international commerce.

The Alabama Technology Transfer Center was created to bring the newest developments in technology to Alabama public works agencies. The Center combines the resources of three organizations: the US Department of Transportation, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), and the Auburn University Business and Engineering Continuing Education program and Civil Engineering Department.

The Center seeks to provide training and information to help public works, highway, and transportation agencies plan, manage, and execute their programs as a part of the Federal Highway Administration’s Local Technical Assistance Program. The Center also provides assistance to ALDOT in administering the Federal Transportation Authority’s Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) and maintains the Alabama RTAP website.

The Space Research Institute seeks to create solutions through innovation for its customers. The Institute is committed to an independent, unbiased approach to research. For more than 15 years, SRI has solved numerous research and development problems in aerospace, defense, and energy technology areas for space and terrestrial applications. Institute personnel manage the NASA Center for Space Power and Advanced Electronics, operate specialized research laboratories, provide leadership on international- and national-level technical committees, publish technical papers, and hold over 15 patents dealing with space environment effects, energy conversion, high power electromagnetics, and shock wave physics.
Ninety-six percent of all paved roads and streets in the U.S. - almost two million miles - are surfaced with asphalt. The Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) industry directly employs approximately 300,000 people, and indirectly accounts for an additional 600,000 jobs. The industry produces and places approximately 500 million tons of HMA every year, valued at some $20 billion. When combined with state and federal employees associated with the construction and maintenance of asphalt surfaced roads, the HMA industry has a significant impact on the economic vitality of the nation. NCAT was created to ensure the industry’s ability to meet this challenge, and to create opportunities for the future.

Many engineers from all sectors of the asphalt industry, who entered the work force in the early days of the interstate system, are reaching the end of their careers. These people must be replaced by engineers who are knowledgeable of asphalt materials and their proper use to successfully rebuild the highway sector of the transportation infrastructure. Thus, NCAT teaches several training courses for individuals in the HMA industry ranging in length from three days to two weeks.

Auburn University’s Highway Research Center (HRC) supports Alabama’s highway industry through research and education. This resource is available to the entire industry, including state, county, and local governments, as well as material suppliers and road building contractors. Research programs are coordinated to address the needs of these groups both individually and collectively. Inquiries and requests for proposals are solicited from organizations with highway or transportation-related problems.

The Center for Advanced Vehicle Electronics (CAVE) at Auburn University is dedicated to working with industry to develop and implement new technologies for packaging and manufacturing electronics. Center personnel work directly with member companies to identify challenges and opportunities for new materials, processes, and approaches to the production of electronics. These member companies select the research projects. CAVE researchers maintain close interaction with the industrial members through semiannual project reviews, visits, monthly updates, and frequent phone calls. CAVE currently has 12 member companies representing the material, component, equipment and electronics assembly industries.
The Center for Microfibrous Materials Manufacturing was created in 1996 to facilitate research development, education, technology transfer, and economic development by establishing a small-scale manufacturing activity to produce microfibrous materials. The composition of these materials can be changed to produce specific characteristics and properties that are desirable in a wide variety of applications. CM3 has successfully used microfibrous materials to develop battery electrodes, fuel cells, capacitors, catalysts for stimulating various chemical reactions, absorbents, and filtering systems. These materials were invented and patented by Auburn University.

The Materials Processing Center performs research and development in materials processes important to industry and government operations in Alabama, Georgia and beyond. Specific interests focus on processes important to the metal casting industry including solidification science, thermophysical properties of liquid metals, particulate molding, and heat treating. In addition, Center personnel work directly with external clients to develop new cast metal products for advanced engineering applications.

Through interdisciplinary investigations, MREC is removing barriers to the development, construction, and application of adaptive materials in thermal and environmental regulation and position control systems. The Center’s objectives are to investigate the role of structure in determining the responses of adaptive materials, to develop new sensor and actuator materials/systems, to investigate novel fabrication techniques for producing adaptive materials and structures, and to partner with industry in incorporating these materials, structures, or systems into commercial products. MREC welcomes inquiries from industry.

NTC develops new materials and innovative manufacturing and integrated systems essential to the success of the modern U.S. textile enterprise. The Center also trains personnel, establishes industrial partnerships, and creates transfer mechanisms to ensure the proper utilization of its technological innovations. Further, it works to strengthen the nation’s textile research and educational efforts by uniting diverse experts and resources in unique collaborative projects.
Synthetic fuels research focuses on catalysis of coal minerals and development of new multistage liquefaction processes, improved solvents for liquefaction, and improved catalysts for removing environmental pollutants. A combined process is being developed to simultaneously convert solid coal and heavy residual petroleum fractions of waste material to higher quality fuels. In other recent research, specification-grade paving asphalt was synthesized from coal. Researchers are developing new processes for producing clean, environmentally-acceptable transportation fuels such as gasoline, jet, and diesel, from coal and waste plastics, tires, and waste oil, thereby conserving landfill space and other resources.

AC-PABE is actively engaged in preparing highly-trained operators for the pulp and paper industry. This effort is conducted in partnership with Alabama Southern Community College and is the center of the National Network for Pulp and Paper Technology Training, which serves the needs of the entire U.S. pulp and paper industry. AC-PABE also partners with this industry through the Auburn Pulp and Paper Foundation, a 55-member company providing scholarships and other support.

Biosystems Engineering develops and disseminates engineering knowledge to solve problems in biological systems such as agriculture, food, forestry, natural resources, and the environment. The department has an 85-year history of carrying out all three missions of the land-grant university: instruction, research, and outreach. Programs within the department are centered around four major focus areas: Ecological Engineering, Production and Process Engineering, Off-Highway Vehicle Engineering, and Food and Biological Engineering.

Recent investments include upgraded teaching and research laboratory facilities with a renovated computer laboratory and the latest multimedia equipment in classrooms. Students have access to state-of-the-art Global Positioning Systems equipment and Geographic Information Systems computing resources.
Rural Studio

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Rural Studio is a community-based educational program in which AU architecture students work with local and state governments to assist economically-disadvantaged families. Rural Studio seeks solutions within a community’s own context rather than from outside sources. Abstract ideas based upon knowledge and study are transformed into workable solutions forged by human contact, personal realization, and a gained appreciation for the culture.

The students who attend Rural Studio expand their design knowledge through building their designs. Utilizing the concept of “context-based learning,” Rural Studio asks students to leave the university environment and take up residency in Hale County, Alabama. In doing so, the students join a poverty-stricken region and work alongside a housing client who lives far below the poverty level. The goal of this exercise is for students to refine their social consciences and learn the necessary social, cultural, and technological concepts of designing and building.

Auburn Center for Architecture and Urban Studies (Urban Studio)

The Auburn Center for Architecture and Urban Studies in Birmingham has helped develop master plans for more than 30 small towns and communities during the last six years, from town hall-style meetings to strategic planning that preserves and promotes each town’s distinctive qualities.

The Auburn Center for Architecture and Urban Studies, Region 2020, and the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham have formed a partnership to establish the Center for Regional Planning and Design in Birmingham. This center provides resources and planning for communities and neighborhoods throughout Central Alabama. One of the Center’s primary goals is to improve the quality of life for citizens through responsible planning, quality design, and public/private partnerships.

The Urban Studio is currently working in conjunction with the Appalachian Regional Commission in seven counties through ARC’s Flex E-Grant Program. Planning and capacity building are underway in Bibb, Hale, Fayette, Franklin, Macon, Pickens and Winston counties.
The Forest Products Development Center at Auburn University’s School of Forestry was established in 1989 as a cooperative effort between Auburn University, the Alabama Forestry Commission, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. The primary objective of the Center is to provide a technical information and analytical support base to facilitate and encourage forest-based economic development in Alabama.

The Center serves as a contact point for industry personnel wishing to explore new investment or market opportunities within Alabama. These opportunities may include enhancement of an existing business enterprise within the State or the development of an entirely new forest-based operation. In addition to providing assistance to those wishing to investigate specific opportunities, the Center seeks to identify opportunities on its own and will, from time to time, work with appropriate State agencies to evaluate and advocate attractive projects to potential industry investors.

While the Center’s mission and resources do not allow for extensive one-on-one consulting, the Center can provide the following types of services: forest resource studies, market studies, manufacturing technology evaluations, economic feasibility studies, new product evaluations, capital project investment analyses, project financing investigations, technical training, operations analyses, and input/output studies.

The Longleaf Alliance was established in 1995 to coordinate a partnership among private landowners, forest industries, state and federal agencies, conservation groups, researchers and other enthusiasts interested in managing and restoring longleaf pine forests for their ecological and economical benefits. Its primary focus is to provide economically-viable and voluntary options for the recovery of longleaf pines on private lands, where most of the losses are occurring.

It also serves as a clearinghouse for information on the regeneration, restoration, and management of longleaf pine trees; provides networking opportunities for members to connect with other landowners, managers, and researchers with similar interests and problems; and coordinates technical meetings and educational seminars. The Longleaf Alliance is a nonprofit organization housed at Auburn University’s Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center in southern Alabama.
The Center for Forest Sustainability is one of Auburn University’s seven Peaks of Excellence programs. CFS seeks to enhance connections between research and education activities that focus on forest sustainability at regional, national, or international levels. The Center fosters collaborative efforts that integrate biological and socioeconomic approaches to understand impacts of rising populations on forest resources. CFS also functions as a primary interface between society and forest sustainability issues that directly influence quality of life.

The Center for Forest Sustainability is studying the impact of urban sprawl and forest fragmentation on the long-term sustainability of Southern forest systems.

CFS has also recently launched a three-year project to gather much-needed information on the economic impact of government regulations with a focus on the effects of the Endangered Species Act. For forest landowners in the South, this Act mainly applies to habitats for the red cockaded woodpecker.

The Southern Forest Nursery Management Cooperative seeks to develop and disseminate existing cultural, biological and chemical technologies using an integrated system for the economical production and utilization of forest tree seedlings in the southern United States. The Coop works on issues of pest management and seedling quality as well as the environmental impact of pesticides and fertilizers in nurseries, hardwood culture, and the integration of nursery practices with site preparation and post-outplanting operations.

All of these research programs are accompanied by the rapid dissemination of new information to the Coop membership through research reports, annual meetings, newsletters, and field visits. The Coop increasingly represents the forest tree nursery community of the South to the EPA and USDA regarding policy and regulatory decisions that affect the nursery business.
College of Agriculture

The College of Agriculture at Auburn University is dedicated to educating people and discovering knowledge that improves the lives of all Alabama citizens through research, instruction, and outreach programs. Throughout its 132-year history, the College has helped advance Alabama’s agricultural economy while improving the nutrition, health, and standard of living for all citizens.

Alabama Agricultural Experiment Stations (AAES)

107 Comer Hall - Auburn University, AL 36849
Dr. Richard Guthrie, Director - E-mail: guthrrl@auburn.edu

AAES is a research arm of the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and the Colleges of: Agriculture, Human Sciences, Veterinary Medicine, and Science and Mathematics. It conducts research at its 14 experiment stations around the state in order to foster economic growth and natural resource management for rural Alabama by making information available through Alabama’s Land and Water Resources Information Center. Founded in 1883, AAES is one of the oldest agricultural experiment programs in the nation. Recent projects have focused on alternative uses of poultry and motor oil wastes, development of Alabama’s fish farming industry, the mitigation of damage caused by insects, organic vegetable production, and analysis of the $1.9 billion green industry.

Herbicides are an important means of controlling weeds in farms and gardens, but they are expensive and can damage the environment through improper use. Auburn has partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to develop alternate methods of weed control. Research funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station reduces herbicide use by 50 percent in no-till cotton. Another AAES research project deals with pecan orchard management systems. The utilization of more efficient management systems in pecan orchards can increase pecan yields fourfold.

Begun in 2003, the new AAES Foundation Grant Program represents an effort to rebuild the foundations of the Experiment Station. The purpose of this program is to support outstanding agricultural research at Auburn University. The program seeks to enhance opportunities and provide leverage for other grants focused on agriculture and related programs.

Soil Testing Laboratory

ALFA Agricultural Services and Research Building
961 S. Donahue Drive - Auburn University, AL 36849
Ph: (344) 844-3958 - http://www.ag.auburn.edu/agrn/soiltest.htm
Dr. Charles C. Mitchell, Extension Specialist and Professor – E-mail: mitchc1@auburn.edu

The Soil Testing Laboratory was established in 1953 as a cooperative effort of Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. The primary mission of the lab is to provide an unbiased and economical fertilizer and lime recommendation service to Alabama growers.

In pursuit of this goal, the lab provides the following services: routine soil testing, diagnostic foliar analysis, pecan analysis, micronutrient analysis, organic matter analysis, saturated media extract analysis, nitrates forage, forage and feed analysis, and water analysis.
In 1982, the Fish Farming Center was established in Greensboro to provide statewide educational and technical assistance in all aspects of fish farming. Since then, the amount of water acreage being farmed in Alabama has tripled. Such increases reflect the growth of aquaculture nationwide, where farm-raised fish production has become a major component of the seafood industry. Annually, the Fish Farming Center analyzes thousands of water samples, diagnosing disease cases and surveying hundreds of acres in pond sites.

The center is supported by the Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee, the Hale County Soil Conservation District, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, and the USDA’s Wildlife Services Agency.

The mission of the ICAAE and the OIA is to conserve water and related environmental resources, to advance knowledge of these assets, and to enhance economic opportunities for people who depend on them. The Center was created in 1970 to provide technical and socioeconomic assistance to developing countries in aquaculture, inland fisheries, and living aquatic resources management.

The ICAAE and the OIA identify project opportunities, procure funding, coordinate research projects, and publish their findings. The units also encourage student involvement in international activities on campus and provide guidance and support for student and faculty experiences abroad.

The Fisheries Management and Ecology Research Group conducts research investigating community and population ecology and management of aquatic organisms in a variety of habitats, ranging from ponds and reservoirs to streams and rivers. Currently-funded projects include investigations of larval fish zooplankton interaction in Alabama reservoirs, studies of recruitment of freshwater, research on paddlefish and catfish population biology, work with threatened and endangered stream fishes and invertebrates, and experimental work with forage fish - sport fish interactions. In addition, recent funding has allowed the development of an active research, education and outreach effort in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta near Mobile, Alabama, where a variety of issues are currently at the forefront. The outstanding laboratory and field facilities include expansive pond facilities and a 210m² Ireland laboratory.
**Fisheries and Aquaculture Peak of Excellence**

Department of Fisheries & Allied Aquacultures - Auburn University, AL 36849  
Dr. David Rouse, Department Head – E-mail: rousedb@auburn.edu

The mission of the Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures is to conduct research on all aspects of water resource management, including aquaculture, aquatic animal health, genomics, aquatic ecology, conservation, and fisheries management. The Fisheries and Aquaculture Peak of Excellence involves a variety of projects working to achieve this mission. Alabama Water Watch, a science-based program of citizen monitoring, provides large amounts of cost-effective and credible water quality data that would not otherwise be available to resource managers.

Another project of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Peak of Excellence program involves farming marine shrimp in inland waters. The ultimate goal of this project is to assist in the development of an economically-viable and environmentally-sustainable inland marine shrimp industry. Inland marine shrimp farming has the potential to develop new jobs, diversify agriculture, and expand into a multimillion dollar industry. Department researchers are also working to expand and refine shrimp culture technologies to ensure the development of an environmentally- and economically-viable saltwater shrimp industry in Alabama. These technologies would not only develop new industries using shrimp as a marketable food item, but would also supplement and stabilize the supply of bait to commercial and recreational fishermen.

The results of another study, entitled “Growing Catfish Economically: Impact of Feed Management on the Production of Channel Catfish in Ponds,” contribute to the continued development of best management strategies that strengthen the economics of catfish farming. Findings from this study have saved farmers money on equipment and personnel expenses involved in regular catfish feedings, allowing for a more reasonable use of manpower.

**Poultry Product Safety and Quality Program (PPSQP)**

229 Upchurch Hall - Animal Science Building - Auburn University, AL 36849  
Ph: 334-844-2679 - Fax: 334-844-2641  
http://www.ag.auburn.edu/poul/peakwelcome.html  
Dr. Patricia A. Curtis, Director – E-mail: Pat_Curtis@auburn.edu

This Peak of Excellence was established to develop a nationally-preeminent program to address crucial agricultural issues. Its primary goal is to build upon existing strengths to strategically place Alabama as a leading state in terms of safety and quality of poultry products, environmental stewardship, and global competitiveness. This goal will be realized through research to improve poultry production processing, instruction to provide the needed workforce, and extension/outreach to deliver knowledge and technology to the existing workforce in the state.

The economic importance of poultry in Alabama provides strong justification for the emphasis placed on the PPSQP Peak of Excellence. Agriculture is a key player in Alabama’s economy. Within agriculture, poultry production accounts for 60% of farm income (projected at 75% by 2010), with a current total economic impact of more than $8 billion annually (1/8 of the State’s total economy). Growth in the poultry industry’s influence on the State’s economy is expected to continue in the foreseeable future if critical scientific and technical issues are successfully addressed.
Auburn University Marine Extension and Research Center

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Dr. Richard K. Wallace, Director - E-mail: rwallace@acesag.auburn.edu

The Auburn University Marine Extension and Research Center (AUMERC), located in Mobile, Alabama, is part of the AU Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures. The Center combines research programs of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station and outreach programs of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium to help ensure that Alabama’s marine resources remain renewable. Created in 1972, the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium (MASGC) is a federal-state partnership dedicated to activities that foster the conservation and sustainable development of coastal and marine resources in Mississippi and Alabama.

Auburn University Environmental Institute (AUEI)

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Dr. Upton Hatch, Director - E-mail: hatchlu@auburn.edu

AUEI strives to serve the state, nation, and global community by providing leadership and unity in all university areas of environmental instruction, research, and outreach. The goal of AUEI is to promote, coordinate, and implement multidisciplinary programs and activities to meet the environmental needs of the University, state, and nation.

Administered through AUEI, the Water Resources Research Institute coordinates research programs that are applicable to the solution of present and emerging water resource problems. In carrying out this mission, the Institute has developed a comprehensive research, training, information transfer, and public service program involving personnel from many academic disciplines in the State’s research universities.

AU Detection and Food Safety Center Peak of Excellence

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Dr. Bryan A. Chin, Center Director - E-mail: bchin@eng.auburn.edu

The AU Detection and Food Safety Center is combining the work of 23 AU scientists in the fields of food science, agriculture, microbiology, chemistry, and engineering principles to develop a food-safety microchip capable of detecting pathogens in food products. The goal is to improve the safety of the U.S. food system by developing the science and engineering required to rapidly identify, pinpoint and characterize problems that arise in the food supply chain through the integration of sensor and information systems technology. The microchip is also expected to make the food industry more efficient by providing a means for inventory control.
The Truman Pierce Institute seeks to do the following: support progress toward meeting the educational needs of the state and region, to foster collaborative partnerships, to improve educational opportunities, to assist in the planning and implementation of professional development schools and systems, to enhance the knowledge base for preparing educators, and to improve the conditions within schools and communities that influence the effectiveness of leadership.

TPI recently received a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission for raising teacher and administrator achievement through ongoing professional development.

The Transition Leadership Institute works to ensure that each high school student with a disability is equipped with a strong sense of self-assurance and determination, goal-setting strategies and self-directing skills, and opportunities that positively affect quality of life. These values afford Alabama youth the opportunity to realize their hopes and aspirations, to become responsible and productive citizens, and to pursue the American Dream. To uphold and broadcast these worthy values, the Institute models its programs after the University’s foundations of instruction, research, and outreach. Within this framework, TLI has four priorities: preparing highly-qualified teachers, evaluating and researching programs and services, providing continuing education for practitioners, and initiating and developing innovative new programs.

The Transforming East Alabama Mathematics (TEAM-Math) is a partnership among Auburn University’s College of Education and College of Sciences and Mathematics, Tuskegee University, twelve school districts and business partners, who have a common goal of improving mathematics education in East Alabama. Its mission is to enable all students to understand, utilize, communicate, and appreciate math as a tool in everyday life in order to become lifelong learners and productive citizens. The partnership seeks to improve math education by increasing overall performance and narrowing achievement gaps among students from various backgrounds. TEAM-Math brings together teachers and University faculty to systematically transform math education in the region.

Since it began operation in 2003, TEAM-Math has developed a curriculum guide, completed a review of available textbooks, and has begun building a base of teacher leaders who serve as mentors for other teachers. Additionally, University faculty are beginning to analyze and redesign their teacher preparation programs. A recent increase in program funding has allowed the partnership to provide intensive, sustained professional development to all math teachers in East Alabama.
The goal of this five-day residential program is to prepare a new generation of women leaders with vision and courage who will go on to participate effectively in the decision-making spheres of politics, business and other professions.

The program is designed to promote a greater understanding and knowledge of women’s changing relationships in politics and government and to enhance their capabilities to influence positive change and to lead in public life.

By providing participants with the opportunity to sharpen their leadership skills and learn about the different ways to be involved in the political process, Auburn University takes a proactive step in addressing the under-representation of women in legislative assemblies to close the gender gap in society.

As the outreach office of the College of Liberal Arts, the Center for the Arts & Humanities offers programming throughout the state that strengthens the bonds between the academic community, the arts, and Alabama citizens. Dedicated to the idea of partnership and collaboration, the Center works with many groups and individuals. Programs are offered for schools, libraries, government offices and agencies, and community organizations.

Charged with creating, seeking funding for, and implementing public programs, the Center’s current endeavors include Alabama Voices, an annual series that promotes local writers; the Draughon Seminars in State and Local History, an annual lecture series; Helping High Schools through the Arts & Humanities, a program that sends artists and scholars to Alabama K-12 schools; and the Pebble Hill Series, which includes public readings, art exhibits, and lectures.

The Center also sponsors the Alabama Prison Arts and Education Project, which hosts classes in creative writing and visual arts and supports library development at Alabama correctional facilities.

Finally, the Center is home to the Alabama Center for the Book, a state affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.
The Harris Early Learning Center (HELC) opened in 1995 and is located in Birmingham, Alabama. The Center is the product of a unique public-private partnership including city government, higher education, and various corporations in the downtown Birmingham area. Through the vision and efforts of the Birmingham Urban Revitalization Partnership (a consortium of government, business, and civic leaders) and the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the AU College of Human Sciences, this $6.5 million center has continued to be a model facility in the community, state, and nation.

HELC collaborates with community members and other early childhood professionals and programs to expand the availability of high-quality early care and education. The Center’s teaching staff serve as teachers and mentors for childcare workers in the community. The Center sponsors seminars and in-service workshops for directors of childcare centers, teachers, curriculum specialists, and family childcare providers. Through corporate donations and grants, the Center offers scholarships to underprivileged children and families. In addition, the Center serves as a venue to address social and family policy issues related to childcare and early education, dual income families, defining quality care, and teacher qualifications and salaries.

In 1998, the Auburn University School of Nursing and the Auburn Housing Authority created a successful social investment program that features best practices of a community-based, service education partnership. Nursing students and faculty members work with the Housing Authority to promote health care and disease prevention and provide residents with health services and medical screenings.

Four care clinics provide free services to housing authority residents. Each clinic is staffed by Nursing students and faculty members and a nurse practitioner, who spends three days per week conducting clinics and making referrals to the local Mercy Medical Clinic and area physicians. About 1,200 residents are eligible for the clinic’s services; approximately 170 residents receive services each month.

In addition to providing residents with health services and medical screenings, students organize an annual health fair and conduct educational projects for the residents each spring. As a result of these projects, some residents have started living healthier lifestyles. Through working at the community clinics, students improve clinical skills and develop a deeper understanding of the impact of poverty on health.
**College of Sciences and Mathematics**

**AlabamaView**

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AlabamaView is a consortium of universities and other not-for-profit organizations that work together to advance the availability, timely distribution, and widespread use of satellite remote sensing data, images and technology for economic development in Alabama. This consortium is a member of AmericaView, a nationwide program that focuses on satellite remote sensing data and technologies in support of applied research, K-16 education, workforce development, and technology transfer. It was officially launched in January 2004 with Auburn University serving as the Member of Record.

AlabamaView provides timely satellite and aerial remote sensing data and images of Alabama for free at http://www.alabamaview.org. These images are supplied by the Alabama View Partners. AlabamaView uses remote sensing and other Geospatial Information Technologies (GIT) to make technologies available through developing products that are easy to use, providing training to potential users, developing a workforce skilled in GIT, fostering a strong research infrastructure, coordinating GIT activities in the state, and making the public aware of the benefits of these technologies.

**South’s BEST**

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In 2001, Auburn University’s Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and College of Sciences and Mathematics jointly created Alabama BEST as an effort to “grow” future engineers, scientists, and technical professionals to meet the future needs of business and industry in the state. The Colleges work with Alabama Industry to provide this K-12 educational experience called “Alabama BEST.” BEST – Boosting Engineering, Science & Technology – is a six-week high school robotics challenge designed to teach teamwork, problem solving, project management, and pride in task completion.

The goal is to demonstrate the excitement of advanced technical careers to young people who are nearing decisions on college plans. Legislators and educators say that schools must graduate students better skilled in science to keep the United States competitive in the future. In addition, industry complains of a dearth of qualified applicants. Alabama BEST addresses these issues by taking the intimidation factor out of math, science, and engineering for high school students and turning it into a sport. Alabama Industry is partnering with Auburn by offering mentorship to schools and financial support for the program.

In 2003, the two colleges petitioned BEST Robotics to become its second regional championship, South’s BEST, which would serve hubs east of the Mississippi River. Auburn University now hosts the annual South’s BEST competition. The Alabama BEST competition is currently held at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama.
The University Pharmaceutical Care Clinic offers wellness and medication management services for members of the greater community. The Clinic has partnered with a state agency and pharmacists in four Alabama counties on a pilot project to contain the rising cost of health insurance for retirees of the state education system. As part of this program, AU student and faculty teams are helping Public Education Employee Health Insurance Program (PEEHIP) administrators to test a program aimed at reducing medical costs through closer collaboration between physicians and pharmacists in the treatment of high-risk patients.

The program is being tested with participating patients in Jefferson, Shelby, Macon and Lee counties. According to University researchers, this active intervention program has the potential to produce significant savings for PEEHIP at a time when it is under severe financial strain. In addition, it could contribute to the well-being of dozens, and potentially hundreds, of patients who could see their lives improve through better management of their medical conditions.

Pharmacy Practice Experience

Pharmacy Practice Experience (PPE) is a three-year, service-learning experience that allows students to immediately apply skills and knowledge to meet the community’s health and wellness needs. PPE is a community-based program that matches pharmaceutical care teams, composed of pharmacy students and faculty mentors, with residents of the Auburn area who need a moderate level of health-care assistance. In an effort to help their patients make informed health decisions, the students visit them each week to discuss medications, perform routine tests and serve as a general health resource.
Maddie’s™ Shelter Medicine Program

Scott-Ritchey Research Center - Auburn University, AL 36849
Ph: 334-844-5951 – http://www.aumaddiesheltermedicine.org
Dr. Brenda Griffin, Director - E-mail: griffb1@auburn.edu

The Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine has incorporated a Maddie’s™ Shelter Medicine Program into its core clinical veterinary curriculum. The purpose of this program is to educate veterinary students and postgraduate residents in all aspects of shelter medicine, including disease and problem behavior prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

This program emphasizes the need for medical programs in animal shelters and serves to raise the profile of shelter medicine as a valuable, challenging and rewarding discipline within the field of veterinary medicine. Furthermore, this program emphasizes nonlethal means of controlling the pet surplus through humane strategies for pet population control that support the “no-kill” movement philosophically and by active education, research, and outreach.

Canine Detection Program

410 Greene Hall Annex - Auburn University, AL 36849
Program website: http://www.vetmed.auburn.edu/cdri/

Canine & Detection Research Institute
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The Canine & Detection Research Institute (CDRI) was established in 1989 to conduct research and development efforts in support of canine detection technology. The mission of the Institute is to advance knowledge in order to enhance the practice of using canines for the detection of hazardous materials to protect people and property. In so doing, CDRI provides basic research, technological development, and outreach education to the detector dog community.

To further the outreach component of the Institute’s mission, Auburn University established the Auburn University Canine Training Center at Fort McClellan near Anniston, AL. The Center trains dogs, handlers, trainers, and program managers in the performance of all facets of canine detection work. Instruction at the Center blends the craftsmanship of expert canine training professionals with the most recent advances in scientific knowledge and technology of canine detection. Additionally, the Center produces and trains dogs specifically bred to be successful at detection work in order to help meet the need for high quality detection dogs.

Together, the Institute and Canine Training Center form Auburn University’s Canine Detection Program. This program is the largest and most comprehensive canine research, technology development, and technology application organization in the world.
Supporting Alabama’s Economy documents and describes Auburn University outreach and research programs - from a wide range of disciplines - that are making a huge positive impact on the state’s economy and quality of life. We at the Economic Development Institute are pleased to provide this publication and hope that it serves as a valuable resource for those who may benefit from the programs of Auburn University.