Engaged Institution
Auburn University Receives Distinguished Citations
Auburn University was recently named to the 2010 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with distinction, a recognition of the nation’s leading colleges and universities for their dedication to civic engagement, service-learning and volunteering. Earlier in the year, Auburn University received the distinguished Carnegie engagement classification.

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The fundamental mission of a great land-grant university is to help people achieve their hopes and dreams through instruction, outreach and research. That mission is even more important now when the nation’s economy is struggling.

Along with students who come here to prepare for their futures, we also help others away from campus – from farmers who need to know how to maximize crop growth and entrepreneurs who are starting up a small business to major companies that need our know-how. The end result is a stronger economy, which leads to new plants and more jobs.

From an economic standpoint, it’s well documented that Auburn University’s overall impact on the state is more than $4 billion annually. That’s a big number, but what does it really mean? There are myriad examples, and I’d like to mention three of them.

The first involves working with local communities to attract employers and investment to the state. General Electric recently announced Auburn would be the location for an environmental coatings facility for jet engine components that is expected to provide more than 300 jobs. The company will begin construction of a 200,000 square-foot facility at Auburn Technology Park West this year, with production starting in 2013. The university partnered with our city and county to bring GE to our area, and was a major reason we were selected.

A second involves research that partners with the private sector to put new technologies and knowledge in the field. Auburn chemical engineer Bruce Tatarchuk worked with a number of government laboratories to create a new material with high electrical conductivity and high surface area. What they came up with has applications across many different disciplines and is currently used to help power a Trident submarine and build the world’s most efficient air filter.

A third example lies in Auburn’s outreach efforts to educate and train Alabama residents and community leaders in the social and economic benefits of broadband technology. The program will utilize targeted statewide and regional media campaigns to increase awareness of broadband’s practical applications. Auburn’s Economic & Community Development Institute, a partnership of Auburn University and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, will use $1,003,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Commerce for the project that will have a significant impact on the lives of thousands of Alabama citizens, particularly in rural areas struggling to keep up with technologies.

Auburn University’s promise is to find solutions that work for us in Alabama and beyond, in a wide array of areas and industries, and graduates who are well-prepared to lead those areas and industries.

As a leader, it’s not too difficult to make a positive impact when you have a healthy budget. It’s a lot harder when funds are short, but that’s exactly what Mary Ellen did. And that is why we regret seeing her leave as Auburn’s provost and vice president for academic affairs to become the next president of Bowling Green State University in Ohio, effective July 1.

Dr. Mazey, who came to Auburn in February 2009, helped guide us through some tough budget challenges in ways that made Auburn stronger. I appreciate her leadership and especially her work with our deans and academic departments. The Auburn Family wishes her all the best in her new position.

On a final note, appropriate for the summer season, many of you may not be aware of the impact of Auburn’s Bass Sports Club student organization. Last summer, Susie and I had the privilege of hosting the university’s the club at the President’s Home. While members of the club enjoy the opportunity it provides to relax on the weekends, many are surprised to learn that it competes across the Southeast and uses its success to provide scholarship funds for students. Since 2009, the club has presented $44,500 to Auburn from its participation in the National Guard FLW College Fishing Series.

We are very proud of these student athletes who represent Auburn so well, and of the outstanding students from all around our campus who serve communities statewide and each other.

War Eagle,

Jay Gogue
President
Auburn University
At his recent “state of the university” address before the University Senate, President Gogue noted that Auburn had made progress toward a great number of strategic objectives during the year. Among them, he included our achievement of the Carnegie Foundation’s engaged university classification, the College Prep Initiative with Loachapoka and Notasulga schools, and our productivity in obtaining extramural funding. Indeed, it has been a very positive year for University Outreach and the entire outreach mission of Auburn University. The key to these successes is partnership, both within the university and the community.

Partnership is such an important aspect of outreach that the Carnegie Foundation requires an in-depth review of university-community partnerships within its engagement classification self-study. For Carnegie, the existence of well established, sustained, and mutually beneficial partnerships is a strong indicator of how effectively the university is engaged in its community. Auburn is blessed with many such examples of long-standing partnerships across the curriculum, the state, and even internationally. I am very excited about Auburn’s receipt of the Carnegie engagement classification, which is a great affirmation of the university’s outreach mission.

Partnerships within the university and in the community contributed greatly to the success of Auburn’s College Prep Initiative. The impact of this program has been greatly enhanced by the support and collaborative partnership with the College of Education, the Truman Pierce Institute, College of Liberal Arts, College of Sciences and Mathematics, the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, and others. Collectively, these partnerships resulted in a much more dynamic collection of programs and services provided to the high school students than would have been possible from any one unit.

Partnership involves not only a simple out-bound delivery of service functions from campus to community, but a process in which all parties are engaged, have a role and voice, and benefit mutually from the exchange. Such a process depends on effective relationship building, which can be challenging, even difficult at times. However, the result is a synergy that can greatly expand the impact of the outreach we conduct, adding value for everyone involved, be they faculty, student, or citizen.

A person who clearly understands the value of engaged partnership is Provost Mary Ellen Mazey, who is leaving Auburn to become president of Bowling Green University. In her time at Auburn, she has been a great supporter of University Outreach, and indeed of engagement across the university. Thank you, Dr. Mazey, for that support and all your service to Auburn. Congratulations and great success in your new appointment.

I typically close my reports with “join me in making a difference.” But in the spirit of effective outreach partnership, I say heartily “Join us.”

War Eagle,

ROY RICKERS COOK
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY OUTREACH
AUBURN UNIVERSITY
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Auburn Students Participate in ONE Campus Challenge to End World Poverty
The Engaged Institution

Auburn's selection for two prestigious national recognitions for community engagement places the university among the leading institutions in America for its mission of outreach.
Auburn University has a long history of outreach as part of its mission as Alabama’s oldest land-grant institution. Now Auburn’s outreach mission is recognized among those leading institutions nationally by both the prestigious Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and by the President of the United States.

In January, Auburn University was selected for the “Community Engagement Classification” by the Carnegie Foundation. In May, Auburn was named to the 2010 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction.

“We’re honored to receive this national recognition for our faculty and student engagement,” said Jay Gogue, president of Auburn University. “Outreach is a defining aspect of our land-grant heritage, and this reflects Auburn’s significant commitment to serving the public in Alabama and beyond.” Commenting on the Honor Roll award, Gogue added “There’s perhaps no better honor for our campus than to be recognized for helping others; we applaud students, faculty, and staff for their dedication to public service.”

The Carnegie classification highlights Auburn’s commitment to curricular engagement, engaged faculty scholarship, community partnership, and public service through its mission of outreach. It is the most significant recognition in higher education for a university’s total outreach body of work in the community. The President’s Honor Roll recognizes the nation’s leading colleges and universities for their dedication to civic engagement, service-learning, and volunteering.

Auburn earned both the Carnegie designation and the President’s Honor Roll with Distinction after a lengthy documentary effort and exhaustive application processes. Both applications, which included materials submitted by each school and college, Extension, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and other campus divisions, were
coordinated by University Outreach’s Office of Public Service. Auburn is one of 300 institutions nationally to have earned the Carnegie engagement designation since its inception in 2006. The university is among 114 institutions to receive the Honor Roll with Distinction this year, one of only three universities in the whole of the Southeastern Conference to be so honored.

Widely used in the study of higher education, the Carnegie Classification system is the leading framework for describing institutional diversity in the United States. Previously, Auburn had been recognized by Carnegie as a comprehensive, doctoral-granting research institution. The community engagement classification was established by Carnegie in 2006 as an elective category for which institutions could voluntarily apply.

The application process for the classification assesses institutional engagement in the curriculum, faculty scholarship, community partnerships, and student life. In order to be selected for the classification, institutions must provide detailed descriptions of institutionalized practices supporting community engagement and demonstrating alignment among mission, culture, leadership, policies, administration, and resources.

Auburn’s application cited the importance of service in the institution’s culture, as reflected in the Auburn Creed and the extensive array of outreach programs and services at the university. It also noted Auburn’s expansion of service-learning programs across the curriculum, students’ significant involvement in service activities, and documented impact of the university’s partnerships in the community.

“Community engagement is an important aspect of teaching, learning, scholarship, and outreach,” said Mary Ellen Mazey, Auburn’s provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. “This Carnegie designation is an important affirmation for Auburn’s engaged faculty scholarship and our service-learning programs.”

Being recognized by the Carnegie classifications places Auburn among institutions such as Michigan State, Ohio State, Penn State, and Wisconsin, long recognized as the national leaders in outreach. But it is Auburn’s strong institutional culture for engagement that stands out as a key element, according to Carnegie senior fellow, Amy Driscoll, who visited the campus in 2009.

“I remember that the commitment and the institutional identity [for engagement] were so pervasive across campus,” said Driscoll. “When individuals spoke of community engagement, there was a consistent tone of enthusiasm and a sense of ‘that’s who we are.’” Driscoll also recalled a significant interest and dedication to building acceptance for community scholarship as legitimate, respected, and rewarded faculty work. “We find that strong applications usually describe the kind of thinking and intentions to honor faculty who engage in community scholarship that I heard described at Auburn.”

To the Auburn community, the Carnegie designation recognizes the value of the scholarship of engagement as well as its relationship to the communities it serves.

“In my opinion the Carnegie designation validates the importance of my own and others’ engagement efforts while simultaneously celebrating Auburn University’s deep commitment to its land-grant designation,” says Cindy Reed, director of the Truman Pierce Institute in the College of Education.

For Mark Wilson, who coordinates the civic engagement initiatives in the College of Liberal Arts, receiving the designation is an honor for Auburn.

“It shows that what we are doing is right in line with what others are doing around the nation,” observed Wilson. “Not every institution that applies receives the designation. So it’s an affirmation of our efforts and a challenge to work more and more toward institutional structures and practices that make us truly a ‘public’ university.”

From the perspective of a community partner, recognition of Auburn’s engagement efforts also highlights the importance of civic collaboration in the educational process as well as in promoting public service. “Through our partnership with your institution, we can affirm that Auburn students enjoy a rich, reciprocal relationship with community partners while actively serving others locally and globally,” said Kristina Scott, executive director of the Alabama Poverty Project.

“[Auburn’s] commitment to public service has proven invaluable in moving us forward in our service.”
Coming on the heels of the university receiving the Carnegie Foundation’s classification, the President’s Honor Roll with Distinction provided even more validation of the Auburn’s significant outreach efforts.

“What makes this award important to Auburn is this is yet one more recognition of the university’s special status as an engaged institution,” said Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach. “It’s nice to see Auburn recognized in the same year by both the nation’s premier educational foundation and by this significant federal program.”

The President’s Honor Roll is administered annually on behalf of the President of the United States by the Corporation for National and Community Service in collaboration with the Department of Education, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Campus Compact, and the American Council on Education. The Honor Roll application process considers the scope and innovation of service projects, the extent to which service-learning is embedded in the curriculum, the school’s commitment to long-term campus-community partnerships, and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service. Another consideration is placement of federal work-study students in direct community engagement. The minimum requirement is at least seven percent of work-study students placed throughout the community, which Auburn exceeds four-fold with 30 percent placements in off-campus outreach positions.

“This is among the most significant recognitions a university can receive because it is national in scope and focuses on the institution’s outreach mission as a whole,” Ralph Foster, director of the Office of Public Service, said. Foster credits this recognition to Auburn’s extensive support for service throughout the mission, culture, and structure of the university.

“We’re a land-grant university, so outreach is in our charter,” Foster said. “Public service is also stressed in the Auburn Creed, which is thoroughly embraced by the Auburn family as the core values of the university. In addition, Auburn also has an organizational structure to support outreach, as well as civic engagement heavily integrated throughout the curriculum.”

Indeed, Auburn devotes significant energy to reaching out beyond its campus borders. Engagement is integrated throughout the institution in more than 75 centers, and generates more than 1,000 non-credit programs every year. The mission generates annually more than $30 million in extramural funding. Auburn was among the first institutions nationally to recognize engaged scholarship in its faculty promotion and tenure policies. Objectives for outreach and engagement are included in the institution’s current strategic planning documents. Auburn is a leader in a number of initiatives across the United States such as the National Outreach Scholarship Conference, Gulf South Summit on Service Learning, University Professional and Continuing Education Association, and others. Many individual Auburn outreach programs and faculty have received significant national and even international awards for their engagement. There is extraordinary support and participation among students and student organizations in community engagement projects. Increasingly, outreach is being incorporated across the academic curriculum through the civic engagement and service learning initiatives, learning communities, and other initiatives.

Perhaps most importantly, receiving both the Carnegie classification and President’s Honor Roll with Distinction in the same year helps illumine what is so special about “the Auburn Spirit,” noted Royrickers Cook. “This shows that our faculty, students, and staff understand the importance of civic duty and that we as the Auburn Family value public service.”
College of Sciences and Mathematics Launches Science Matters

In summer 2010, the College of Sciences and Mathematics at Auburn University launched an unprecedented, interdisciplinary program called Science Matters, which offered seven weeks of science enrichment for some 280 elementary school children.

“COSAM’s outreach department brainstormed how we could take some of our smaller programs like G.U.T.S., which is once a month, and create a program that is more thematic and comprehensive based on weaving language arts, technology, and art projects into science concepts,” said Mary Lou Ewald, director of COSAM Outreach. “We knew we had to be careful how we marketed it because parents didn’t want something too rigid, yet parents also don’t want their children playing mindless games all summer. We had to find a happy medium.” Ewald filled all programs within one month of sending flyers home with local elementary school children.

Ewald collaborated with Associate Professor Charles Eick, College of Education, to create a learning environment not only for the rising second-through fifth-graders, but also a platform for elementary education and masters of education students to observe and participate in curriculum delivery.

“The thing we liked most about Science Matters is the real emphasis on science learning. Typically there’s an emphasis on the fun things and not the nature of the curriculum. This is the first concerted effort to create something year after year and build upon the interest of hands-on learning of authentic science,” said Eick.

Students from the College of Education benefited from the strong mentorship with the junior high science teachers hired as master instructors for the program. Education majors would shadow the master instructors and toward the end of the week, take a more active role in teaching. “Having these master teachers bridge the gap for education majors between content knowledge and the application of teaching to kids is ideal because they understand how to teach, but also have the content knowledge for what they are teaching,” said Eick, adding that the program designed for outreach education in sciences ends up a recruiting tool for science teachers as well.

The program offered seven, independent weeks of themes including: Earth and Worms, NASA Design Squad, Rocket Challenge, Art in Science, BizWorld, Soda Pop Science and Furry Friends. Field trips included Starbase at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, and the Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve. Eighty-six percent of parents said their child’s interest in science grew as a result of the program and 94 percent said they would recommend the program to other parents.

Ewald and Eick hope to expand the program through a grant funded by the National Science Foundation. “We’d like to expand the on-campus program to the Boys and Girls Clubs and lower-economic school districts in our area, maybe incorporate some after-school programming,” said Eick. He and Ewald are currently in the process of writing a grant proposal for up to $250,000 over a two-year period.

“There’s no other academic program like this on campus, or in this region, for this age group. We’re thrilled at the immediate success of Science Matters in summer 2011. We expanded the project by offering programs for 400 students in first through sixth grades,” said Ewald.
One Moment Can Last a Lifetime

Megan Smith believes she has a plague and she wants it to spread.

The Auburn senior, majoring in apparel merchandising in the College of Human Sciences, knows she caught it from Kim Hudson, a ’96 Auburn alumna, when she came to visit a Gender, Wealth, and Philanthropy class in December.

While Hudson explained her motivation to create the Hudson Family Foundation with her husband, Tim, a former Auburn University baseball player and current Atlanta Braves pitcher, she said the school library in nearby Notasulga, Ala., only had a few books for its students.

Those words motivated Smith to organize a book drive through the neighborhood in her native Madison, Ala. The goal was to collect 100 during the winter break, but “I stopped counting at 1,000 [books].”

Smith said the Notasulga students reacted as if it was “Christmas all over again” when the books — everything from the popular Twilight series to reference materials — arrived, but she hopes the students realize something else.

“It’s like what Kim says, ‘It’s not about what you give, but what you can share,’” she said. “It doesn’t have to be money, but time and resources.”

Whatever career Smith finds, she is certain this drive will remain a part of her.

“I’m only 22, but I’m getting a really good idea of where I want to be. The foundation for my future starts here,” she said.

Smith’s ultimate goal is to assist people in Africa, but for now, she’s happy to help locally.

The Gender, Wealth, and Philanthropy course originated from the Women’s Philanthropy Board and is open to all students through the Department of Consumer Affairs.

A team of Auburn students and staff involved in the Alabama Community Healthy Marriage Initiative had a similar educational experience.

Kate Taylor Harcourt is one of the graduate students in the College of Human Sciences who started going to the Macon County Head Start in Notasulga last year for the purpose of conducting research observations. What they discovered were more than research subjects.

“You see so much potential in their faces, but the school is in such dire need of anything,” she said. “It just breaks your heart.”

The classrooms lacked books, printer ink, and working computers, as well as basic necessities like facial tissue and first-aid supplies. Harcourt said the teachers used their own money to provide what little they did have.

The jolt of reality motivated the Auburn team to reach into their communities. They collected computers, school supplies, and books, and used monetary donations to buy basic necessities.

“Sometimes we live in a bubble and we don’t notice there is such a need next door,” Harcourt said. “People don’t realize it’s as simple as bringing $1 or buying a box of Kleenex.”

The team continues to make collections for the Lewis Adams Head Start in Tuskegee. “We all have such a special place in our hearts for the Macon County Head Start community, I don’t see this ending any time soon,” Harcourt said. “As long as there’s a need, we will do what we can.”

For more information, call 334-844-8710 or e-mail achmi_eval_team@auburn.edu.
focus on seniors

OLLI at Auburn: Coming of Age

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Auburn University, OLLI at Auburn, is now all grown up. “OLLI has reached the age of accountability,” noted Mary Burkhart, OLLI at Auburn director. “We are celebrating our 21st birthday, and we’re assuming the responsibility of being a mature member of the Auburn University Family.”

OLLI is an institute for learning, a program in which people gather to learn, for the joy of learning. Classes have no exams, no prerequisite courses, and no grades. It is a membership organization where members develop their own curriculum. Members decide how to study and what to study. They are the students, and most often, the teachers as well. OLLI welcomes all members, and while most participants are retired, some others manage to fit OLLI into their work lives.

Since the very first term, when 37 charter members began the Auburn University Academy for Lifelong Learners, this program has been more than just classes. Members enjoy each other’s companionship through social events, group travel, and attendance at Auburn University lectures and arts events. With maturity comes responsibilities, and OLLI members have chosen to partner with Auburn University in many projects and programs.

“This fall, OLLI members participated in reading Auburn University’s Common Book, Three Cups of Tea, by Greg Mortensen,” stated Linda Shook, OLLI at Auburn coordinator. “The class leaders participated in the teacher training on campus, and class members read and discussed the book in an eight-week class by the same name. Then, when Mr. Mortensen came to Auburn, we were right there for his lecture, too, front and center. We plan to continue having a course like this each fall,” Shook explained, “so our members can be part of the campus experience. Plus, our members take advantage of the many opportunities offered by Auburn to learn and enjoy. They often attend music recitals, theatre productions, lectures, and even seminars.”

As a part of the Auburn community, OLLI members also assist in the university’s research mission. Computer Science and Software Engineering gives them much credit for their help in testing the prototype for electronic voting. Members regularly are subjects in research in other departments such as Consumer Affairs, Human Development and Family Studies, Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology, and the Speech and Hearing Clinic. OLLI members help students in the College of Pharmacy hone their client counseling skills, as they provide medication monitoring services.

Last fall, OLLI at Auburn, the Auburn University Arboretum, and the College of Sciences and Mathematics cooperated in hosting Doug Tallamy, professor and chair of entomology and wildlife ecology of the University of Delaware. He spoke at classes and gave an outstanding and well-attended lecture based on his book, Bringing Nature Home. Tallamy was the first guest in the Alice M. Leahy Lecture Series. “Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Leahy’s children, we have a fund to help cover the expenses,” reported Burkhart. “We’ve already started exploring possibilities for our next lecture.”

OLLI partners with university departments academically as well. “We enjoyed having faculty and students from the Department of Music present the program at our Spring Term General Membership Meeting,” said Ellen Sherling, OLLI president. “Our members are great supporters of the programs and recitals the department offers, and also are patrons for the Department of Theatre.”

Yvonne Kozlowski, chair of the OLLI Curriculum Committee, stated, “We appreciate having so many opportunities to benefit from the expertise of Auburn faculty. Faculty members are often guest lecturers for a class, and sometimes are able to offer an entire six-to eight-week course. Our partnership with the Jule
Collins Smith Museum of Fine Arts allows us to enjoy the museum and attend exhibit openings and lectures. Some of our classes are held at the museum, too. We regularly cosponsor programs with the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities, with programs like Becoming Alabama and the Draughon Lecture Series. Our most recent writing workshop cosponsored with the center, ‘First Impressions Do Matter,’ by author Richard Goodman, was completely full and had a waiting list.

OLLI has been included in the Littleton-Franklin Lecture series as well. At the most recent lecture, attendants were invited to have lunch with David Lynn, professor of chemistry and biology at Emory University, prior to his general talk on ‘Intelligent Molecules and the Emergence of Life.’

An Auburn University program wouldn’t be complete without sports. “OLLI members don’t get student football tickets, but we support Auburn. We had such a good response to our course, ‘Inside Auburn Athletics’ that we’re planning on offering it each year,” said Carl Thompson, class of ‘71. Thompson organized and coordinated the class, along with Bob Hayes, featuring Auburn coaches, trainers, and administrators.

“OLLI has come into its own. We have almost 700 members and are full participants in the life of Auburn University. Like most 21-year-olds, our next challenge is becoming self-sufficient,” remarked Keith Ward, chair of the OLLI Development Committee. “We are grateful for our endowment from the Osher Foundation. The income from that fund helps a great deal. It pays about one-third of our annual operating expenses. Membership fees pay another third. We have embarked upon a three-year capital campaign, to raise our second $1,000,000. Once we reach our fund-raising goal, we can anticipate being able to offer OLLI at an affordable cost to members, in the long term.”

For more information about OLLI at Auburn, contact the Auburn University Office of Professional and Continuing Education, or visit the Web site at www.olliautauburn.org.

www.olliautauburn.org
During the fall, Auburn engineering classrooms and labs were buzzing. That buzz was also making its way into the workplaces and homes of students who signed on to earn graduate degrees via the college’s distance learning program, Electronically Delivered Graduate Education (EDGE).

In 2009, the program delivered 145 courses to more than 600 students from 47 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and numerous international locations, producing 69 graduates.

“Our typical student has a job and wants to earn a graduate degree without leaving the workplace or disrupting their families,” explained Wanda Lambert, marketing manager for the program. “EDGE provides campus quality education at a time and place that works with their busy schedules. That workplace could be an office building or a battlefield.”

As a light rail systems design engineer for Sacramento Regional Transit District, Jeffrey Cho is a married army veteran who earned his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering at California State University – Sacramento in 2007. “My undergraduate degree whetted a desire for a more robust theoretical understanding of the fundamentals of practical engineering principles,” explained Cho.

A check of the class schedules at colleges in his area, made it clear that an on-campus degree was not an option since classes conflicted with his work schedule. He started to evaluate distance programs, including those at Auburn, the University of Illinois and the University of Southern California. “I looked at reputation, selection of available courses, research program and affordability,” said Cho. “Auburn was the clear winner.”

A Long History

Auburn has been in the distance learning business for 20 years and has a well-respected program offering master’s degrees, as well as a wide variety of continuing education courses. That solid track record is one of the reasons that GetEducated.com recently listed Auburn University’s EDGE Program in the top 25 online degrees offering high quality, accredited, distance degree at tuition well below the national average.

“Last year, we ramped up our delivery options to provide master’s degree candidates with the latest delivery systems,” explained Wanda Lambert, marketing manager for the program. “Students can now access classes in a number of ways including streaming, podcasts, audio only, or by ordering CDs. The response has been overwhelmingly positive.”

“I would recommend this program to anyone that wants to learn from high-quality professors with a high-quality delivery system,” said Cho. “Potential students don’t need to be concerned that the program is in any way ‘watered down’ because it’s a distance education program. You receive the same lecture, assignments, and exams and are held to the same standards as the in-class students.”

John Pentikis agrees. A Massachusetts native, Pentikis earned a chemical engineering degree and then a master’s in work environment from the University of Lowell, in Lowell, Mass. before taking a job as an ergonomist with the U.S. Army Public Health Command in Maryland. Married with three children and a job that involves frequent travel, he’s a busy guy. But when a supervisor asked for a volunteer to take a distance education class and to share their experience with others in the office, he jumped at the offer.

“Auburn offered a distance master’s in industrial engineering, had a strong ergonomics program and the price was right,” said Pentikis. One class turned into more and in 1996 he earned his master’s. At the urging of his advisor, he is now working towards a doctorate.

“I have never regretted making my decision to partner with Auburn,” he said. “The addition of online streaming, downloading classes, and keeping in touch with class requirements via tigerI and Auburn Blackboard has made being a student that much better. I go back to the time when classes were viewed via videotapes. I travelled all over the U.S. and as far as Germany with the old black VCR tape cases.”

Pentikis also gives thumbs up to the administrative staff and his advisors. “They worked with me and answered all my questions promptly and thoroughly. I always felt welcome, even though I was 800 miles away.”
CGS Engaged in International Leadership Initiatives

An Auburn University Outreach delegation, including Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach, and Don-Terry Veeal, director of the Center for Governmental Services, was invited to participate in a conference and a series of strategic meetings in Mumbai, India, hosted by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

Veeal served as a speaker and guest lecturer addressing emergency and disaster preparedness and the responses of local governments. Veeal provided broad perspectives to issues of planning for, preventing, and recovering from disasters. While drawing upon the situations experienced in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill on the Gulf Coast, he illustrated and discussed the links between good governance, public trust, and disaster mitigation and response. The audience was particularly interested in continued discussion related to emergency preparedness, good governance, and governmental transparency.

Established in 1936, TISS has made significant contributions to policy, planning, action strategies and human resource development, in areas ranging from sustainable rural and urban development to education, health, communal harmony, human rights, and industrial relations. Considered to be among the top universities in India today, the TISS has earned recognition as an institution of repute from different ministries of the government of India, various state governments, international agencies such as the United Nations, and the non-government sector, both national and international.

University Outreach and CGS are exploring options for developing a partnership between Auburn and TISS designed to result in an international conference on disaster management.
ROOM 11: Where Art Comes to Life

For one Auburn Junior High School teacher, having her students just read a book was not enough. She wanted the literature to come to life for her students as an art form, which gave way to the idea of Room 11, a program sponsored by the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and funded by the Office of the Vice President for University Outreach.

“I've always wanted to incorporate arts in the classroom with what the students were reading,” said Whitney Reed, Auburn Junior High School ninth grade Pre-AP/IB English teacher, “but it always seemed disjointed.”

Then Reed had the idea for Room 11 after a visit from poet Emma Bolden.

“It was a great experience,” said Reed. “We didn’t water art down, but we made it relevant to the classroom in a meaningful way.”

Room 11 is an interdisciplinary arts program that aims to redefine arts programs in schools by injecting traditional curricula with visits from local artists from Auburn University.

“Art and things learned from the artists come together with the literature and become more meaningful for the students,” said Reed.

Each of the Auburn University artists that visit the classroom introduce their field of art to the classroom and work on a project with the students to help the art form become real to each student, projects that flow into assignments given to students throughout the school year.

“The students establish a view of art as detached from real life,” said Reed. “These projects help them to see art—and literature—as meaningful and relevant.”

Assistant Professor Chantel Acevedo, a writer and professor in the Auburn University English Department, taught students the truth behind good fiction writing and helped the students capture their memories in stories that will later be turned in for class.

“The students learned that being a good fiction writer isn’t about being inspired,” said Reed, “it’s about being perceptive and having memories.”

Acevedo said, “At age 14, it can be difficult to see what you are doing has real life application. Bringing in writers and artists can bring it to life for the students.”

When art professor and visual artist Wendy DesChene visited Reed’s classroom in January, the students were given the chance to participate in DesChene’s WYSIWYG Houston art show with their paintings of monsters. Reed noted that getting to play a role in the art exhibition gave the students a new appreciation and understanding of visual art.

Students created instruments and recorded music in a project with musician and AU Music Department professor Karen Garrison that will be played in the background during the students’ end of the year art exhibit that will feature all of the projects done with the visiting artists.

Reed said she has found that art is a great way to help teach the students themes relevant to their literature readings.

Recently Reed was able to bring Victor Hugo’s Les Miserables to life for the students by comparing it to today’s artists Banksy, Roy Lichtenstein, and Andy Warhol.

“Students see the literature as dead—not belonging to them—but looking at literature in terms of Banksy or other contemporary artists makes it begin to come alive.”

For more information, contact the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities at 334/844-4946 or visit www.auburn.edu/cah.
Outreach Expanding K-12 Partnerships

As part of the strategic initiative launched last year, University Outreach has now expanded its partnerships to include Notasulga High School. Similar to the Loachapoka partnership, the goal of the initiative is to provide academic support and mentoring to help students enter and perform better in college and ultimately qualify for better jobs. In addition to University Outreach, Auburn Voices and the College of Education will support program development and implementation. One phase of the program will include the junior and senior classes of Notasulga High School visiting Auburn’s campus to explore life on a college campus.

University Outreach has also partnered with the Women’s Resource Center to implement one of their newest programs at Loachapoka High School. The Young Women’s Leaders Program is a mentoring program that bridges Auburn University’s mission to provide high-quality educational programs, research programs, and outreach to the surrounding community. The program has been piloted at Auburn Junior High School and is currently being developed for implementation at Loachapoka High School in fall 2011.

Lastly, University Outreach has started implementation of a new component of the K12 initiatives called Smart Work Ethics, a character development and life-skills training for the workplace for high school students. This program gives students the skills they need to be successful in the workplace. The program is slated to start fall 2011.

“Developing these new partnerships and implementing these new programs enables us to really focus on all aspects of success for high school students and puts our K12 programs in a strong position to offer a wide variety of high-quality and impactful programs for schools in Alabama,” said Christiana Russell, outreach coordinator for K12 initiatives.

Soles4Souls RV Tour Hits Auburn

Soles4Souls, a Nashville-based charity that collects shoes from the warehouses of footwear companies and individual donors, visited the Auburn campus in March during its 2011 University RV Tour. The charity distributes these shoes to people in need, regardless of race, religion, class, or other criteria. Since 2005, Soles4Souls has given away nearly 12 million pairs of new and gently worn shoes (currently donating one pair every seven seconds.) The shoes have been distributed to people in more than 125 countries, including Kenya, Thailand, Nepal, and the United States. Hosted by Auburn’s Office of Public Service, Soles4Souls RV teammates, Heath and Melissa Bain, parked the colorful RV on the Student Center concourse, and distributed information on the program. “Auburn was a great visit,” said Bain. “One student even donated the shoes he was wearing and took off to class barefoot.” The Bains, originally from Muscle Shoals, Ala., were married in November and are spending their first year together as newlyweds traveling the country on the Soles4Souls University RV Tour.
In October 2010, Auburn University’s Center for Disability Research and Service and Office of Professional and Continuing Education, in partnership with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, hosted the inaugural Alabama Assistive Technology Expo and Conference. The conference provided an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to interact with professionals and exchange ideas and information about assistive technologies. The program also provided professional development training opportunities for those who work in a variety of fields, such as adult services, education/training, visual and hearing impairment, communication disorders, and accessibility.

The day-and-a-half-long program, held in the Auburn University Student Center, hosted 194 participants and featured a variety of speakers who addressed many aspects of assistive technology. The theme for the conference was “Increasing knowledge and understanding...creating solutions for independence,” and each breakout session focused on an element of awareness or application related to assistive technology. Sessions covered topics such as home modification, improving accessibility, the evolution of assistive technologies for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, and introduction to technologies available for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. The conference program also featured a keynote session, presented by Gayl Bowser of Oregon—both of whom have national recognition in the field of assistive technology.

Also included as a part of the conference program, ALATEC participants took a guided tour of the newly created Center for Disability Research and Service, an extension of Auburn University’s Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling/School Psychology. The center, housed in the recently renovated Dawson Building on the Auburn University campus, features state-of-the-art technologies designed for researching disability issues and serving individuals with disabilities. Participants who took advantage of the interactive tour learned about the many innovative projects in which the center is engaging, as well as a brief overview of the many services the center will offer to individuals with disabilities. When asked about the importance of the center, department head E. Davis Martin said, “The center’s multifaceted nature will enable it to assist individuals with significant disabilities live independently and realize their career and educational goals. We are working to develop a model that will better assist those with the most significant disabilities to work, live, and play in the communities of their choice.”

While discussing the significance of the ALATEC program and its impact on participants, Scott Renner, Coordinator of Assistive Technology for CDRS, remarked, “ALATEC gave us an opportunity to educate people and professionals about assistive technology and how it is the great equalizer for people with disabilities. Participants had an opportunity to see assistive technology in use and the program provided them with information regarding the many resources available.” Renner, a consumer of assistive technology, went on to say, “Assistive technology represents a quality of life through increased independence. People want to have a high level of independence, choice, and control.”

For more information on ALATEC and upcoming plans for the 2011 program, please visit www.auburn.edu/alatec. We also invite you to learn more about the Center for Disability Research and Service by contacting Scott Renner, Coordinator of Assistive Technology, at rennesr@auburn.edu.
Auburn’s adaptive sports program is steadily gaining momentum thanks to the energy and involvement of Rehm and Nathan Waters, a rehabilitation counseling graduate student in the college’s Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, Counseling/School Psychology. The pair developed wheelchair sports activities through their assistantships with the university’s Program for Students with Disabilities, and have invited participation from non-students.

In addition to providing a competitive outlet, the two have also identified an opportunity for educational outreach. They conceptualized the Auburn Wheelchair Athletics and Recreation Education program which helps eliminate stereotypes about students and athletes with disabilities. Rehm and other wheelchair athletes are willing to visit local schools to teach students about life with a disability. They will even allow the K-12 students to get into wheelchairs and test their athletic talents against Auburn’s wheelchair basketball team.

Waters said the adaptive sports program has an opportunity to accomplish two goals: in addition to building public awareness, it can draw on the university’s research capabilities to add to the body of knowledge about athletes with disabilities.

“Sports have always been a catalyst for awareness, in general,” Waters said. “We can do a lot of research on athletes with disabilities. It’s one of those things where we can pull from a lot of different departments and have a lot of people get behind it.”

For more information, contact Rehm at jmr0020@tigermail.auburn.edu or visit http://auadaptive.org.

When Jared Rehm uses a wheelchair, he doesn’t think of it as a transportation device.

He’s rolling on $3,000 worth of sporting goods.

His chair, with its inward-tilted wheels that resemble mountain bike tires and ultra-light, 20-pound frame, enables him to go cruising for a bruising on the basketball court. Wheelchair basketball isn’t so different than the game played by able-bodied athletes, as Rehm and other members of Auburn University’s Adaptive Recreation and Sports Program demonstrate while shooting with precision and colliding with each other in pursuit of rebounds.

“There’s a lot of contact,” said Rehm, a biomechanics graduate student in the College of Education’s Department of Kinesiology. “It’s controlled chaos, definitely.”
Nationally Recognized Speech and Hearing Clinic Serves Profession and Public

Since 1947, Auburn’s on-campus Speech and Hearing Clinic has provided one of the nation’s leading training programs for future audiologists and speech-language pathologists who will work in healthcare settings. A unit of the College of Liberal Arts’ Department of Communication Disorders, the clinic simultaneously provides real patients with critical treatment and intervention for their disabilities.

“The Speech and Hearing Clinic is the epitome of outreach to the Auburn area and indeed the region,” said Rebekah H. Pindzola, chair of the Department of Communication Disorders. Indeed, the clinic is a model for integration of instruction with outreach and community engagement.

The clinic provides a point of real-world practice for students who will become audiologists and pathologists in a variety of senior centers, doctors offices, hospitals, and school systems across the United States. To be nationally certified to practice, students must earn a minimum of a master’s degree and accrue clinical patient contact hours under supervision. The Speech and Hearing Clinic provides the perfect setting for marrying instruction and practice, as can be seen from the job placement rate for graduates of the program. The department has an enviable record of placing 100 percent of its students in well-paying jobs.

The clinic supports two individually accredited graduate programs in audiology and in speech-language pathology.

Faces of Service

TRELLIS SMITH WILLIAMS

Trellis Smith Williams believes, “Service is an integration of the head, heart, and hands that works to produce a product which enhances the lives of yourself and others.” Williams goes beyond simply believing this philosophy of service; she backs up these words with action.

In 2006, Williams worked with a committee to create the non-profit agency, IAMBK, Inc. (an acronym for “I am my brother’s keeper”) which works to provide family and youth services that enable disadvantaged and minority community members to become more self-sufficient and thrive in their homes, schools, and communities. For the past two years, Williams has served as the executive director of the agency.

IAMBK, Inc., which is staffed mostly by volunteers, offers a number of programs aimed at meeting the needs of families in Lee and Macon counties.
pathology. Both have held accreditation since 1969 - Auburn was the third program in the nation to be accredited. Auburn University and Auburn Montgomery cooperate in offering the doctor of audiology program. The accredited graduate program in communication disorders (speech-language pathology) is ranked 53rd in the nation by U.S. News and World Report.

The clinic provides a full range of diagnostic evaluation and treatment services for clients of all ages, from infants to the elderly. Located on the first floor of the Haley Center, the facilities include three audiometric test booths, an electrophysiologic test room, fifteen therapy rooms with observation, and a group therapy room. In addition to its diagnostic and treatment services, the Speech and Hearing Clinic offers screening tests for the general public free of charge each semester. This activity is sponsored by the campus chapter of the National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The clinic also is actively involved in several community support groups focused on disorders related to Parkinson disease, stroke, and stuttering.

The Speech and Hearing Clinic and the Department of Communication Disorders are currently being renovated with fresh paint, flooring, and new furniture to enhance its environment for the public it serves. New Web sites have been launched to facilitate patient and student access:

- Public constituents and potential patients can access the clinic www.aushc.org.

- Potential students, current students and others can access the department http://cla-web.auburn.edu/communicationdisorders/index.cfm.

counts. These services include: Leap for the Stars Tutoring Program, Restoration Social Services Program, Work to EXCEL Career Development Program, BOUNCE Physical Fitness Program, and the Elect Performing Arts Program.

Williams has long regarded service as a valuable part of her life. While working as an instructor at Berry College in Mount Berry, Ga., she coordinated a program requiring students to teach families with limited resources creative ways to apply principles of resource management. Williams recalls this as one of her favorite service exchanges saying, “The students became so invested that they extended the experience to include groceries that they solicited for the families and clothes that they purchased at consignment shops and modeled for the families in a fashion show.”

“Communication barriers across students and families from different races and socio-economic backgrounds were broken, the participants enjoyed themselves, gained new experiences, and were able to develop a deeper understanding of how humans are alike and different,” Williams added.

Williams completed a bachelor’s and master’s degree at Auburn University and a doctoral degree at the University of Georgia. To learn more about IAMBK, Inc., visit their Web site at http://www.iambkinc.org/index.html.
Community Partner Listing

Achievement Center-Easter Seals
510 W. Thomason Circle
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Frances Roberts
(334) 745-3501
star@achievement-center.org
Purpose/Mission: To provide vocational development services and extended employment programs for physically, mentally, or developmentally disabled persons and non-disabled persons who are culturally, socially, or economically disadvantaged.

Alabama Rural Ministry
131 S. Gay Street
Auburn, AL 36831
Contact: Beth Ann Hopkins
(334) 501-4276
serve@arm-al.org
Purpose/Mission: We strive to build relationships with the homeowners we work with in addition to meeting their physical needs through home repair.

American Cancer Society
3054 McGehee Road
Montgomery, AL 36111
Contact: Jamie Donaldson
(334) 612-8165
jamie.donaldson@cancer.org
Purpose/Mission: The ACS is a nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

American Red Cross
206 26th Street
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Jennifer Ryan
(334) 749-9981
jryan@leeredcross.org
Purpose/Mission: The American Red Cross is a non-governmental, volunteer-led, non-profit organization that helps people prepare for, respond to, and prevent emergencies.

Auburn Day Care Center, Inc.
400 Boykin Street, Room 14
P. O. Box 262
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Ethel White
(334) 821-4060
auburndaycarectr@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: Provides comprehensive child care services for children 6 weeks to 12 years old, so that parents from low and moderate income homes and neighborhoods can work, train for work, or attend school.

Despite the economic crisis, the national volunteer rate went up to 26.8 percent in 2009, with 63.4 million volunteers donating approximately 8.1 billion hours of service in communities across the country.

- Corporation for National and Community Service, June 2010
Auburn United Methodist Church/ Food Pantry
137 S. Gay Street
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Keith Foster
(334) 826-8800
keithf@aumc.net
Purpose/Mission: The mission of the AUMC Food Pantry is to provide emergency assistance to hungry families in Lee County.

Autauga County Extension Office
2226 Hwy. 14 W, Suite E
Autaugaville, AL 36003
Contact: Yvonne Thomas
(334) 361-7273
thomayd@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Azalea Place Retirement Living
1601 Professional Parkway
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Tim King (IMPACT)
(334) 844-4275
marketing@seniorserviceseamc.com
Purpose/Mission: To provide high quality care with services focused on meeting the social, physical, mental and spiritual needs appropriate to each resident in a compassionate, effective manner.

Baldwin County Extension Office
302A Byrne Street
Bay Minette, AL 36507
Contact: Susan Wingard
(251) 937-7176
wingasf@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Barbour County Extension Office
1 Court Square, Room 105
Clayton, AL 36016
Contact: Charles Mason
(334) 775-3284
masoncr@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Bibb County Extension Office
175 S.W. Davidson Drive
Centreville, AL 35042
Contact: Matt Hartzell
(205) 926-3117
mdh0007@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Central Alabama
2358 Fairlane Drive
Montgomery, AL 36116
Contact: Emily Lutz
(334) 270-4100
elutz@familyguidancecenter.org
Purpose/Mission: The Big Brothers Big Sisters mission is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships with mentors that have a measurable impact on youth.

Big House Foundation
P.O. Box 230
Opelika, AL 36803
Contact: Tim King (IMPACT)
(334) 844-4275
Purpose/Mission: BigHouse, Inc. is a Christ-centered non-profit organization designed to meet the needs of children in foster care.

Blount County Extension Office
415 5th Avenue E, Suite A
Oneonta, AL 35121
Contact: Daniel Porch
(205) 274-2129
porchdw@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Boy Scouts of America
P. O. Box 115
Auburn, AL 36831
Contact: Alan Spencer
(706) 593-7056
alspence@bsamail.org
Purpose/Mission: The Boy Scouts District is a local volunteer-based organization working with youth from 1st to 5th grade for Cub Scouts and 6th to 12th grades for Boy Scouts.
Bridge Builders
434 N. McDonough Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
Contact: Josh McFall
(334) 264-6223
josh.mcfall@mgmbridges.org
Purpose/Mission: The mission of Bridge Builders is to develop among high school students a group of future leaders who can lay aside individual, social, economic, and cultural differences and work for the benefit of all.

Bullock County Extension Office
132 N. Prairie Street
Union Springs, AL 36089
Contact: George Tabb
(334) 738-2580
tabbgeo@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Butler County Extension Office
101 S. Conecuh Street
Greenville, AL 36037
Anthony Pinkston
(334) 382-5111
pinksad@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Calhoun County Extension Office
1702 Noble Street, Suite 108
Anniston, AL 36201
David West
(256) 237-1621
dwest@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Deliver youth and adult educational programs in Calhoun County. Conduct demonstrations, and involve citizens in community development projects.

Chambers County Extension Office
County Office Building, Room 201
18 Alabama Avenue E
LaFayette, AL 36862
Contact: Kimberly Wilkins
(334) 864-9373
wilkikj@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Cherokee County Extension Office
1526 Chesnut Bypass
Centre, AL 35960
Contact: Linda Starr
(256) 927-3250
glassla@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Child Advocacy Center of East Alabama, Inc.
1810 Corporate Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Cleone Brock
(334) 705-0770
caccea@earthlink.net
Purpose/Mission: We work on prevention and intervention cases involving serious physical or sexual abuse of a child.

Child Care Resource Center, Inc.
2015 Gateway Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Carlyn Tucker-Simmons
(334) 749-8400
auburnserves@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: Child Care Resource Center, Inc. (CCRC)’s goal is to provide child care solutions for the community by assisting with child care costs, sharing resources, and identifying needs in the community.

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24.6 percent of Alabama residents volunteer (approximately 887,100 people) - ranking them 38th among the 50 states and Washington, DC.

- Volunteering in America, Corporation for National and Community Service, June 2010

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...One barrier was constant among non-volunteers in all age, income, and employment status groups: unwillingness to make a year-round commitment. - Source: National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating
Chilton County Extension Office
P.O. Box 30
Clanton, AL 35045
Contact: Gay West
(205) 280-6268
westgay@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Choctaw County Extension Office
218 S. Hamburg Street
Butler, AL 36904
Contact: Jennifer Miller
(205) 459-2133
jum0001@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Choices 4 Success
School-Based Mentoring Program
501 School Street
Tuskegee, AL 36083
Contact: Leon Brown
(334) 727-1600
Brownl@maconk12.org
Purpose/Mission: Provide a positive and lasting relationship between a child and an adult through mentoring.

City of Auburn Parks and Recreations
307 S. Dean Road
Auburn, AL 36830
(334) 501-2931
Purpose/Mission: The ultimate aim of Parks and Recreation is to provide the Auburn community with quality cemeteries, recreational facilities and recreational activities.

Clarke County Extension Office
120 Court Street
Grove Hill, AL 36451
Contact: James Tucker
(251) 275-3121
tuckejk@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Clay County Extension Office
93 County Road 31
Ashland, AL 36251
Contact: Marsha Moorehead
(256) 354-5976
moorems@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Cleburne Extension Office
72 Brockford Road, Suite A
Heflin, AL 36264
Contact: Deborah Mathews
(256) 463-2620
emathews@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: We offer educational programs and testing services in four major program categories-community development, agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development.

Coffee County Extension System
5 County Complex
New Brockton, AL 36351
(334) 894-5596
windhst@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: We strive to empower the people of Coffee County with knowledge to improve their quality of life in the areas of youth development (4-H), agricultural profitability & sustainability, community & economic development, and home-family related issues & programs.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as of September 2010, 26.3 percent of the U.S. population of volunteers.

- Source: http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm
Colbert County Extension Office
Courthouse Basement
201 N. Main Street
Tuscumbia, AL 35674
Contact: Teresa McDonald
(256) 386-8571
mcdontc@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Columbus Area Habitat for Humanity
1209 Pou Street
Columbus, GA 31902
Contact: Sarah (Sam) Shehane
(706) 653-6003
hfhcc04@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: Columbus Habitat constructs houses for families in need.

Community Market of the Food Bank of East Alabama
3810-C Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Elsie Lott or Tim King (IMPACT)
(334) 749-8844
elott@foodbankofeastalabama.com
Purpose/Mission: Serving individuals and families in need in Lee County.

Conecuh County Extension Office
David L. Burt Agriculture Center
102 Liberty Street, Room 103
Evergreen, AL 36401
Contact: Emily Brogden
(251) 578-2762
brogdeh@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Coosa County Extension Office
P.O. Box 247
Rockford, AL 35136
Contact: Roger Vines
(256) 377-4713
vinesrc@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Covington County Extension Office
23952 Alabama Hwy. 55, Ste 4
Andalusia, AL 36420
Contact: Charles Simon
(334) 222-1125
simoncm@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Crenshaw County Extension Office
29 South Glenwood Avenue
P.O. Box 71
Luverne, AL 36049
Contact: Russell Parrish
(334) 335-6312
parric@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Crisis Center of East Alabama, Inc.
P.O. Box 1053
Auburn, AL 36831
Contact: Doug Reardon
(334) 821-8600
dougreardon@mindspring.com
Purpose/Mission: Provide suicide and crisis intervention.

Cullman County Extension Office
402 Arnold Street, NE, Suite G-1
Cullman County Office Building
Cullman, AL 35055
Contact: Elaine Cole
(256) 737-9386
coleela@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Dale County Extension Office
202 South Hwy. 123, Suite D
Ozark, AL 36360
Contact: Thomas Agee
(334) 774-2329
ageetho@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.
Dallas County Extension Office
429 Lauderdale Street
Selma, AL 36701
Contact: Callie Nelson
(334) 875-3200
nelsoc3@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

DeKalb County Extension Office
200 Grand Avenue SW, Suite 104
Fort Payne, AL 35967
Contact: Daniel Miller
(256) 845-8595
dsm0001@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Divine Inspirational Ministries
4771 AL Hwy. 199
Tuskegee, AL 36083
Contact: Rondey A. Thornton
(334) 727-9846
relaxtraveler@elmore.rr.com
Purpose/Mission: To meet the spiritual and physical needs of the homeless and needy citizens here in Central Alabama.

Dogpatch Ranch Animal Sanctuary, Inc.
P.O. Box 11
Salem, AL 36874
Contact: Susie Manning
(334) 275-6927
dogpatchranch@gmail.com
Purpose/Mission: Dogpatch Ranch’s mission is to provide sanctuary to homeless, abused and neglected pets through rescue and adoption.

EASE Auburn Adult Day Center
401 Boykin Street
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Catie Bishop
(334) 826-9144
auburnadultdayca@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: Keep elderly and disabled clients during the day so that their families can work.

East Alabama Mental Health
2506 Lambert Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Vanita Bonner
(334) 742-2700
v.bonner@eastalabamamhc.org
Purpose/Mission: Provide services for individuals with mental illness, mental retardation and substance abuse problems.

East Alabama Services for the Elderly
1300 Commerce Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact:
Lura New
(334) 826-5811
easedirector@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: Provide life-sustaining services to senior citizens.

Elmore County Extension Office
340 Queen Ann Rd.
Wetumpka, AL 36092
Contact: Ralph Beauchamp
(334) 567-6301
beaucrr@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Between 2007 and 2009, the average national volunteer rate for College Students was 26.3 per year. Average College Student volunteer rates for Alabama ranked 40th with a 22.2 percent student volunteer rate.

- Volunteering in America, Corporation for National and Community Service, June 2010
Escambia County Extension Office  
175 Ag-Science Drive, Suite D  
Brewton, AL 36426  
Contact: Olin Farrior  
(251) 867-7760  
farriof@aces.edu  
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Etowah County Extension Office  
3200A W. Meighan Boulevard  
Gadsden, AL 35904  
Contact: Mary Jordan  
(256) 547-7936  
jordaml@aces.edu  
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Expressions of a BraveHeart Fine Arts Program  
Department of Sociology and Social Work  
7030 Haley Center  
Auburn, AL 36849  
Contact: Angie Burque  
(334) 844-2834  
burquad@auburn.edu  
Purpose/Mission: Expressions of a BraveHeart is a fine arts program for youth and young adults (ages 11-21) with moderate to severe disabilities.

Family Guidance Center of Alabama  
2358 Fairlane Drive  
Montgomery, Al 36116  
Contact: Walter White  
(334) 270-4100  
wwhite@familyguidancecenter.org  
Purpose/Mission: Family Guidance Center of Alabama is dedicated to strengthening families through partnering with families, organizations, and communities and through the provision of an accessible comprehensive system of coordinated programs and services designed to enable people of all ages in Alabama to envision and achieve their goals.

Fayette County Extension Office  
650 McConnell Loop  
Fayette, AL 35555  
Contact: Joan Weaver  
(205) 932-8941  
weavejr@aces.edu  
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Food Bank of East Alabama  
375 Industry Drive  
Auburn, AL 36832  
Contact: Tim King (IMPACT)  
(334) 844-4275  
ddemous@foodbankofeastalabama.com  
Purpose/Mission: The Food Bank of East Alabama feeds the needy of East Central Alabama through member agencies by soliciting, procuring, and distributing excess food and grocery products, by developing and monitoring the agency network, and by cultivating community awareness about the nature of and solutions to the problem of hunger.

Franklin County Extension Office  
410 North Jackson Street  
Courthouse, Room 1  
Russellville, AL 35653  
Contact: Elaine Cole  
(256) 332-8880  
coleela@aces.edu  
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Geneva County Extension Office  
2765 East State Hwy. 52  
Hartford, AL 36344  
Contact: Mary Baltikauski  
(334) 684-2484  
baltimn@aces.edu  
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Students who work part time volunteer more than students who do not work at all.  

Corporation for National and Community Service, Executive Summary - Oct. 2006, College Students Helping America
Greater Peace Child Development Center
940 Fox Run Parkway
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: La-Terria Smiley
(334) 749-5555
vertrina@charter.net
Purpose/Mission: Our program offers quality childcare and early education services to the community, primarily serving families of low to moderate income levels.

Greene County Extension Office
No. 1 Professional Court
Springfield Avenue
Eutaw, AL 35462
Contact: Patti Presley-Fuller
(205) 372-3401
preslpa@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Hale County Extension Office
701 Hall Street
Greensboro, AL 36744
Contact: Denise Shirley
(334) 624-8710
shirldr@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Henry County Extension Office
101 N. Doswell Street, Suite A
Abbeville, AL 36310
Contact: James Jones
(334) 585-6416
jonesja@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Houston County Extension Office
1699 Ross Clark Circle, Suite 4
Dothan, AL 36301
Contact: Willie Durr
(334) 794-4108
durrwil@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

I Am My Brother’s Keeper (IAMBK)
778 Whitaker Lane
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Trellis Smith
(334) 887-3324
trellis234@earthlink.net
Purpose/Mission: The mission of IAMBK is to provide family and youth services that enable disadvantaged and minority members (in Macon and Lee counties) to become self-supportive and thrive in their homes, schools, and communities.

Jackson County Extension Office
P.O. Box 906
27115 John T. Reed Parkway
Scottsboro, AL 35768
Contact: Themika Sims
(334) 794-4108
simsthe@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Jean Dean RIF
1105 Fitzpatrick Avenue
P. O. Box 848
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Cathy Dean Gafford
(334) 749-5631
jeandeanrif@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: Central mission is to put quality, age-appropriate books into the hands and homes of at-risk young children before they start kindergarten. It is a project of the Alabama Kiwanis Foundation.

Jefferson County Extension Office
2121 Building, Suite 1700
2121 Rev. Abraham Woods, Jr., Blvd.
Birmingham, AL 35203
Contact: Jackie Ramsey
(205) 325-5342
ramsejm@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.
Joyland Child Development Center, Inc.
410 Boykin Street
P. O. Box 3111
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Pamela Dumas
(334) 821-7624
joylandcdccinc@yahoo.com
Purpose/Mission: The program is provided to enable parents to have dependable child care (for children ages 2 – 12 years) while they are working.

Junior Achievement of East Alabama
West Georgia, Inc.
P. O. Box 494
Lanett, AL 36863
Contact: Jena Granger
(334) 644-4900
jalanett@charter.net
Purpose/Mission: Volunteers from the community go into the classrooms to work with the local student’s grades K-5-12 grade for one hour a week for six weeks each school year.

Lakeview Baptist Church-Monday Food Pantry
1600 East Glenn Avenue
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: John Dale Rector
(334) 887-7094
jdceptor@lakeviewbaptist.org
Purpose/Mission: Lakeview Baptist church operates a Monday morning food pantry for indigent people.

Lamar County Extension Office
281 Columbus Avenue
Vernon, AL 35592
Contact: Mac Washington
(205) 695-7139
washimd@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Lee County Humane Society
1140 Ware Drive
Auburn, AL 36832
Contact: Jessica Marable
(334) 821-3222
jessica@leecountyhumane.org
Purpose/Mission: The Lee County Humane Society is dedicated to serving the citizens of our community through animal rescue, the promotion of responsible animal companionship, and the elimination of pet overpopulation.

Lawrence County Extension Office
13075 ALA-157, Suite 6
Moulton, AL 35650
Contact: Linda Robinson
(256) 974-2464
robinlh@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Lee County Alabama Habitat for Humanity
605 2nd Avenue
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Mark Grantham
(334) 745-2123
mark.a.grantham310@gmail.com
Purpose/Mission: Lee County Alabama Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to eradicating poverty housing in our community. With the help of volunteers and donors, we build homes that serve as simple, decent places to live.
Lee County Literacy Coalition
2133 Executive Park Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Debby Jahera
(334) 705-0001
litecoalition@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: Provides one-on-one tutoring free of charge to citizens of Lee County.

Lee County Youth Development Center
1101 Spring Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Laura Cooper
(334) 749-2996
sward@lcydc.org
Purpose/Mission: Provides a continuum of care for youth and families in this region of the state of Alabama.

Lee-Russell Council of Governments
2207 Gateway Drive
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Jackie Pinkard
(334) 745-2869
jackie.pinkard@adss.alabama.gov
Purpose/Mission: Provide services to assist and benefit seniors and their families in Lee and Russell Counties.

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers
505 East Thomason Circle
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Juli McCroskey
(334) 705-0884
jkmccroskey@lifesouth.org
Purpose/Mission: To provide a safe blood supply that meets or exceeds the needs in the community we serve.

Limestone County Extension Office
1109 W. Market Street, Suite A
Athens, AL 35611
Contact: Betty Broman
(256) 232-5510
bromaba@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: An outreach of Auburn University and Alabama A&M University.

Loachapoka Elementary School
685 Lee Road 61
Loachapoka, AL 36865
Contact: Mary Ross
(334) 887-8066
aubserv@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: To meet primary education needs for 1st through 6th graders in and around the Loachapoka community.

Loachapoka High School
685 Lee Road 61
Loachapoka, AL 36865
Contact: Jim Wilkerson
(334) 887-8038
wilkerson.jim@lee.k12.al.us
Purpose/Mission: To provide optimal learning opportunities that address unique physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs, and to work cooperatively with the community to develop productive, and mutually respectfully citizens.

Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve
School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences
3301 Forestry & Wildlife Sciences Bldg.
Auburn, AL 36849
Contact: Jennifer Lolley
(334) 502-4553
preserve@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: Experience the wonders of nature as you navigate through our many trails and take in all that nature has to offer.

Women volunteer at a higher rate than men across all age groups, educational levels, and other major demographic characteristics.
- Volunteering in the United States, 2010
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Lowndes County Extension Office
Charles Smith Annex Building
125 Tuskeena Street, Room 125
P.O. Box 456
Hayneville, AL 36040
Contact: Katanga Mants
(334) 548-2315
mantska@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Macon County Extension Office
P.O. Box 830629
Tuskegee, AL 36083
Contact: John Pulliam
(334) 727-0340
pullijs@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Madison County Extension Office
Charles Stone Agriculture Building
819 Cook Avenue
Huntsville, AL 35801
Contact: Walter Harris
(256) 532-1578
harriwb@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Marengo County Extension Office
County Office Building
101 N. Shiloh, Suite 100
Linden, AL 36748
Contact: Kathryn Friday
(334) 295-5959
fridakk@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Marion County Extension Office
P.O. Box 400
372 7th Avenue S.W.
Hamilton, AL 35570
Contact: Lisa Murphy
(205) 921-3551
murphlc@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: provides educational information and assistance in the areas of Family Consumer Science, youth development, agriculture, and community resource development.

Marshall County Extension Office
424 Blount Avenue, Suite G21
Guntersville, AL 35976
Contact: Charles Howard
(256) 582-2009
howarch@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Miracle League of Opelika
1076 E. University Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Amy Sanderson
(334) 750-3036
asapsanderson@bellsouth.net
Purpose/Mission: To provide an opportunity for kids with special health needs to be able to play baseball.

Mobile County Extension Office
Jon Archer Agricultural Center
1070 Schillinger Rd., N.
Mobile, AL 36608
Contact: Jimmy Todd
(251) 574-8445
toddjim@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Monroe County Extension Office
USDA Service Center
334 Agriculture Drive, Suite 104
Monroeville, AL 36460
Contact: Willie Williams
(251) 575-3477
williwe@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.
Montgomery County Extension
400 Eastern Blvd., Suite 107
Montgomery, AL 36117
Contact: Jimmy Smitherman
(334) 270-4133
smithji@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Morgan County Extension Office
3120 Hwy. 36 W., Suite B
Hartselle, AL 35640
Contact: Ronald Britnell
(256) 773-2549
britnwr@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church
4881 South College Street
Auburn, AL 36832
Contact: Janie Echols-Brown
(334) 826-0454
info@mtvernonauburn.com
Purpose/Mission: Mt. Vernon’s mission especially focuses upon the well-being of children, emphasizing the importance of education, and sharing the love of God by reaching out to those in need.

Oak Park Nursing Home
1365 Gateway Drive
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Tim King (IMPACT)
(334) 844-4275
marketing@seniorservicesamc.com
Purpose/Mission: To provide high quality care with services focused on meeting the social, physical, mental and spiritual needs appropriate to each resident in a compassionate, effective manner.

Parkerson Mill Creek
Auburn University Campus
Auburn, AL 36849
Contact: Tim King (IMPACT)
(334) 844-4275
brantef@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: Parkerson Mill Creek is typical of urban streams throughout the southeast - water quality concerns, unstable stream banks, and poor habitat quality combine to make the stream an eyesore more than an amenity to the community.

Perry County Extension Office
Route 2, Box 4-A, Hwy. 45 S.
Marion, AL 36756
Contact: Katrina Easley
(334) 683-6888
easlekl@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Pickens County Extension Office
155 Reform Street, Room 300
Carrollton, AL 35447
Contact: Oscar Wiggins
(205) 367-8148
wiggios@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Pike County Extension Office
306 South Three Notch St.
Troy, AL 36081
Contact: Tammara Powell
(334) 566-0985
poweltc@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Project Uplift
191 Cary Hall
422 W. Thach Avenue
Auburn, AL 36849
Contact: Chris Nunn
(334) 844-4430
puplift@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: Help children develop constructive, happy lives, so delinquency in our county will decrease.

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3.2 million college students dedicated 307.3 million hours of service to communities across the country. 27 percent of college students volunteered (the same rate as in 2008).

- VolunteeringinAmerica.gov; based on single year data (2009)
Randolph County Extension Office
One Main Street South
Wedowee, AL 36278
Contact: Christine Hardin
(256) 357-2841
hardich@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Rebuilding Together Central Alabama
P. O. Box 4731
Montgomery, AL 36103-4731
Contact: John Jenkins
(334) 262-9969
rtaexdir@knology.net
Purpose/Mission: RTCA organizes community volunteers and partners to provide home repair and modification services at no charge to low income homeowners, particularly seniors, those with disabilities and families with young children so they may live in a home that is safe, warm and dry.

Russell County Extension Office
508 14th Street
Phenix City, AL 36867
Contact: Theodore Gilbert
(334) 298-6845
gilbfb@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Shelby County Extension Office
524 Kelly Lane
P.O. Box 1606
Columbiana, AL 35051
Contact: Ricky Colquitt
(205) 669-6763
colqurw@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

SouthernCare
360 W. Mendel Parkway
Montgomery, AL 36117
Contact: Krista Johnson
(334) 387-0912
kjohnson@southerncareinc.com
Purpose/Mission: To assure that residents of its service locales have access to a program of care that enhances the quality of life for the terminally ill and their families.

St. Clair County Extension Office
1815 Cogswell Avenue, No. 103
Pell City, AL 35125
Contact: Lee Ann Clark
(205) 338-9416
clarkla@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Storybook Farm
300 Cusseta Road
Opelika, AL 36801
Contact: Tim King (IMPACT)
(334) 844-4275
Purpose/Mission: Year-round equine-assisted activities are tailored to serve children ages 2 years to young adults who are challenged with life-threatening illnesses, disabilities, mental and/or emotional trauma, and grief.

Sumter County Extension Office
321 S. Washington Street
Livingston, AL 35470
Contact: Willie Lampley
(205) 652-9501
lamplwh@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Talladega County Extension Office
132 N. Court Street
Talladega, AL 35160
Contact: Wanda Jurriaans
(256) 362-6187
jurriwp@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Tallapoosa County Extension Office
125 N. Broadnax Street, Room 23
Dadeville, AL 36853
Contact: Tommy Futral
(256) 825-1050
futratd@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.
The Little Tree Preschool
421 Opelika Road
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Kim Smith
(334) 826-1847
smithkh@auburn.edu
Purpose/Mission: To provide excellent behavioral intervention services for preschoolers with autism spectrum disorders.

The Salvation Army Lee County Service Center
720 Columbus Parkway
P. O. Box 1743
Opelika, AL 36803
Contact: Ron McCollum
(334) 741-4149
ronmccollum@hotmail.com
Purpose/Mission: Provide emergency food and other assistance throughout Lee County.

The Tuskegee Volunteer Power Corporation
P.O. Box 511
Tuskegee Institute, AL 36087
Contact: Stanley Moore
(334) 649-7658
tuskegee_vpc@yahoo.com
Purpose/Mission: To support and facilitate community empowerment.

Tuscaloosa County Extension Office
Tuscaloosa Co. Courthouse Annex
2513 7th Street
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
Contact: Stanley Ford
(205) 349-4630
fordsta@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Tuskegee Human and Civil Rights Multicultural Center
104 S. Elm Street
P.O. Box 830768
Tuskegee, AL 36083
Contact: Deborah Gray
(334) 724-0800
dgray@tuskegeecenter.org
Purpose/Mission: To preserve, promote and protect history of Tuskegee/Macon County, AL.

Tuskegee-Macon County Community Development Corporation
608 Dibble Street
Tuskegee, AL 36083
Contact: Angela Harris
(334) 725-8496
angela.harris@inbox.com
Purpose/Mission: To provide services to enhance the quality of life of its residents.

Unity Wellness Center
665 Opelika Road
Auburn, AL 36830
Contact: Marilyn Swyers
(334) 887-5244
marilyn.swyers@eamc.org
Purpose/Mission: Outreach-provided clinical and supportive services to HIV+/AIDS patients living in a five-county area including Lee County.

Walker County Extension Office
1501 North Airport Road
Jasper, AL 35504
Contact: Danny Cain
(205) 221-3392
caindan@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

Washington County Extension Office
Frank Turner Hall Bldg.
Chatom, AL 36518
Contact: Arthur Threatt
(251) 847-2295
threaal@aces.edu
Purpose/Mission: Delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.
Auburn University has a mission of Outreach. Engaging its vast expertise in the community to improve the quality of life for all citizens, Auburn encourages faculty and students to take an active role in the outreach mission. The AuburnServes network utilizes a comprehensive database through which all stakeholders in the service learning process – including faculty, students, and community partners – can communicate and organize these important relationships.

The AuburnServes Network recognizes and supports innovative ways for faculty and students to engage in a variety of community service and service learning activities. Faculty members are encouraged to register with AuburnServes and set up a profile so that you can list any courses that have a service component and locate potential community partners.

Join our growing service network today!

You too can ... serve • learn • make a difference ...

For more information visit our service network or call Joyce Thomas-Vinson @ 334-844-5117.
The spirit of service is important to the Auburn Family. Now in addition to gaining academic credit and valuable work experience through their activities beyond the classroom, Auburn students can earn education awards through the Students In Service Americorp program.

Auburn was eligible to participate in this program as a result of joining Campus Compact. In this initial year, Auburn has been awarded 20 slots. Students who enroll in the program must complete 300 hours of service in one calendar year to receive the $1,132.00 education award. The awards are valid for seven years and may be used to pay cost of attendance at a college or university or to pay outstanding student loans.

Students are eligible to receive this award if they: have non-paid internships and practicums with non-profit organizations; student teach at Title I funded schools or in the areas of special education, ESL/bilingual education, or math and science education; complete service as part of a service learning class; or volunteer with a non-profit agency.

The SIS program is being administered by the Office of Public Service. Ralph Foster, director of the Office of Public Service said, “I’m very pleased Auburn was selected to join this dynamic national program. SIS will provide us a tool to encourage and reward more substantive community engagement among our students.”

Students in Service, a Washington Campus Compact program, began in 1997 with funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service, to help meet critical community needs by engaging higher education students as part-time Americorp members and fostering within them an ethic of civic responsibility. SIS initially targeted students on college campuses in Washington. The program has now expanded to include students from 22 states including Alabama.

For additional information visit the Students In Service Web site: http://www.studentsinservice.org/ or contact the Office of Public Service, 844-5117.
Auburn Scientists Working to Gauge Heifer’s Carbon Hoofprint

An international nonprofit organization that strives to end global hunger and poverty by giving farm animals to the poorest of the poor in countries around the world wants to know how the program is affecting the environment and has called on a team of Auburn University researchers to determine that.

The organization is Heifer International, and the multiyear research project that Auburn soil scientist and veteran Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station researcher Wes Wood is leading is called Heifer Healthy Hoofprint.

Since its founding in 1944, Heifer International has provided gifts of livestock, seeds, trees, and training in sustainable farming practices to millions of families worldwide. Wood says the Hoofprint project is primarily about carbon sequestration: whether farms that have received gifts from Heifer are building carbon reservoirs in the soil, or depleting them.

In the study, the Auburn team will collect and analyze hundreds of soil samples from dozens of Heifer-assisted farms in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Indonesia, Ecuador, Tanzania, Kenya, and the United States. In 2014-15, they will return to the same sites on those same farms and collect another round of samples for testing. They will compare the data from the two collection periods to determine whether carbon levels are increasing or decreasing.

Between the sampling years, Wood and Auburn water-monitoring expert Bill Deutsch will train farmers in communities where Heifer has a presence in how to collect soil samples according to the Hoofprint protocol and in how to monitor, harvest, and manage their water resources.

Heifer International actually launched the Healthy Hoofprint project in-house in 2008 but decided the research should be in the hands of experienced university researchers. Previous work with Deutsch led the organization to Auburn. Heifer is funding the current year of research and is working to secure sponsors for Hoofprint’s final three years.
In 1806, a horse path for postal riders was opened through the Creek Nation stretching from Milledgeville, Ga. to coastal Alabama. Beginning in 1811, as a war with Britain appeared imminent, this path was expanded to enable American troops to mobilize and protect the Gulf Coast. This Old Federal Road developed into a major military road connecting early American forts in the Creek Lands and the Mississippi Territory. The path also served as a major travel route for thousands of pioneers moving to the area once known as the “Old Southwest” and contributed to a dramatic increase in Alabama’s population between 1810 and 1820. In addition, it facilitated the removal of Creek Indians from their native lands following the War of 1812 until their forced emigration in 1837-38.

While obviously rich in history, much of the region along the Old Federal Road remains economically distressed. To enhance economic development within this region, the Economic and Community Development Institute, a partnership of Auburn University and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, is administering a new mini-grant program to support worthy rural research and outreach projects in counties along the Old Federal Road.

Through funding appropriated by the Alabama Legislature, Extension will provide financial support for this grant program. The $250,000 Federal Road Initiative will support 11 rural research and outreach projects impacting Baldwin, Butler, Clarke, Conecuh, Elmore, Escambia, Lowndes, Macon, Mobile, Monroe, Montgomery, Russell, and Wilcox counties. Joe Sumners, director of ECDI, developed this new initiative, which was modeled after the institute’s successful Rural Alabama Initiative grant program. Richard Guthrie, dean Emeritus of Auburn’s College of Agriculture, is providing direction for the effort.

Each project involves an Auburn University faculty member (from the Auburn or Montgomery campus) and/or a Cooperative Extension educator and will enhance collaboration between the University and rural development partners within the region.

ECDI and Extension are honored to support the worthy projects through the Federal Road Initiative.
“Lift Every Voice- A Celebration of African-American Praise Poetry” was the culminating event in a month-long project organized by the Department of Theatre and the Extended Day Program at Loachapoka Elementary School. The program is a community and civic engagement initiative developed by Daydrie Hague, associate professor of theatre and diversity officer for the College of Liberal Arts.

Professor Hague’s students conducted a series of vocal performance workshops for the Loachapoka students in which they explored voice and acting techniques and participated in the study, rehearsal, and public performance of African-American praise poetry. Praise poetry has traditionally served as a means of passing on the history, language, culture, and ethics of a community to the next generation.

Community and civic engagement activities involve university and community partnerships that strengthen communities and provide enhanced learning opportunities for all. In this case, the Loachapoka children, workshop participants, and audience members had exposure to a performing arts experience and language arts enrichment that reflected their culture and history. It also afforded them the opportunity to build interpersonal skills through their relationship with the Auburn student teachers.

The Auburn Theatre students had the opportunity to strengthen their own craft by teaching others, developing their communication skills, studying a unique literary tradition, and helping to bring it to life on stage.

Local African-American artists Nikita Miller, Doc Waller, and Nicholas Johnson, whose performances and choreography were woven throughout the performance, provided extraordinary role models for the students through their artistry and professionalism.

Cindy Davino, director of the Extended Day Program at Loachapoka stated, “I am grateful to Dr. Royrickers Cook and Dr. Christiana Russell from Auburn University Outreach and State Farm Insurance for their continued support.”

Engagement Activities Benefit All
Team West Wing, a student group sponsored by the Office of Education Support Services, raised $1,820 in donations for the local Red Cross chapter during its “Heroes” auction held recently at the Greystone meeting center. It was the students’ first effort at working on behalf of a non-profit organization and staging a community fundraising event.

Lucy Johnson, Raven Conwell, Andrew Taylor, Amy Hood, and Torey Palmer are each student assistants in Education Support Services. “This is important public service for our students,” said Nancy McDaniel, executive director of ESS, stressing that engagement in university-community partnerships is a key component of students’ learning experience at Auburn.

Each Heroes team committed to raise at least $1,000 for the Red Cross Campaign. The students were responsible for planning an effective program, seeking support and sponsorships for refreshments, entertainment and silent auction items, and the logistics of hosting the event. The students coordinated with the Greystone management, who generously donated the facility for the evening. McDaniel and ESS academic counselor Ruthanna Payne provided the students support and guidance in the development and execution of the project.

“Working toward a common goal of helping the Red Cross was extremely rewarding,” said Amy Hood. “I loved watching our guests have fun while raising more than $1,000. This was definitely a great event and I look forward to continue working with the Red Cross.”

Auburn University students and staff are great supporters of the American Red Cross, according to East Alabama chapter executive director, Jennifer Ryan. “They volunteer, give blood, and raise funds for the Red Cross regularly, and we even have a Red Cross Campus Club at Auburn,” noted Ryan. “The recent fundraiser sponsored by Nancy McDaniel and Team West Wing is just one more example of the compassion of the Auburn Family and how innovative they can be in their approach to raising funds to support critical Red Cross programs.” The sentiment was echoed by Brent Percival, the chapter’s development officer. “The American Red Cross of East Alabama deeply appreciates the support it receives from the community and Auburn University students,” Percival said. “Nancy McDaniel and the entire ‘Team West Wing’ crew have been great additions to the campaign.”

McDaniel expressed pride in these student “Heroes” for getting involved and staging the event. Having just returned from visiting the headquarters of the International Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland, McDaniel emphasizes that such organizations offer opportunities for internships and other valuable service learning experiences for students here and abroad.

More importantly, the experience can continue to benefit students after graduation as well. “Partnering with our community is important, and the students involved now have a community partner, the local Red Cross chapter, wherever they ultimately end up working and living,” says McDaniel. “We hope we have given them an opportunity to begin on the path of a life commitment of local community involvement in an all-volunteer organization that is available both locally and globally.”
Faculty at Auburn University often go the extra mile to conduct their outreach work, but Elizabeth Brestan-Knight, an associate professor in the Department of Psychology stretched this axiom to the limit when she traveled to Singapore to train seven medical social workers at the KK Women’s and Children’s Hospital. The purpose of the trip was to provide a 40-hour training workshop in Parent-Child Interaction Therapy. PCIT is an empirically based treatment that has been used successfully to treat child behavior problems, child physical abuse, ADHD, and separation anxiety disorder. This treatment approach was developed three decades ago by Brestan-Knight’s graduate school mentor, Sheila Eyberg, and has recently gained international prominence as a first-line treatment for families with a strained parent-child relationship. Brestan-Knight’s trip was funded by the Singaporean Ministry of Health, however, because the 40-hour workshop is best conducted with a co-trainer, Brestan-Knight was able to secure funds from the College of Liberal Arts’ Community and Civic Engagement Committee, the Department of Psychology, and the AU Outreach Office so that Carisa Wilsie, a doctoral student in the clinical psychology program, could make the trip as well.

Once in Singapore, Brestan-Knight and Wilsie began the work of training eight medical social workers. Despite early concerns of a communication barrier and whether PCIT would fit within the cultural context of an Asian culture, the PCIT workshop was well received. Singaporeans are well versed in U.S. culture due to the influence of American television shows and movies and the process of the workshop was very similar to previous workshops conducted by Brestan-Knight stateside. Brestan-Knight had the opportunity to demonstrate the PCIT techniques with a volunteer Singaporean family and was surprised by how quickly they learned the skills, “The family was very motivated and we were able to see changes in their interaction after the first session. It was one of the most rewarding moments of my career to work with this lovely family on the other side of the world,” Brestan-Knight said.

The Singaporean medical social workers are now working through the process to become certified as PCIT therapists through PCIT International (www.pcitinternational.org). Each therapist needs to conduct PCIT with two families and send seven video-recorded sessions to Brestan-Knight for review. The therapists also conduct monthly video conference calls with Brestan-Knight and her clinical research lab, per the PCIT training guidelines. However, learning how to conduct the videoconference was a challenge as the Singaporean team uses a telephone-based videoconference technology that Auburn University does not have. “For each of our calls we actually need to contact a bridge at UAB where an IT person in Birmingham connects our internet-based videoconferencing equipment to the ISDN network. Wiebke Kuhn and Darrell Crutchley, through the College of Liberal Arts IT department, have been invaluable to this project. Without their help, we would never be able to conduct the second phase of our outreach project.” The therapists will likely complete their training by fall 2011 and Brestan-Knight is working with them to develop a sustainable PCIT clinic. The team is also planning a collaborative research project, with the goal of presenting a PCIT clinical research paper at the 2016 International Social Worker Conference on Health and Mental Health, which will be held in Singapore.
Outreach News

Auburn University Outreach Meets with Administrators from South Korea

The Office of the Vice President of University Outreach and the Center for Governmental Services recently hosted meetings between administrators from Auburn University and Kangwon National University, located in Chuncheon, South Korea. Yong Jung Kwon, president of KNU, and Jae-young Yu, dean of International Affairs met with Auburn administrators and faculty to discuss opportunities for collaboration, training, and exchange. CGS and Auburn currently have memoranda of understanding with KNU. KNU students spent a month studying at Auburn in a program provided by CGS. Additional programs and provisions for on-going exchanges are being explored.

Center for Governmental Services Hosts AMROA

The Center for Governmental Services hosted the Alabama Municipal Revenue Officers Association at the AU Hotel and Dixon Conference Center for their winter conference. AMROA is made up of professionals who administer revenue programs and codes for municipal and county governments throughout the state. The conference focused on “Generating Dollars for Your Community”, and included presentations on identifying and maximizing uses of special revenue funds and beefing up the bottom line with cost-saving techniques. The conference also dealt with the code of ethics for public officials.

Don-Terry Veal, director of the Center for Governmental Services, noted, “This organization continues to grow in number of conference participants and develops techniques that improve the economic base for Alabama local governments, which is critical to stabilization during these challenging economic times.”

Menefee Selected President of Alabama Communities of Excellence Program

Arturo S. Menefee community leadership specialist at the Economic and Community Development Institute, has been named president of the Alabama Communities of Excellence program. ACE partners from the private sector, governmental agencies, and universities work together to help Alabama’s smaller communities plan, grow, and prosper. The program’s comprehensive three-phase approach targets communities with 2,000 to 18,000 residents. Communities are selected based on their level of local commitment to the program and their capacity to support the ACE process.

Menefee has been involved with ACE since 2003, when he began leading community healthcare assessments in ACE communities. He served as the first ACE Associates Council president, and has served on most of the program’s assessment teams. He currently leads the leadership development assessments for the phase II evaluations.

Sumners Develops New Community Engagement Instrument

The Economic and Community Development Institute’s work in communities across the state is based on the belief that public deliberation is a valuable tool
for helping citizens realize their own power to change communities for the better. To support this work, ECDI director Joe A. Sumners has developed a list of questions that can be used to engage civic innovators, foster sustained deliberation, and mobilize citizens around issues of shared concern.

Sumners recently worked on a joint research project, Citizens at Work: Engaging for Prosperous Communities, sponsored by the Kettering Foundation. As part of this project, he developed a new “Community Questions” instrument. ECDI hopes to use this tool to help county extension coordinators as they become more engaged in deliberative work in communities. Sumners believes that having the “Community Questions” instrument, along with clear instructions for employing it, will help CECs in this process. In addition, ECDI staff members plan to use the instrument to support community leadership programs throughout Alabama, community and regional strategic planning efforts, the Alabama Communities of Excellence program, economic and community development education, and training courses.

**Auburn Director of Public Service Foster Delivers Key Note Speech on Engagement**

Ralph Foster, director of public service in Auburn’s Outreach division, delivered the key note address at the Ohio University winter faculty development colloquium. Foster’s key note was on the role of civic engagement at institutions of higher education. The address was based on Foster’s chapter, “Transforming the Ivory Tower to Community Center,” in the recently published book, Change (Transformation) in Government Organizations (Ronald Sims, editor, IAP press). The Ohio University colloquium was hosted by the institution’s College of Education and Human Service and featured presentations by university faculty on a variety of community research and engagement projects.

**Long-standing Outreach Employees Recognized**

During the University Employee Recognition Ceremony in May, five Outreach employees were honored for their years of service.

**Mike Easterwood**, project manager specialist at ECDI, has been with Auburn University for 25 years. Easterwood administers the Rural Alabama Initiative and Extension Resource Conservation and Development grant programs. Prior to joining ECDI, Easterwood served as development director with Auburn’s Center for Governmental Services. Easterwood earned his bachelor’s degree at Auburn and master’s degrees in public administration and urban studies at Jacksonville State and University of Alabama at Birmingham respectively.

**Elizabeth Haeussler**, executive assistant/business manager in the office of the vice president for outreach, was honored for 20 years of service. Haeussler provides financial and human resource guidance to all departments within University Outreach. Prior to joining Outreach in 2005, Haeussler worked in the Auburn University Business Office. Haeussler attended Southern Union and Auburn University.

**Maria Tamblyn**, human resources program manager for the Center for Governmental Services, was recognized for completing ten years of service at Auburn. Tamblyn worked at Baptist Health Systems prior to joining the staff at Auburn. Tamblyn earned a bachelor’s degree at Auburn and a master’s degree at the University of Southern Mississippi.
Karen Rankin, information technology specialist with Outreach, is celebrating 20 years of service at Auburn. Rankin provides information technology support to all departments within University Outreach in the areas of database management, computer hardware and software solutions, and Web site administration. Before joining Outreach in 1994, she worked in the Chemistry and Botany and Microbiology departments. Rankin has degrees in business administration and management information systems.

Janie Echols-Brown, graphic artist with University Outreach, is being recognized for 10 years of service at Auburn University. Echols-Brown has been at Auburn since 2000 offering creative support to all Outreach units. Before joining Auburn, she served as a manager with Creative Services at the Opelika-Auburn News for nearly ten years. Echols-Brown earned a bachelor’s degree in commerce and business administration from the University of Alabama.

Thomas Appointed Director of Faculty Engagement

Chippewa Thomas, an associate professor in the College of Education, was recently named Auburn University’s director of faculty engagement in the Office of the Vice President for University Outreach.

As director of faculty engagement, Thomas will ensure faculty members have detailed and accurate information regarding outreach requirements as part of the tenure and promotion process. She will also work to develop incentives designed to increase Auburn’s outreach initiatives and will share information about collaborative projects with members of the university’s leadership team, as well as the university at large. She will also oversee the competitive Outreach Scholarship grant program and an annual Outreach Scholarship Symposium. Thomas will continue teaching and directing graduate students in her department in the College of Education, as well as serving on the college’s Diversity Committee.

Thomas earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Tuskegee University and completed two degrees in Auburn’s College of Education - a master’s in community agency counseling and a doctorate in counselor education and supervision. She recently earned the Fannie R. Cooley Award for Distinguished Professional Development from the Alabama Counseling Association.

Assistant VP Cook, Auburn Faculty, Featured in Inaugural “Who’s Who” Edition

Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach, was recently featured as a “Man of Influence” in the inaugural edition “Who’s Who in Black Alabama.” The article contained Cook’s biography and significant events shaping his career in higher education and his contributions to the state’s community development and public service. The article also highlighted Cook’s leadership as head of Auburn’s outreach mission, noting the significant expansion of the division during his tenure. Auburn faculty also featured in the issue include: Constance Hendricks, Nursing; Jared Russell, Kinesiology; Overtoun Jenda, Multicultural Affairs; and Evelyn Crayton, ACES.
Auburn students are bringing attention to the issue of global poverty by participating in the ONE Campus Challenge. The challenge is hosted by ONE, an international advocacy organization committed to the fight against extreme poverty and preventable disease, particularly in Africa.

The goal of the Campus Challenge is to raise awareness about these global issues on college campuses and recruit people to aid in ONE’s campaigns. More than 100 universities nationwide competed in this year’s challenge, with Auburn finishing among the top 25 participants. The annual competition was held February 1 through March 31.

During the competition, campuses earn points through recruiting volunteers, distributing information, and other efforts promoting the organization’s focus objectives. At the end of the competition, representatives of the campus with the most points will be invited to Washington, D.C., for ONE’s annual conference and participate in ONE meetings with government officials.

“It’s a point-based system where you get points for the number of people that you have, the number of people that you invite, the number of people that sign the petition for vaccines,” said Nathan Warner, senior in ecological engineering and campus leader for the ONE Campus Challenge. Schools can also gain points by organizing campus events and responding to weekly challenges initiated by ONE. “The main thing is just we want to get people excited about what’s going on at the Auburn campus,” Warner said. “We want to get them engaged and to take the initiative.”

A number of student organizations participated in the ONE Campus Challenge including the Auburn Sustainability Action Program, the Committee of 19, IMPACT, the Mocha Club, Engineers Without Borders, the Pharmacy Club, and the Red Cross Club.

As a result of Auburn’s performance this year in the ONE Campus Challenge, Warner was invited to attend a summit of ONE Campus student leaders in Washington, D.C., later this year. Participating students will meet with Congressional officials to discuss responses to world poverty.

Warner says he hopes the ONE Campus Challenge will serve as a springboard for increased communication among campus service and humanitarian organizations at Auburn to maximize student awareness of issues that are being tackled in the community and around the world. “Ultimately, we want to help all Auburn students educate themselves about global and local issues and get engaged in existing efforts here at Auburn,” said Warner.