

**Name:** Melanie Smith

**Ballot Position:** #1

**Year:** Junior

**Major:** Human Development & Family Studies

**Qualifications:**

SGA Senate: Senator, College of Human Sciences; Code of Laws Committee

SGA Cabinet: Secretary of Community Outreach

SGA Cabinet: Director of the Beat Bama Food Drive 2010-2011

I-LEAD Leadership Conference Student Coordinator

University Scholarship Board

Cardinal Key Honor Society Chaplain

The SGA Vice President serves the student body as President of the Student Senate. If elected as Vice President, I will continue to carry out and move forward with current initiatives, as well as implement many new initiatives.

New initiatives include:

**1. “Start Preparing” Academics:**

If elected Vice President, I will work to increase the resources available to students who wish to prepare for graduate school. I plan to ensure that Auburn students have access to the best resources possible, including collaborative partnerships with Kaplan and the Auburn University Provost, test preparation classes, weekend seminars, access to tutors, and graduate school peer advising.

I will continue working on pre-existing academic initiatives including: an online syllabus database, peer advising programs in every college, central classroom facilities and student awareness of the new *Degree Works* program. I will also consistently seek suggestions and feedback from the student body, the student senate, and schools’ council on how to improve these initiatives.

**2. “Start Getting Involved” on Campus:**

I plan to help students get involved on campus by helping students feel less intimidated by the application process. I plan to work with the Office of Leadership and Ethics and Career Services to hold mock interview workshops once a semester. where students can make an appointment to sit before a panel and practice their interviewing skills. The panel will review student resumes and give constructive criticism about interviewing techniques and resumes. This will allow students to improve their interviewing techniques and gain confidence so they will feel more prepared in interviews.

**3. “Start Succeeding”**

Now, more than ever, college graduates have the difficult task of finding jobs. I plan to collaborate with Career Services to promote the Tiger Links program. Tiger Links is sponsored by Auburn University Career Services and helps students search for available internships and jobs. I plan to make Tiger Links more user friendly, increase alumni

knowledge and participation of this program, and encourage the university to better utilize this program.

**4. “Start with Senate” Senate Transparency and Accessibility:**

Above all else senators must be held accountable for how they represent their constituents. Legislation passed in senate significantly impacts Auburn students. Therefore, the decisions senators make should be aligned with what their constituents want. I will improve senate transparency and ensure that senators are focused on the needs of their constituents.

Thank you for taking the time to read my platform. I would love to continue serving the SGA senate as your next SGA Vice President.