

# The University

**A**UBURN UNIVERSITY, chartered in 1856, is located in Auburn, Alabama, and traces its beginning to the East Alabama Male College, a private liberal arts institution whose doors opened in 1859. From 1861 to 1866 the college was closed because of the Civil War. The college had begun an affiliation with the Methodist Church before the war. Due to financial straits, the church transferred legal control of the institution to the state in 1872, making it the first land-grant college in the South to be established separate from the state university. It thus became the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama.

Women were admitted in 1892, and in 1899 the name again was changed, to the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. In 1960, the school acquired a more appropriate name, Auburn University, a title more in keeping with its location, size and complexity. The institution has experienced its greatest growth since World War II, and today enrolls 21,860 students, the largest on-campus enrollment in the state. The majority are Alabama residents.

Auburn University at Montgomery was established as a separately administered branch campus in 1967. The institution has developed rapidly, especially since moving to a 500-acre campus east of Montgomery in 1971. Current enrollment at AUM is about 5,500.

## Statement of Vision And Mission

The following statement of vision and mission was developed by the Task Force on Mission established in 1995 and was approved by the Board of Trustees on March 20, 1997 and amended May 7, 2004.

### Vision

Auburn University will emerge as one of the nation's preeminent comprehensive land-grant universities in the 21st century. Central to all its functions will be the university's historic commitment of service to all Alabamians as the State becomes a part of a global society with all of its challenges and opportunities. The university will be widely recognized for the quality of its undergraduate, graduate and professional educational programs, the effectiveness of its research and outreach programs and the broad access to the university provided through the innovative use of information technology. The university will ensure the quality of its programs through the careful focusing of its resources in areas of institutional strengths. One constant will remain unchanged at the university—that intangible quality Auburn men and women call the "Auburn Spirit."

### Mission

Auburn University's mission is defined by its land-grant traditions of service and access. The university will serve the citizens of the State through its instructional, research and outreach programs and prepare Alabamians to respond successfully to the challenges of a global economy. The university will provide traditional and non-traditional students broad access to the institution's educational resources. In the delivery of educational programs on campus and beyond, the university will draw heavily upon the new instructional and outreach technologies available in the emerging information age.

As a comprehensive university, Auburn University is committed to offering high-quality undergraduate, graduate, and professional education to its students. The university will give highest priority for resource allocation for the future development of those areas that represent the traditional strengths, quality, reputation, and uniqueness of the institution and that continue to effectively respond to the needs of students and other constituents. Consistent with this commitment, the university will emphasize a broad and superior undergraduate education that imparts the knowledge, skills, and values so essential to educated and responsible citizens. At the same time, the university will provide high-quality graduate and professional programs in areas of need and importance to the state and beyond. To accomplish these educational goals, Auburn University will continue to compete nationally to attract a faculty distinguished by its commitment to teaching and by its achievements in research, both pure and applied. The university will strive to attract a faculty that will bring distinction and stature to the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs offered by the university.

Because research is essential to the mission of a land-grant university, Auburn University will continue development of its research programs.

The primary focus of this research will be directed to the solution of problems and the development of knowledge and technology important to the state and nation and to the quality of life of Alabama citizens. The university's research programs will make important contributions to instructional programs through the involvement of graduate and undergraduate students and the renewal of the faculty. Research will also provide the knowledge base for outreach programs. In carrying out its research mission, the university will emphasize established areas of strength and will focus available resources in those areas of research and doctoral study that are, or have the potential to develop into nationally and internationally recognized centers of excellence.

Extension and outreach programs are fundamental to the land-grant mission because these programs directly affect the lives of all citizens in the state. The university will maintain the strengths of its traditional outreach programs and will increasingly involve the broader university in outreach programs that respond to the changing needs of the society in which we live. The university will continue to seek new and innovative ways to reach out to the people it serves.

### Instruction

Auburn University is committed to excellence in teaching at both the undergraduate and the graduate level. This commitment has long been reflected in the diversity of course offerings and in the variety of instructional approaches that are offered. Increasingly, electronic technology is providing instructors with innovative and creative teaching strategies. The high academic aptitude of the university's incoming students also makes accelerated learning possible.

The liberal arts and sciences – introduced in the university's nationally recognized Core Curriculum – are the heart of Auburn's undergraduate programs. They lay the foundation not only for advanced study and career preparation but also for the development of a more responsible citizenry through students' personal and intellectual growth. The Core Curriculum provides students with a common set of experiences, develops their powers of analysis and communication, and encourages their understanding of human culture and the natural world. Auburn has won recognition for its high academic quality.

Auburn offers baccalaureate degrees in more than 130 areas across the spectrum of disciplines and provides the state's only publicly supported programs in many fields, including several in agriculture, architecture, building science, forestry, pharmacy and veterinary medicine. Particularly strong baccalaureate programs can be found in the Colleges of Business, Education, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Sciences and Mathematics. For many years, ROTC programs at Auburn have also been nationally prominent in providing leadership for the military.

While Auburn has long been widely recognized for the quality and diversity of its undergraduate and first-professional programs, more recently expanding research accomplishments have broadened the scope and raised the prominence of the university's graduate programs. Today Auburn supports a comprehensive graduate school, providing master's level programs in more than 64 areas and awarding the doctorate in more than 40 fields. In many fields it offers the state's only doctoral program. For many years the university has enjoyed strong graduate programs in agriculture, the biological and physical sciences, education, engineering, forestry, the human sciences, mathematics, pharmacy and veterinary medicine. More recently, excellent graduate programs have also emerged in business, the liberal arts and the social sciences. The university anticipates expanded research activity and graduate instruction, especially in agriculture and the biological sciences, in engineering and the physical sciences, in veterinary and pharmaceutical sciences, as well as in business and education.

### Research

Research is the means through which new knowledge is created and new information is developed. As such, research at Auburn University is an essential link in its three-prong mission of instruction, research and outreach. Successes among the varied research activities within each of its 12 schools and colleges continue to bolster Auburn among the nation's top universities.

Auburn's role as a land-grant university emphasizes strong research programs in agricultural sciences, natural resources, the biological sci-

ences, engineering and the physical sciences. Strong and expanding research programs exist in education; veterinary medicine; pharmacy; the liberal arts; human sciences; business; architecture, design and construction; and nursing.

Whether in the laboratory, the field or in the classroom, Auburn's research endeavors are diverse and comprehensive, at once focusing upon developing solutions to major problems that confront humankind and expanding the base of knowledge and technologies available to improve our quality of life. Additionally, major efforts to increase the protection and commercialization of intellectual properties are central to Auburn's continual drive for improvements in its research mission.

These efforts mesh to create a research environment that enhances the state's economic, cultural, social and intellectual development and, at the same time, undergirds the university's undergraduate, graduate and outreach programs.

## Outreach

Through outreach Auburn University applies its knowledge and skill for the direct benefit of people outside its own walls, thereby supporting the vision of engagement and broad access. Outreach includes instructional programs, such as continuing professional education, applied research, often in support of Alabama industry, and other forms of direct assistance. In turn, outreach enhances the university's knowledge base, ensuring relevance to the broader society and providing valuable insights and information for teaching and research. Students benefit from service and contextual learning experiences through outreach projects like the Rural Studio maintained by the College of Architecture, Design and Construction, and the Partners in Community Service program housed in the College of Education.

Faculty and staff throughout the university participate in outreach through a number of offices at Auburn. Units providing external services to clients and/or support for outreach work campus wide include the Center for Governmental Services, Distance Learning & Outreach Technology, Economic Development Institute, Office of Outreach Information, and the Outreach Program Office. Outreach centers affiliated with AU's schools and colleges link the university to the needs of Alabama in their respective areas of expertise. Offices include the Auburn Technical Assistance Center, Business/Engineering Outreach & Continuing Education, the Center for Arts & Humanities, and the Truman Pierce Institute for the Advancement of Teacher Education. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System reaches all 67 Alabama counties providing educational programs and services through faculty specialists and local agents. Auburn also participates in regional outreach partnerships, such as the Alabama Technology Network, the West Alabama Learning Coalition, and the I-85 Corridor Alliance.

From this base of organizational and faculty resources, Auburn hosts a diverse range of outreach activities. Annually, the university produces more than 1500 conferences, courses and training programs, with a cumulative annual attendance average of 53,000. More than half of these programs are approved to offer continuing education units. Among outreach programs for credit, enrollments in undergraduate and graduate courses delivered through distance education technologies have increased significantly in recent years. The number of active distance degree and certificate programs has grown to 24, with more than 2,500 registrations. Auburn outreach units conduct more than 1,000 field and technical assistance projects annually for clients across the state. Many of these projects are directed toward the economically disadvantaged counties of the Alabama Black Belt, where Auburn maintains several ongoing initiatives with community-based partners. Throughout Alabama, Auburn supports some 100 outreach facilities and research sites — more than any other educational institution in Alabama — making AU resources highly accessible to citizens. A comprehensive directory of AU outreach resources and contacts is available at [www.auburn.edu/outreach](http://www.auburn.edu/outreach).

## Libraries and Archives

The main library on campus is the Ralph Brown Draughon Library, a 377,000 square-foot structure with seating for 2,500 and shelving space for about 4 million volumes. Branch libraries are located in the College of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Architecture, Design and Construction.

Collections include more than 2.7 million volumes, more than 2.6 million items in microformat and 140,000 maps. The Libraries receive more

than 23,000, current serials as well as publications issued by U.S. government agencies. It also provides a World Wide Web gateway to the Government Printing Office's GPO Access - a database of federal publications.

Auburn University Libraries' World Wide Web home page provides users with access to the Internet and a number of remote databases. The various periodical databases contain references to selected journal and newspaper articles and research reports covering a spectrum of subject areas, and also include a growing number of full-text documents. AUBIECat lists all books, journals, newspapers and most government publications AU Libraries hold. AUBIECat is available anywhere using the World Wide Web.

The Draughon Library contains carrels for faculty and graduate student use, a room equipped for listening to sound recordings or viewing videos assigned for classroom purposes and three network classrooms. Photocopiers are located on each of the floors and in both branch libraries. Other services available to library users include two Geographic Information System (GIS) workstations, course reserve, electronic document delivery and interlibrary loans, as well as reference service and library use instruction by subject specialist librarians.

Circulation of library materials is automated through use of the on-line catalog and a barcoded user identification card. Borrowing privileges are extended to enrolled students; members of the administrative, research, instructional and extension staffs of the university; student, faculty, and staff spouses; and active alumni association members.

## Office of Information Technology

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) offers computing and communication services to the university community. OIT provides Auburn University with a strong, secure information technology infrastructure and technical support that enables and encourages the effective use of information technology. Contact OIT at (334) 844-4512 or via e-mail to [oit@auburn.edu](mailto:oit@auburn.edu).

**Internet Connectivity.** AU Net, Auburn University's campus network, is the fiber optic Ethernet backbone linking computers and networks in all buildings to each other, and Auburn University to the Internet. The campus is connected to the Alabama Supercomputer Network (ASN) and to the Internet through high-speed fiber optic connections. Auburn University is a participant in the Internet2 initiative. Through AU Resnet, computers in campus residence halls have the opportunity to connect directly to AU Net. AU Dial service is available to Auburn University departments and provides access to the campus network and the Internet from off-campus via modem. A secure wireless network is available to AU students, faculty, and staff in a number of public and classroom spaces around the campus as well.

**Servers.** An IBM enterprise server is connected to AU Net. Academic uses include research, information storage and retrieval, selected instructional uses and special applications. Administrative functions include storage and retrieval of information necessary for the daily operations of the university. Solaris, NetWare, and NT servers provide campus-wide network services including e-mail, web hosting, mailing lists, web resources, user authentication and printing in computing labs, anonymous FTP, and workgroup computing for departmental users. Real Media Servers distribute audio and video files and encode live broadcasts. A Meeting Point Server enables video conferencing.

**Computing Access.** All currently enrolled students have an AU user name and OIT password which provide access to TigerMail (AU e-mail), network storage, OIT computing labs, network printing, restricted online class materials, and other AU computing resources. Students have web access to a number of useful resources including OASIS (the online student information system) where they can register for courses and review grades and transcripts online. E-Bill provides online payment of Bursar fees as well as account summaries. Student access to OASIS and E-bill require both a student ID and a six-digit PIN, provided by the Registrar's Office.

**Computers for Students.** Computing labs across campus are available for use by individuals in specific departments. In addition, OIT maintains 10 computing labs with more than 250 networked multimedia Windows machines. These computers are available to current AU students, faculty, and staff and most labs are available 24 hours a day. The OIT labs require log in with an AU user name and password and provide access to network laser printing. OIT computing lab software includes database, spreadsheet, word processing, and access to the Internet

(email and web browsing). In addition to the general-purpose software, the OIT labs provide access to laser printing capabilities and special-purpose software purchased by departments for specific classes.

**World Wide Web.** Auburn University is committed to providing convenient and secure web applications to our university community. Student admissions, registration and records, campus directory services, administrative systems, e-mail, and instructional and research tools are available to the Auburn University students, faculty and staff via the World Wide Web.

The official AU web site resides at [www.auburn.edu](http://www.auburn.edu). AU colleges, schools, and departments maintain web sites specific to their areas. The AU web site includes online directory services, news, calendars, and a search engine. Restricted-access web space is provided for information (such as copyrighted material) that must be limited to persons affiliated with the university.

The Office of Information Technology web site is located at [www.auburn.edu/oit](http://www.auburn.edu/oit). It serves as a central dissemination point for information about computing, information technology, multimedia, and telecommunications at Auburn University.

**Instructional Technology.** Auburn University is dedicated to providing all faculty and students with effective technology to enhance courses and improve learning. Learning management systems, such as WebCT, provide ways for faculty to manage course content and for students to engage with the material, the teachers, and each other. OIT provides seminars for faculty members in a range of instructional technologies.

There are a growing number of technology-enhanced classrooms on campus as well as special course development labs. Nationally recognized expertise in multimedia direction and production, along with web design and graphic art skills, is available to faculty members. Test scoring and analysis services are also available to instructors. For assistance with instructional technologies, contact the Instructional Multimedia Group at [img@auburn.edu](mailto:img@auburn.edu) or (334) 844-5181.

**Telephone.** Fee-based telephone, long distance and voice mail services are provided to all administrative and academic offices as well as to on-campus residential housing. Basic telephone service is available in addition to business telephone services for administrative and faculty offices which include but are not limited to Simultaneous Ring, 6-way conferencing, Meet-Me conferencing, voice menus and announcements. All available services are outlined on the web at [www.auburn.edu/oit/services/employees/telephone.php](http://www.auburn.edu/oit/services/employees/telephone.php). Switchboard

operator services provide campus directory assistance, call completion assistance, and answering services.

Students can order services at [www.auburn.edu/oit/services/student](http://www.auburn.edu/oit/services/student). Departments can discuss business telephone solutions and options by calling Telecommunications Customer Services at (334)844-2222. Business telephone services should be ordered at [www.auburn.edu/oit/services/employees/telephone.php](http://www.auburn.edu/oit/services/employees/telephone.php).

**Infrastructure Planning.** OIT participates on all building committees for new buildings and major renovation projects. Through this process, OIT ensures that telecommunications, audio/visual, and networking needs are addressed and that these systems are properly designed. OIT meets regularly with the Facilities Division to coordinate necessary infrastructure improvements. In support of Auburn University's mission, OIT is continually planning and upgrading its backbone copper and fiber optic cabling infrastructure and systems.

**Hardware.** OIT manages AU Lease ([aulease@auburn.edu](mailto:aulease@auburn.edu)), a PC leasing program for campus departments. Additional information on AU Lease services is available at <http://www.auburn.edu/aulease>. OIT Computer Support provides repairs and upgrades for university-owned computer equipment, including Intel-based PCs, SUN Workstations, Macintoshes, printers and monitors.

**Support.** Training, documentation, and consulting are provided for Auburn University students, faculty and staff via orientations, seminars, workshops, publications, and the OIT HelpDesk. The HelpDesk is available during university business hours to answer questions regarding AU computing, telecommunications, and information technology. Contact the HelpDesk at (334) 844-4944 or [helpdesk@auburn.edu](mailto:helpdesk@auburn.edu). Online technology support is always available at [www.auburn.edu/oit/support](http://www.auburn.edu/oit/support).

In addition to online information, OIT publishes guides, brochures, and tip sheets. The bi-annual publication, *Survival Guide: A Student's Guide to Computing at Auburn University*, is designed to help students learn about computing resources available to them at the university.

The Office of Information Technology does not conduct an academic program. Inquiries concerning computer curricula should be directed to the College of Engineering or the College of Business.

**Policies.** Auburn University's Information Technology policies are on the web at [www.auburn.edu/it\\_policies](http://www.auburn.edu/it_policies). E-mail ([username@auburn.edu](mailto:username@auburn.edu)) is the official means of communicating with students at Auburn University. As such, students are responsible for checking their Auburn University e-mail in a timely fashion and on a regular basis.

## Academic Policies

### Undergraduate Admissions Policies and Procedures

Auburn University, an equal-opportunity educational institution, does not discriminate in its admissions policy on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, handicap, age or national origin. Preference is given to the admission of Alabama residents at the undergraduate level; in considering applications to professional schools or programs with restrictive admissions policies, the length of residency in the state will be a factor.

Applications for resident and non-resident students are accepted for all curricula; however, the number of students admitted is determined by the availability of facilities and faculty.

**Application Forms.** Application forms for admission to any undergraduate school or curriculum of the university can be obtained from the Admissions Office, Attention: Admissions Office, 202 Mary Martin Hall, Auburn, AL 36849-5145. Applicants are encouraged to submit their application electronically by using the document available on the Auburn University web site. Going to [www.auburn.edu](http://www.auburn.edu) and clicking on the section for prospective students can accomplish this. Application to the Graduate School or the College of Veterinary Medicine must be made to those schools.

**Process for Application.** Individuals may apply for entrance to any term of a calendar year as early as June 1 of the preceding year. Applicants to Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy will be admitted in the Fall Semester only. Because of the large number of applications, credentials should be submitted as early as possible. In all cases, complete credentials along with the medical examination report must be filed at least three weeks before the term's opening. **The university reserves the right to establish earlier deadlines should circumstances warrant.**

**Application Fee.** A \$25 processing fee (international application processing fee is \$50), payable by check, money order or credit card information, must accompany all admission applications and is neither refundable nor applicable to other fees. Responses on the application forms and on related materials must be complete and accurate; entrance may be denied or registration canceled as a result of false or misleading statements.

Applicants may receive provisional acceptance after they submit the application form and current academic documents. However, they must complete and return a medical examination report form provided by the university at least three weeks before the term opens. The university may require additional medical examinations, and it may refuse admission to individuals whose health records indicate that their health or the university community might be adversely affected by their attendance. All applicants must certify that they have registered with the Selective Service Board or that they are not required by law to register.

Applicants may be asked to supply evidence of good character. The university may deny admission to those whose presence is deemed detrimental to the institution or its students.

**Admission of Freshmen: Academic Criteria.** Favorable consideration for admission will be given to accredited secondary school graduates whose college ability test scores and high school grades give promise of the greatest level of success in college courses.

Secondary school students planning to apply for admission to AU should emphasize the following high school courses: English, mathematics, social studies, sciences and foreign languages.