For many decades, Auburn has followed a first-come, first-served admissions procedure, accepting prospective students who met the minimal qualifications, then cutting off applications when classrooms reached capacity.

A new procedure implemented this summer following approval by the Board of Trustees and extensive review by the campus community as well as by a committee of high school guidance counselors. The new procedure includes several key changes in the admissions process for early decision, automatic acceptance and regular admission.

The early decision option is designed for academically qualified students who make Auburn their first choice, agree not to pursue similar early decision programs at other schools and submit a non-refundable $200 tuition deposit with their completed applications.

Applicants with minimum high school grade point average of 3.0 and minimum ACT score of 22 (SAT 1030) are eligible for automatic acceptance. Other applicants whose credentials are above our minimal acceptance levels will be reviewed in February.

Applications received after Feb. 1 who meet our minimum admissions requirements will receive a response in May.

Why do we place so much emphasis on high school grades and ACT scores? Grade point average and ACT scores are our best predictors of retention. Over the past 11 years, the mean ACT score of Auburn freshmen has averaged 23.6. The high school grade point average of students admitted to AU last fall is 3.34. Almost 70 percent of Auburn freshmen enrolled last year scored above the 22 ACT mark. We want to enroll students who will be successful in our academic programs.

While this new procedure is designed to be objective, clear and fair, we have also ensured that provisions exist for exceptions. Special consideration for extracurricular activities, community service and other demonstration of academic success potential can bolster chances for admission, assuming enrollment goals have not been met. We know that children of AU employees and alumni deserve additional consideration and we will give it. Also, our commitment to growth in our minority enrollment remains strong. African-American enrollment is now 7.1% with 109 more African-American students than a year ago. The real success story is in our freshman class, where we have an increase of 23.8% African-Americans.

Overview of Fall Enrollment
Auburn has the highest total enrollment this fall semester in its 145-year history. A total of 22,469 students (609 or 2.8% more than fall 2001) are attending classes.

A total of 19,662 are undergraduates and just over 2,800 are graduate students. Graduate enrollment remains stable.

We have 3,746 new freshmen, which
A record enrollment, a new admissions procedure, measures in response to sexual assaults, and a new telemarketing center for admissions recruitment are just a few of the extraordinary initiatives addressed by the Student Affairs staff in recent months.

Then September 11 swept our attention to terrorist victims, their families, our nation and our world.

I’ve seen tears of sorrow, weariness, fear, but also team spirit, resolve and constructive creativity. I commend you for the many ways you have distinguished yourselves as members of the Student Affairs Division team to deal with the myriad of tasks and needs we have encountered recently.

For August, Charmoin Tatum (pictured on right) was selected for Auburn University’s Spirit of Excellence Award. Charmoin works in the Freshman Year Experience office and oversees SOS and is the advisor for Tau Sigma and Mortar Board. Charmoin is pictured with Joan Nelson, a co-worker in the Freshman Year Experience Office. Joan nominated Charmoin for the award.

Congratulations to Charmoin for this recognition of her hard work and dedication.

In the wake of the brutal acts in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania, you scrambled to serve our students, whether that took the form of transportation services for those who needed to be with loved ones, counseling for a gamut of emotions, group discussions led by faculty experts, blood drives, candlelight vigils, prayer services, collection of contributions, information distribution, even the continuation of recreational programming for those who needed a physical outlet from grief.

On a less traumatic front, I would like to thank all Student Affairs staff members and students leaders who came together to alleviate long waits at the student gate for home football games this season. Our Student Affairs team answered the call, came together, and we saw immediate results from our hard work. This effort, along with many others this semester have emphasized the strong ethic of teamwork that distinguishes Student Affairs.

Our students are measured by tests in their classrooms routinely. We too have been tested in many ways recently. For all your contributions and efforts, you made the Honor Roll.

Thank you.

W. Wes Williams
Vice President for Student Affairs

New Admissions Policy in Depth

represents a planned downsizing from the 3,864-member freshman class a year ago. Sixty-five percent of our new freshmen are Alabamians.

Our overall minority enrollment is now 9.9%. African-American enrollment is now 7.1% with 109 more African-American students than a year ago. The real success story is in our freshman class, where we have an increase of 23.8% African-Americans.

Applications for next fall are significantly ahead of the numbers a year ago. As of Nov. 11, we have received 6,122 freshman applications for fall 2002. As of this time last year, we had received 5,605 applications for fall 2001. As of Nov. 11, Admissions had admitted 4,449 freshmen for fall 2002 and received 1,822 deposits.

We hope that those strong admissions numbers for Fall 2002 are an indicator that this new procedure is being well received. We think the word is out to apply early. These figures do not mean that we will have a huge enrollment increase next fall. Our enrollment goal is orderly growth of approximately one percent a year.
In the past several months the Auburn community has been forced to realize that contrary to popular belief, Auburn is not unlike any other college campus across the United States when it comes to campus safety. There are predators among us and we are not happy.

The reactions from all levels of staff and students have ranged from extreme fear to complacency. Although a little fear is healthy, extreme reactions have proven to be unproductive over time. Complacency, our biggest enemy, allows these dangers to thrive even in the most policed setting. What's a campus to do?

In particular we are struggling to cope with the aftermath of a stranger rapist, not to mention the three seemingly unrelated menacing incidents. My fear, as the staff member charged with raising campus awareness and sensitivity, is that if an arrest is made complacency will once again rule the day. We, as a campus community, must come to realize that, although very frightening, the stranger rapist is the anomaly; acquaintance/date rape is the norm. In a recent campus presentation, Dr. Barry Burkhart, a nationally recognized expert, suggested that “potentially as many as two hundred Auburn women have been raped in a non-stranger context in the same time frame as the three stranger assaults.”

The number is alarming. Should we revert to our complacent ways, more predators will likely take up residence even with an increased police force. As much as we might like to think this is the solution it is merely a stopgap measure. We will not see real change until the campus community takes a stand that rape of any form is unacceptable and that the behaviors leading to this act are not tolerated. We must commit to facilitating the reporting process, assisting survivors, and educating our students, faculty and staff at all levels. And for those that think this doesn't concern them-ask yourself, “Do I know four women?”. If so, chances are you know someone who’s life has been touched by rape or attempted rape. This is everyone’s issue!

Outreach Coordinator, SAE Harbor Women's Center

Paula Carnahan

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Extra Mile Award

Student Affairs practitioners are used to working long hours, sometimes with little recognition for their service to students. The Extra Mile award was created for In Touch as a vehicle for internal recognition of excellent student service within the Division of Student Affairs. The award is earned by unsolicited student nominations.

The Extra Mile Award for Fall 2001 goes to Steve Glennon of Foy Union.

You may have noticed several tigers lurking about this fall. If you go to Mary Martin or Cater, you will be greeted by some large-scale tigers. But don't be afraid; they are friendly. The tigers were made by Robin Reynolds, wife of Director of Financial Aid Mike Reynolds. Robin quickly has become the large-scale designer for Student Affairs (she did Dean Foy's birthday card as well). Thanks to Robin for her work and to the staff of Financial Aid for sharing their tigers with us.

Tigers on the Loose!

I would like to nominate Steve [Glennon] in Foy Union. He takes great pride in his work, ensuring that the management and DJs have a clean environment to work in. His smile and greeting always lifts the spirit in the station. He has helped out the radio station in numerous ways, from simple vacuuming and taking out the trash to carrying/moving heavy equipment and helping out with remotes. I sometimes wonder how the station would be able to run effectively without Steve’s help. Since assuming responsibility of the game room, his service has not changed. He is still the friendly guy who makes everyone's day just a little bit better, and cleaner!

Age Roth
1st year graduate student Communication Station Manager
WEGL FM 91.1
Statement by Dr. Wes Williams, Vice President for Student Affairs, Auburn University
Nov. 5, 2001

Auburn University has temporarily suspended two fraternities pending full investigation of apparent violations of the university’s written policy on harassment and discrimination.

Incidents at two Halloween fraternity parties Oct. 25 and 27 were potentially offensive and racist. The university’s recognition of Delta Sigma Phi and Beta Theta Pi was temporarily withdrawn Nov. 5 and other disciplinary action is possible. The university also has contacted the national offices of the two fraternities and requested investigation of the incidents along with appropriate action.

Thirty-seven years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act, there is no acceptable explanation for the appearance of students in KU Klux Klan robes or blackface.

Several other white fraternity members or guests appeared at one party wearing jerseys in the colors and bearing the Greek letters of a fraternity whose membership is African-American. Several African-American students have said that the stereotypical portrayal of African-Americans and the unauthorized, demeaning use of those jerseys constitute additional serious concerns.

Due process and other rights must be observed during this review. Auburn University will pursue the investigations aggressively.

As published in the Tiger Cub, the AU student handbook, “Auburn University will not tolerate discrimination against or harassment of its students. Any form of discrimination or harassment related to a student’s race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or physical or mental handicap or disability is a violation of this policy and will be treated as a disciplinary matter.” The policy includes a broad definition of harassment, including but not limited to “slurs, jokes or other graphic or physical conduct related to a student’s race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or physical or mental disability.”
Auburn Signs The Birmingham Pledge

I believe that every person has worth as an individual.
I believe that every person is entitled to dignity and respect, regardless of race or color.
I believe that every thought and every act of racial prejudice is harmful; if it is my thought or act, then it is harmful to me as well as to others.

Therefore, from this day forward I will strive daily to eliminate racial prejudice from my thoughts and actions.
I will discourage racial prejudice by others at every opportunity.
I will treat all people with dignity and respect, and I will strive daily to honor this pledge, knowing that the world will be a better place because of my effort.

Signed by members of the Auburn University family on November 8, 2001

This pledge is an affimation of the Birmingham Pledge created in 1960 by the Community Affairs Committee of Operation New Birmingham.
Introducing EMAS

EMS has added a new tool to assist in the recruitment of new students to Auburn University: EMASPlus. This is a sophisticated database that manages written communications and relation-based telecounseling. It is in the process of being brought online. EMASPlus will help us initiate and develop personal relationships with all our potential students, explains Rob Kulick, Associate Director of Admissions and EMASPlus system administrator. Once a student is in our system, we will be able to better understand his/her priorities, interests, goals and needs, while at the same time being able to provide valuable information about what Auburn has to offer, and what benefits can be achieved by applying and ultimately enrolling at Auburn.

A prospective student may be contacted more than 10-12 times throughout the course of the recruitment cycle, through coordinated mailings of informational brochures, campus visit invitations, letters of encouragement and by telephone. The newly created Student Telecounseling Center is tied directly to the EMASPlus system. Each system initiated telephone call will be tracked and entered into the individual student record, creating a history of personal contact, and strengthening the relationship between the prospective student and Auburn. The use of this system will enable us to reach our recruitment goals for many years to come.

Telecounseling Center

The Auburn Telecounseling Center was recently established to aide in the recruitment of prospective students. The Center is staffed with current Auburn students who call prospective students to help them by answering any questions that they might have. In addition, the Telecounselors work to gather information about the students who are interested in Auburn, while giving each of the students a personal touch.

The results have been astounding! The large majority of the parents and prospective students are genuinely excited about hearing from Auburn and it is a very effective way of communicating news and information to future Auburn people.

Noel Levitz Consultation

The leading higher education consultant to enrollment managers, Noel-Levitz, recently visited Student Affairs to evaluate the admissions, financial aid, and scholarship processes at Auburn. Senior Consultant Kent Hopkins visited August 27 and 28 to conduct an “Enrollment Opportunities Analysis.”

Advisor Vacancy:

After several months, a search committee composed of four professional staff members and six student leaders hired Ms. Cynthia Mullinax to be the new Student Publications Advisor in Foy Student Union. Cindy holds two degrees from Florida State University and resides in Columbus, GA., with her husband Tony and daughter Cameron. Cindy topped the list of 34 applicants and four finalists and will begin working November 26 with the Glomerata, the Tiger Cub, the Auburn Circle, and the Miss Auburn University Scholarship Pageant. In addition Cindy will assist with Foy Student Leadership Programs, serve as Secretary to the Communications Board, and will direct marketing efforts for Foy Student Union.

“FoyYour Information”

This summer, Foy realized a major student need of more room at the Student Leader Board, the table and board that is in front of the entrance to the Foy administrative suite. We have purchased additional tables and boards and placed them in an area close to the current board and labeled it with a sign “Foy Your Information.” Now student groups will be able to use additional room for interview sign-ups and posting of flyers.

Auburn’s Response to Terrorism

1. Brown bag lunches (3) at Foy Exhibit Lounge with expert panel.
3. International Dinner, “From the Ashes... We Rebuild Together,” by SA and multiple student organizations. Raised $3,000.
5. Multi-faith town hall meeting at Langdon Hall sponsored by Muslim Student Organization and Auburn Ministerial Association.
6. Graduate Student Council’s “Relay for Relief,” Raised $3,495.
7. Alpha Phi Omega collected $5,500 on concourse and at candlelight vigil.
8. Student Affairs “Response to Terrorism” website.
CWE was a tremendous success this summer and continues to live up to its billing as one of the top programs of its kind in the country. Evaluations of the camp counselors and programming by both parents and students were exceptionally high once again this summer. Over 96% of the 3,673 participating freshmen evaluated the camp counselors, who are the core element of the program, as good and very good. Similarly, over 96% of parents gave high ratings for the camp as a whole. Mark Armstrong, Director of Freshman Year Experience, is hopeful that the orienting and counseling incoming freshmen received this summer will help them adapt more easily to college life and ultimately improve freshman retention and the overall welfare of Auburn students.

SOS Restructuring and Staffing

To better complement its Camp War Eagle summer orientation program for incoming freshmen, the Freshman Experience and Students in Transition Office has revamped its SOS, or Successfully Orienting Students, program. It is the hope of Director Charmoin Tatum and Graduate Assistant Ryan Jackson that the new SOS will give students who transfer to Auburn University or never attend Camp War Eagle an equal opportunity to adjust to Auburn and to learn about the various services and activities that are available to all Auburn students. There will be nine sessions during the academic year, and it is expected that 150 to 350 students will attend each one. Four student coordinators (Amy Leigh Bamberg, Steven Bobo, Kinsey Hansel, and Andy Redman) and 46 orientation leaders have been hired and are training to familiarize non-traditional new students with such issues as registration, involvement and campus geography. In addition, these transfer students now have the opportunity to meet with academic advisors, hear from Vice President for Student Affairs Wes Williams, and register for classes at the same time as currently enrolled students.

BSU and NPHC

This summer the Black Student Union and the National Pan-Hellenic Council has moved to the Student Affairs division from the Office of Multicultural Affairs. The move is one primarily administrative in nature; the offices for both organizations have long been in the union. Nicole Britton is serving as the advisor for both groups.
According to the Princeton Review’s The Best 331 Colleges, Auburn University ranks second nationally in “Extracurriculars: Everyone plays intramural sports.” Intramural sports have long been an integral part of the lives of many Auburn students, and Recreational Services takes pride in this recognition.

Each year, The Princeton Review surveys thousands of college students around the country and ranks the best 331 colleges and universities based on numerous aspects of college life from academics to administrative and quality of life rankings. Based on its interviews, The Princeton Review ranked Auburn second in one of its extracurriculars categories.

This past year Auburn had 13,730 participants in 13 intramural sports, including basketball, flag football, soccer, and track. The most popular team sport offered by Recreational Services is softball: 300 teams participated last spring and summer, and over 150 students were hired to officiate.

In addition, last year almost 400 students were active in numerous other sports clubs, including badminton, lacrosse, soccer, and rugby. These clubs compete against other schools and have been extremely successful. The Men’s Lacrosse Club won its conference tournament and qualified for the National tournament last season.

Because of its success, Recreational Services is well known by almost all university students. Recreational Services Director Ted Trupp stated, “If a student at Auburn is interested in sports participation they know about us.” Therefore, the need for special promotion is minimal; in fact, participation is so extensive that limits on the numbers of teams must be set “due to space and time considerations.”

Recreational Services is far from a static organization. When asked how difficult it is for a group of students to start a new sport on campus, Trupp said that requests are welcome at the Student Activities Center any time. Oftentimes a weekend tournament or other small-scale event is scheduled to judge actual student interest.

When asked what it takes to maintain a popular program that demands such national respect, Ted Trupp replied:

Please continue on page ten

Student Affairs Appreciation Picnic

On July 27, 2001 we all gathered at Greystone to celebrate the successes of Student Affairs. But, mainly we all just joined together to talk, share, and eat. Boy, did we eat!

Some of the pictures are on other pages of this edition along with those displayed here. Once again, thank you for all that you do.
This analysis took place to complement the work currently taking place and to recommend changes for improvement. Because Auburn is moving to an enrollment/recruiting model (like those used by smaller private colleges) featuring more personal service, Noel-Levitz made several recommendations.

Among the recommendations were the following: (1) complete the implementation of the telecounseling and communication plan begun this summer, (2) leverage all available scholarship dollars to achieve enrollment goals, and (3), conduct a financial aid leverage analysis to better understand how cost is influencing students’ enrollment decisions.

War Eagle Days

The primary goal of the Office of Admissions in sponsoring the major campus visitation days called War Eagle Day for high school juniors and seniors and their parents is to provide them the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge about Auburn’s academic and student life programs and experience the rich traditions of Auburn.

The Office of Admissions has completed the first five of nine programs. The number of students has ranged from 105 at the first WED to 151 at the Nov. 2nd date. The War Eagle Days have been extremely successful and well attended, with the past War Eagle Day exceeding maximum capacity. The word from many parents and students who have attended a War Eagle Day this year is that the program has been exceptional.

The Office of Admissions is dedicated to providing prospective students and their parents with a more personal experience during their campus visit to include, but not limited to, meetings with academic and student life representatives, campus tours, housing tours and other activities that enhance their understanding of Auburn.

Brown Bag Luncheons Series

A weekly series of brown bag luncheon seminars in the Foy Exhibit Lounge was held in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Students, faculty, and administrators were invited for debriefings on the economic, historical, and political ramifications of the events and to ask questions and share with other participants. Dr. Barry Burkhart of the psychology faculty moderated the proceedings, and a panel of distinguished AU faculty members representing departures including criminology and counseling also attended.

International Dinner Benefit

The theme for the evening of Sept. 27 was “From the Ashes... We Rebuild Together,” and the proceeds collected from this unique event to benefit rebuilding efforts in New York City exceeded $3,000. The dinner was especially successful considering the expediency with which it was planned. Approximately 700 students, faculty, and Student Life staff members attended the event. Attendance was so high that the food ran out as the Auburn community displayed its concern for the international community. Perhaps the greatest aspect of the effort, which Dr. Nancy McDaniel described as the “neatest” she had seen in years, was the diversity of the organizations that helped coordinate it. The International Student Organization, the Black Student Union, the Moslem Student Association, the Student Government Association, various other foreign student organizations, the Division of Student Affairs, and Foy Union all combined to make the benefit possible and brought a wide variety of foods to create a culturally enriching experience. Special recognition must be given to Nejla Orgen, Admissions and International advisor, for conceptualizing and giving vision to the fundraising dinner.

Efforts to raise support for terrorist victims have not been limited to the dinner. Alpha Phi Omega, Auburn’s only national service fraternity, set up tables on the concourse for two weeks and at the Candlelight vigil held Sept. 13 to raise almost $5,500 in relief for terrorist victims across the country.
Continued from page nine

Intramural Recognition

“Most importantly, it takes a university where participation in sports is important to the student body. From there you can find students who are dedicated to the program. Many of these students, who have had their own positive experiences in intramural sports, become the student staff that runs the activities on a daily basis. They are the student supervisors, student officials, and student trainers that make order out of chaos for the thousands of students who participate in intramural sports. They are the heart and soul of the Intramural Program at Auburn.”

Williams College (Williamsport, MA) a school with an enrollment of fewer than 2,000 students, placed first.

Continued from page six

Intramural Recognition

“Aubie Calendars

The limited edition 2002 calendar is here! The low cost of $5 per calendar remains. They go quick, so make plans to buy one and support the Aubie Fund (for new Aubie suits). They are great kid gifts and stocking stuffers at Christmas, not to mention a gift any AU fan would want.

Campus Security

In response to the four recently reported sexual assaults and three reported menacing incidents, Student Affairs has taken a number of significant steps to reduce the danger and educate the community about the problem. Students worked hard this past summer to assess safety on our campus by coordinating walks around campus to look for areas of concern (low lighting, lack of emergency call boxes, overgrown landscaping, etc.). Safe Harbor Women’s Center and Student Counseling Services have distributed informative posters, brochures, and cards across campus. Campus police has increased its patrols, hired additional officers, and offered demonstrations and classes in the Rape Aggression Defense program. Over a half million dollars is being spent to increase lighting, the number of emergency phones throughout campus, and the number of transit buses running at night. Lauren Bricken, the current Miss Auburn, is working with members of SGA and numerous other student organizations to secure additional funds from Concessions Board to construct even more lighting and emergency call boxes.

New Foy Web Page

Foy has a new look on its web page; please check it out. Some links are still being worked on, but for the most part it is done. We have added a “calendar” link, which provides the dates of Foy Student Union activities and events.

Dean Foy

Foy Student Union organized a tailgate morning of the Homecoming game. He turned 85 and many came out to wish him well. Different offices in Student Affairs provided several cakes and a large-scale birthday card were presented.

Do you like being “In Touch”?

We need your help to make the Student Affairs newsletter a publication that serves all members of the Student Affairs family.

Please consider contributing to In Touch.

We need articles and information pieces throughout Student Affairs. Your views are important. Please contact Pete (pepinpr@auburn.edu) or Van (musewiv@auburn.edu) to ask about submitting.

In Touch: The Student Affairs Newsletter