

# Outreach News

## Cook Recognized for Leadership, Promoted to Vice President

Recognizing his leadership and growth in University Outreach, **Royrickers Cook** was promoted to vice president in September. Cook assumed responsibility for the University Outreach division in 2006 as assistant vice president. Since then Auburn's outreach programming has increased steadily in scope, effectiveness and impact; University Outreach currently hosts eight offices and various initiatives across campus. Under Cook's leadership, Auburn has received a number of national awards and recognitions for its outreach programs, including the prestigious Carnegie Foundation Community Engagement designation.



## 2016 Brilliant Minds Tour in Auburn

In mid-July, CNN Hero Estella Pyfrom and her Brilliant Bus and Brilliant Minds Kids Tour visited the Auburn University campus as part of a program hosted by the Center for Educational Outreach and Engagement (CEOE), an office of Auburn's University Outreach division.



The 12-day tour traveled from South Florida to Jackson, Mississippi, giving students from underserved schools educational training and self-help experiences to empower them with life-long learning focusing on technology. Throughout the tour, students were engaged with area professionals and academics, learning computer coding and entrepreneurship.

While at Auburn University, students attended technology workshops and took a campus tour during their stay at the Hotel of Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center. In celebration of their commitment to educational improvement, there was a hosted dinner at

the Hotel with live music, dinner and dancing. Featured Auburn University speakers encouraged and inspired students to continue their pursuit of technology.

## Departmental Name Change

The K-12 Initiatives Office has been renamed the Center for Education Outreach and Engagement, representing the expansion of initiatives serving the educational community and promoting college access for underserved students in the state. CEOE is charged with expanding professional development and educational conferencing opportunities for school districts, coordinating K-12 oriented community partnerships and international projects, leveraging state and federal service exchanges, heading up the CEOE network and increasing Auburn's engagement in federal programs which promote college access to underserved students.

## Center of Educational Outreach Welcomes New Staff



**LaDonna Langley**



**Lena Fielder**

The Center for Educational Outreach and Engagement (CEOE) is pleased to announce the addition of two employees, **LaDonna Langley** and **Lena Fielder**. Langley joins the CEOE team to lead coordination of programs associated with GEAR UP grants on which Auburn University serves as co-principal investigators. She will coordinate the collaboration specifically with GEAR UP Birmingham City Schools. Lena Fielder joins the team as TSE Administrative Support and will assist with coordination of Outreach activities and administrative duties. Fielder is a graduate assistant for CEOE and will pursue her doctorate in adult education from Auburn University.