



AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY OUTREACH

# Excellence in Faculty Outreach

2013 FACULTY AWARD RECIPIENT  
*Francesca Adler-Baeder Recognized  
for Building Stronger Families*

beyond  
AUBURN



## ON THE COVER

2013 Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach recipient  
- Francesca Adler-Baeder

-----

**Beyond Auburn** is published by Auburn University twice per year as a joint project of the Office of the Vice President for University Outreach and the Office of Communications and Marketing.

### Royrickers Cook, PhD

Assistant Vice President for University Outreach

-----

#### Publication team:

Ralph S. Foster, director, Office of Public Service

Carol Nelson, writer, editor

Mike Clardy, editor

Kevin Loden, editor

Joyce Thomas-Vinson, writer, editor

Christopher T. Patterson, assistant editor

Janie Echols-Brown, graphic design

#### Contributors and sources:

Auburn Daily Reports, Office of Communications and Marketing

Carla Bell, College of Architecture, Design, and Construction

Paulette Dilworth,

Asst. Vice President of Access and Community Initiatives

John Freeze and James Birdsong,

Office of Professional and Continuing Education

Laura Hill, Encyclopedia of Alabama

Sidney James, Kim Walker, and Kelsey Hayes,

College of Human Sciences

Lindsay Miles, Samuel Ginn College of Engineering

Joe Sumners and Amelia Stehouwer,

Economic and Community Development Institute

Linda Shook, director, OLLI at Auburn

Chippewa Thomas, Faculty Engagement

Neali Vann, Office of Communications and Marketing

Don-Terry Veal and Maria Tamblyn,

Center for Governmental Services

Amy Weaver, Kevin Loden, Charles Martin, Neali Vann

Office of Communications and Marketing

Mark Wilson, College of Liberal Arts

#### Additional photography:

AU Photographic Services

Tanisha Stephens, [www.intownimagery.com](http://www.intownimagery.com)

Wendy Reed

Katey Nelson

Talia Arevalo

[istockphoto.com](http://istockphoto.com)

-----

Submit news items and story ideas to Joyce Thomas-Vinson, Office of Public Service, (334) 844-5117, [thomaj5@auburn.edu](mailto:thomaj5@auburn.edu). For more information regarding Outreach, contact Ralph S. Foster, Office of Public Service, (334) 844-4730, [fosters@auburn.edu](mailto:fosters@auburn.edu) or visit [www.auburn.edu/outreach](http://www.auburn.edu/outreach).

**Auburn University**  
Office of the Vice President for University Outreach  
213 Samford Hall  
Auburn, Alabama 36849  
(334) 844-5700

All rights reserved by Auburn University © 2013. Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.



Carnegie Foundation Classification for  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
Curricular Engagement and Outreach and Partnerships



# President's message

As readers of *Beyond Auburn*, you are well aware of Auburn's emphasis on the importance of community outreach programs and partnerships. You've read about our presence in Uganda, where the Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures' work has been to jump-start commercial aquaculture by establishing a sustainable aquaculture industry from the ground up on proven, feed-based technologies and best management practices for viable commercial production of Nile tilapia and clarias catfish.

Social responsibility—the desire to contribute where needed—is a concept also firmly held across Auburn's campus by the many students who bear witness that such interaction benefits everyone involved.

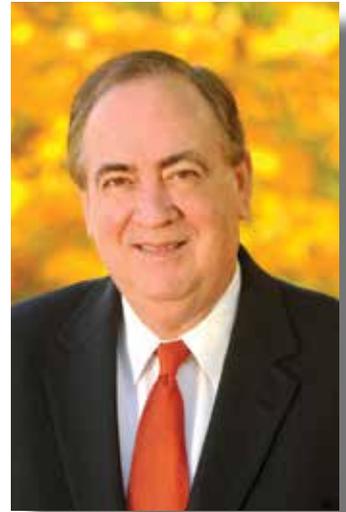
Let me give you three examples.

Marian Royston's Roanoke, Ala., upbringing helped fuel her strong sense of community. Through her involvement in the College of Liberal Arts, Marian mentors young people with the Macon Youth Development Initiative in Macon County, Ala. She has also participated in the Appalachian Community Development Alternative Spring Break, in which she helped transcribe mountain dialect for an oral history project. She is traveling to Northern Ireland this year as one of only 12 U.S. students selected for a prestigious Mitchell Scholarship. As Auburn's first recipient, Royston will pursue a master's degree in leadership for sustainable rural development at Queens University of Belfast.

Auburn University students spent their annual 2012 spring break working together as part of the second House United project, assisting with the construction of two Habitat for Humanity homes. Auburn students already actively participate in Habitat projects all over the country, but wanted to expand their efforts to impact as many Alabama residents as possible. Outreach contacted colleagues at the University of Alabama Community Service Center to see how they could work together, resulting in the formation of House United.

This year, Auburn students partnered with PGA and former Auburn golfer Jason Dufner and his wife Amanda to feed hungry children in Lee County, Ala. The Dufners chose hunger as one of their foundation's major causes and discovered Blessings in a Backpack, a national program that targets childhood hunger.

I find it inspiring that it doesn't take Auburn students much time to find their role in the outreach mission. As you will notice in this issue, our students have found many innovative ways for students and their faculty mentors to engage in service activities locally, regionally, and even internationally.



War Eagle,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay Gogue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Gogue".

JAY GOGUE  
PRESIDENT  
AUBURN UNIVERSITY

# Auburn University Outreach

## Setting Our Priorities

In the strategic planning report presented to the Auburn Board of Trustees in June of this year, the preamble for Priority 4 stated that “we will become a national model of public engagement by elevating Alabama’s economy and quality of life.” Already, Auburn stands as a national model of engagement in several ways. We are one of just over 100 institutions in the United States organized as a land-grant university with a dedicated outreach and extension mission. We are one of just over 300 institutions to receive the prestigious Carnegie Foundation “engaged” institutional designation. And we are recognized by the president of the United States on the national public service honor roll with distinction.

This semester, Auburn began implementation of its exciting new strategic plan for 2013-2018. The plan itself is a bold restatement of our core institutional values, while challenging us to increase the quality, scope, and reach as a land-grant university. Several components of the strategic plan are of major importance to our outreach, extension, and public service efforts.

For example, the plan states that Auburn remains committed to the core value of “serving as a resource for the citizens of Alabama.” This underscores that outreach and extension work is not an auxiliary function, but a key component of our institutional mission. Thus, a value for engagement and service is infused into all elements of the university’s strategic direction for the future.

The strategic plan not only values outreach, but it also makes enhancing our public engagement a priority. Strategic Priority 4 states that the university will “increase its educational programs for Alabama residents across their lifespans, honoring its land-grant role as a campus without borders.” The plan particularly encourages increasing the engagement of our students, faculty and alumni, and expanded delivery of program services to underserved communities in our state. Overall, this is a challenging and ambitious goal.

We are positioned to meet the challenge of our 2013-2018 strategic plan and take advantage of all the opportunities to serve our state comprehensively.

In this edition of *Beyond Auburn*, we highlight the exemplary work of Professor Francesca Adler-Baeder, the

recipient of the 2013 Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach. Dr. Adler-Baeder developed and leads an outstanding engagement initiative centered on building healthy, stable couple and coparenting relationships – the Alabama Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Initiative. I congratulate her on this great achievement.

As we enter 2014, we celebrate two great anniversaries for Auburn University. This year is the 50th anniversary of the integration of Auburn, and we are proud to be a sponsor of the commemoration of the people and events that helped make the university truly accessible to all people. It is also the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, which established the national Cooperative Extension system of which Auburn is a proud partner. As we enter the new year, we look forward to working with each of you. Join us in ***making a difference!***

War Eagle,



**ROYRICKERS COOK**  
**ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT**  
**FOR UNIVERSITY OUTREACH**  
**AUBURN UNIVERSITY**





# beyond AUBURN

FALL 2013

## FEATURES

### **Excellence in Faculty Outreach..... 6**

Professor Honored for Outreach to Build Stronger Families



### **Making a Difference**

A Summer Internship with American War Memorials Overseas ..... **12**

Innovative CADC Outreach Programs Making a Difference in Minority Recruitment ..... **28**

### **Beyond Auburn**

Destination Africa: Malawi 2013 Outreach Education Study Abroad Program..... **36**

Italy Program Immerses Students in Country's History, Culture with Lectures and Field Trips ..... **37**

### **Partnerships**

Auburn Teams with Wallace State in New Poultry Science Program ..... **16**

Office of Professional and Continuing Education Expands Professional Development Programs ..... **18**

Veterans and Auburn Students Collaborate on Assistive Technology ..... **31**

### **Student Engagement**

Auburn Students Provide Medical, Building Science Skills in Ecuador and Develop a Passion for Service to Others ..... **10**

Student Audrey Ross Named Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow ..... **23**

### **Addressing Issues**

Auburn University Launches Distance and Continuing Education Program Website..... **11**

ECDI and Extension Provide Broadband Training throughout Alabama ..... **26**

## CAMPUS TO COMMUNITY

### **FOCUS ON SUMMER CAMPS**

Record Participation in Auburn University Summer Experience Programs ..... **19**

### **50 YEARS OF INTEGRATION**

Auburn University Commemorating 50 Years of Integration in Yearlong Celebration ..... **20**

### **MENTORING**

Women's Philanthropy Board Event Opens Auburn's Commemoration of 50 Years of Integration ..... **21**

### **SERVICE LEARNING**

Auburn University to Host National Conference on Service-Learning ..... **22**

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

CGS Holds Conference on Workforce Development for the State of Alabama ..... **25**

## IN EVERY ISSUE

### **AUBURN UNIVERSITY OUTREACH**

Message from the Office of the Vice President ..... **4**

### **FOCUS ON SENIORS**

OLLI at Auburn Receives Wilford S. Bailey Award from Auburn University Retiree Association ..... **14**

### **OUT AND ABOUT ..... 33**

Outreach News



# Excellence in Faculty Outreach

## *Professor Honored for Outreach to Build Stronger Families*

Francesca Adler-Baeder embodied the mission of a land-grant institution long before she came to Auburn University.

Adler-Baeder said she first learned about “valuing hard work dedicated to a larger purpose” from her parents – a father who served in the U.S. Army for 30 years and a mother who provided selfless support to her husband and family.

She has devoted her life to community education and family science research since earning two degrees in human development and family studies from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

“My career beginnings were in delivering programs and family services for families under stress, so as I began my graduate and academic work, it was only natural that my teaching and research interests would be informed by my experiences in application and extension,” Adler-Baeder said. “In truth, outreach has been the central element of my scholarly focus since the day I set foot on Auburn’s campus.”

A member of the faculty of Auburn’s Department of Human Development and Family Studies in the College of Human Sciences since 2001, Adler-Baeder said she believes teaching, research and outreach are fundamentally intertwined.



Pictured (left to right front row): Alyssa McElwain; Kate Taylor Harcourt; Emily Leonard; Julianne McGill; (left to right middle row): Amia Landers; Rachel Savasuk; Leah Albers; Dr. Francesca Adler-Baeder; Allison Mangone; (left to right back row): Teresa Wagoner; Dr. Tom Smith; Sandy Morrison; Rachel Parham; Dr. Chelsea Garneau; Dr. Scott Ketring; Adrienne Brown; Roberta Jackel.

“It should all be moving our communities forward towards enhanced quality of life,” she said. “I believe in the adage that knowledge is power, that information is liberating and that good information should not be contained only in the halls and classrooms of formal institutions.”

Auburn selected Adler-Baeder, a professor and Extension specialist, to receive the 2013 Faculty Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach, which honors the engagement of exemplary faculty members and demonstrates the tremendous impact outreach has on the community, state, and nation.

Adler-Baeder may be best known for championing the creation of the Alabama Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Initiative in 2002, a partnership of Auburn, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, a state agency consortium, and the Alabama Network of Family Resource Centers.

“Outreach truly is Auburn’s connection to our public, and faculty engagement is the heart of that strategic commitment,” said Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for university outreach. “Dr. Adler-Baeder’s Alabama Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Initiative is a model for engaged scholarship. Her work has produced an impressive body of research and significant community impact demonstrating that healthy, stable family environments benefit the wellness of children and their parents, as well as the quality and sustainability of the communities in which they live.”

The initiative is designed to address Alabama’s persistent history of marital and family instability and its negative consequences on individual and community health and well-being by providing educational resources

and community classes on healthy relationships for youth and adults.

“We have decades of social science research on healthy relationships and enough solid information on teachable relationship skills that shouldn’t remain ‘secret,’” Adler-Baeder said. “Our staff, students, and community educators understand that our outreach initiative is about ‘taking the classroom to the people’ and promoting access to education about healthy relationships, particularly for more vulnerable and low-resource populations of teens and adults in Alabama. From research, we know that relational health is linked to all dimensions of health and well-being at the individual, family, and community levels; therefore, I feel an urgency to extend useful knowledge about healthy relationships to as many citizens as we can.”

The Alabama Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education Initiative came together at a time when, historically, there had not been any efforts to systematically implement a widespread relationship education program for a broad target population of youth and adults. In addition, there was limited evaluation research to inform models of best practices, particularly for more diverse populations.

Adler-Baeder worked with several Extension agents and Department of Human Development and Family Studies faculty, a small group of interested students, and a few state-level partners.

“We took several years to build an infrastructure of connections with existing, community-based organizations; to build capacity within Extension and these agencies to implement classes; and to establish trusting personal relationships,” she said. “Shared



ownership resulted from taking an engaged, participatory approach that honors the input of everyone at the table. Securing competitive federal funding allowed us to scale up our outreach. We now work as a diverse university-community team to implement, evaluate, and refine our efforts. It is an iterative, dynamic process. We have enormously rich data and now work equally hard to both implement the programs and generate the scholarly output of publications and presentations that serve to inform others' efforts in this area."

The initiative has become one of the nation's most successful projects on promoting and strengthening stable relationships and positive family functioning, evidenced by an extensive evaluation study.

Adler-Baeder also credits her dedicated staff, co-project directors, and students, as well as the more than 30,000 youth and adults throughout Alabama who have participated in the educational programs over the past decade and provided feedback and evidence of effectiveness.

"To see the achievements and contributions of all these individuals recognized and honored is incredibly meaningful," she said.

Over the last decade, hundreds of undergraduate and more than 50 graduate students have participated in the initiative since its beginning. Several doctoral program graduates are now faculty members and have begun similar work in the states in which they are working.

"There are many aspects to our healthy relationships initiative, and I love observing when a student finds their niche – the place they feel they can have an impact," Adler-Baeder said. "For one student, it was implementing relationship classes for teens, for another it's working with incarcerated populations; for another, working with Head Start parents and teachers is a passion. Young adulthood is a wonderful time in development when feeling like you can matter in someone's life brings out an amazing energy and enthusiasm and creative flow that are contagious."

Beyond her roles at Auburn, Adler-Baeder serves as the director of the National Extension Relationship and Marriage Education Network and the National Stepfamily Resource Center, and on the advisory board of the Military Family Research Institute. She has given more than 150 presentations at conferences and meetings and has more than 50 academic publications.

In 2009, Adler-Baeder and a community partner were invited to participate as one of only five speakers for a White House Roundtable on Innovative Community Partnerships.

She noted that the White House Roundtable provided an opportunity to share information about the land-grant institution mission and its vital responsibility for promoting access to research-based information that promotes quality of life in our communities. "It was a pinnacle moment to have the national spotlight on an Auburn homegrown initiative," she said.



# Auburn Students Provide Medical, Building Science Skills in Ecuador and Develop a Passion for Service to Others

In the School of Nursing, spring break is anything but typical.

For the past eight years, it's been a time for students to practice skills learned in the classroom, help a community that lacks adequate health care, and develop a passion for service to others.

Associate Professor Kathy Jo Ellison said she believes the opportunity to take students to Quito, Ecuador, is a way to meet the university's mission of outreach and service to the world.

"This gives students the chance to see they have talent that can be used to serve people who are in need, and they have a chance to give back to this world," she said. "There's nothing I do in life that brings all aspects of who I am together as much as this trip."

For student Jordan Cox, the experience solidified her plans to be a nurse in remote locations where resources are limited. Caroline Dulaney had been to Ecuador before and worked with Servants in Faith and Technology, or SIFAT, before, but this trip was transformational for every student.

"You come to help but really they're the ones that end up blessing you," said Dulaney. "It's definitely one of those experiences that once you go home, you want to come back. You want to keep serving and you want to keep helping."

Without technology at her fingertips, Cox said she was challenged to take what she learned in class at Auburn and rely solely on her assessment skills to make a diagnosis.

"This goes far beyond anything they can just teach us in a classroom setting," she said.

The students from Auburn's Harrison School of Pharmacy faced the same challenge.

"In the United States we have the availability of lots of medications," said Dr. Suzanne Graham-Hooker, a staff physician at the Auburn University Medical Clinic. "Here, we actually have to think about how we are going to treat patients without all of those medicines."

Pharmacy student John Cox said the pharmacists played a critical role at the clinic with the nursing students. They had to determine what available medication could be used for a diagnosis, and then counsel the patient, a critical skill stressed in the Harrison School of Pharmacy.

Since 2010, Professor Scott Kramer and Associate Professor Ben Farrow, from the McWhorter School of Building Science in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction, have brought students to Quito as part of an international service-learning class. The students have helped build churches that also serve as after-school facilities.

Paul Telehany said mixing mortar and throwing blocks up by hand was enjoyable, but the best part of the experience was realizing the final product will serve a purpose for years to come.

"When you look at the walls, you can see the kids. You can see their faces. You're building it for them," he said. "I'm very grateful and I think it's a blessing I had the opportunity to be here."



Auburn nursing student Jordan Cox provides care to a young Ecuadorian woman during spring break.

# Auburn University Launches Distance and Continuing Education Program Website

Auburn University has created a comprehensive, online resource for distance and continuing education programs to give current and potential students convenient access to information about educational opportunities across campus.

The website, [www.auburn.edu/online](http://www.auburn.edu/online), pulls together in one location all distance and continuing education programs in undergraduate, graduate, professional, and personal enrichment. A list of available resources and additional information can be found at the website.

“The delivery of Auburn’s eLearning programs and course offerings is an essential part of our land-grant mission and supports our ability to provide educational opportunities to the citizens of Alabama who can’t come to campus,” said Auburn University Provost Timothy Boosinger. “It is essential that our traditional and non-traditional students are able to access Auburn University’s online offerings in a way that is simple and direct and that showcases the distinct features and unique capabilities of our programs.”

The website will allow individuals to expand personal knowledge, advance career skills or earn a college degree.

“Online courses are becoming a big part of education worldwide, and Auburn is getting a lot of attention about providing online courses,” said Greg Ruff, director of engineering outreach and continuing education. “The addition of an uncomplicated web method to reach Auburn’s online offerings will go a long way toward satisfying potential student inquiries about our courses and degrees.”

Auburn University’s online master of education degree program was recently ranked first in the nation by [TheBestSchools.org](http://TheBestSchools.org).



# A Summer Internship with American War Memorials Overseas

From May through July 2013, Community and Civic Engagement alumna Kelsey Hayes lived just outside Paris where she worked with the nonprofit corporation American War Memorials Overseas. The mission of AWMO is to document, promote, and preserve non-government supported war memorials honoring American military involvement abroad. For Hayes, a recent Auburn anthropology graduate with a career interest in war museums and memorials, the chance to work with AWMO was the opportunity of a lifetime.

While in France, she lived with retired U.S. Army Major Lillian Pfluke, the founder of AWMO, and her family. Under Pfluke's supervision, Hayes researched a number of new additions to the war memorial database from sites across Europe, Asia, and the Pacific. The memorials were diverse, honoring members of each branch of the military and commemorating service in every war which saw American military engagement.

Much of her work consisted of adding new memorial entries to the online database, which involved locating the memorial using Google Earth, working out a translation of its text – primarily from French, although Dutch, German, and Italian inscriptions were not uncommon – and researching names listed on the monuments.

“I really enjoyed hunting for the memorials,” Hayes said. “I went off clues most of the time. Some [memorials] were in the middle of nowhere on unmarked roads; some were in these tiny villages where it was difficult to get clear pictures. It felt like a scavenger hunt.”

The thrill of locating and recording – or “bagging” as Hayes termed the process – a new memorial was heightened by the memorials' obvious historic significance, as well as the unique stories and memories surrounding each one.

Hayes said one of her favorite sites was in the tiny village of Murville, France, where a monument featured the image of two WWI-era American aviators being shot



down above the town. Despite the somewhat morbid imagery, the memorial itself is a unique reminder of the sacrifice made by the two airmen depicted, lieutenants Harry Campbell Preston and Philip Newbold Rhinelander, and it stands as a testament to the gratitude of the town itself.

“It was like the town had adopted these two guys as their own. They are a part of the community, and in many places individual Americans are listed among locals on town war memorials,” Hayes said. “It seemed like every village in France had its American war heroes and stories, and it is important that we keep their memories alive... for the fallen soldiers, of course, but also for the communities themselves.”

While many of the memorials are well-maintained, some have been neglected mostly due to a lack of resources. By making a record of these memorial sites, AWMO is helping communities manage and maintain their local histories where larger bodies such as the United States government do not have the authority to work.

The organization already has facilitated a number of successful monument restorations, and it has garnered a

growing amount of support and interest in the memorials at local levels while fostering international cooperation and friendship.

Hayes was able to witness and take part in the work firsthand, traveling to dozens of sites and cemeteries across the Normandy, Picardy, Champagne, and Lorraine regions of northern France. She participated in Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Lafayette Escadrille Memorial in Marnes-la-Coquette and the Lorraine American Cemetery in Saint-Avold and accompanied Pfluke to several other events, exhibitions, and tours related to the AWMO mission.

“Being welcomed into towns by people who were so excited about what we were doing was really special,” Hayes said. “There were many times this summer when I was moved to tears over the work I was doing and the ways people reacted to our mission. That’s how I knew this organization was doing something good, something I was honored to be a part of.”

When not busy with internship-related activities, Hayes said she was able to fully enjoy Paris and other parts of Europe. Afternoons at the French Open and Bastille Day parade in Paris, a trip to Monet’s house at Giverny, a weekend getaway to Bruges, Belgium, and a solo backpacking trip through parts of Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Liechtenstein were among the highlights of her summer.

“This was an unbelievable summer and I definitely encourage any Auburn student to consider taking an internship with AWMO,” said Hayes. “It was one of the most exciting, fulfilling opportunities I have ever had.”

For more information about AWMO, visit [www.uswarmemorials.org](http://www.uswarmemorials.org) or find them on Facebook. For more about Auburn University’s Community and Civic Engagement internships abroad opportunities, contact Giovanna Summerfield at [summegi@auburn.edu](mailto:summegi@auburn.edu).



Alabama Association of  
**Habitat for Humanity**  
Affiliates

## December 15-18

**This holiday season you can help give a family the ultimate gift. Join students from both schools for this House United Building Project.**

The cost for the project is \$80 per person which covers transportation, housing, meals, extracurricular activities and a t-shirt. For additional information, contact Joyce Thomas-Vinson, [thomaj5@auburn.edu](mailto:thomaj5@auburn.edu) or 844-5117.

# [www.auburn.edu/outreach/habitat](http://www.auburn.edu/outreach/habitat)

*A partnership between Habitat for Humanity, the University of Alabama, and Auburn University.*

*Auburn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employer.*

# OLLI at Auburn Receives Wilford S. Bailey Award from Auburn University Retiree Association

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Auburn University has been named the recipient of the Wilford S. Bailey Award by the president of the Board of Directors of the Auburn University Retiree Association. The award was established in recognition of the pioneering work of Wilford S. Bailey who recognized the need for an organization to advocate on behalf of retirees in an effort to protect their benefits.

In announcing the selection of OLLI at Auburn as recipient of the award, Larry Mullins, board president for AURA said, "The AURA Board of Directors recognizes OLLI for its contributions to the society and welfare of retirees of the educational community, whose character reflects the ideals and standards exemplified by Dr. Bailey. OLLI at Auburn is recognized for its outstanding and ongoing contribution to the retirees of the Auburn University community."



From left: Richard Robinson OLLI immediate past president, Yvonne Kozlowski OLLI president, and Sonny Dawsey OLLI board member.

# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE *at* AUBURN

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY



Accepting the award for OLLI at Auburn was Richard Robinson, immediate past president of the institute.

“As we work day-by-day, doing something we believe in, working

on opportunities to improve on what we are doing, we sometimes lose sight of the big picture,” Robinson said. “The Wilford S. Bailey Award definitely makes us realize that what we are doing really does make a difference to a great number of retirees in the Auburn community. It rejuvenates us and renews our sense of purpose.”

Linda Shook, director of OLLI at Auburn, echoed Robinson’s comments.

“OLLI at Auburn is honored to be selected for the Wilford S. Bailey Award,” she said. “The list of former recipients is quite impressive, and I am humbled and honored that OLLI at Auburn also has been presented with this award, which recognizes our program’s commitment to lifelong learning and, more specifically, to providing activities that benefit educational community retirees.”

Previous honorees include: the Auburn University Athletic Department, Wayne Teague, Governor Albert P. Brewer, former Alabama House Speaker Seth Hammett, Harry M. Philpot, Senator Henry “Hank” Sanders, Paul Hubbert, and David Bronner.

The Auburn University Academy for Lifelong Learners, or AUALL, was formed in 1990. For 17 years, AUALL offered stimulating peer-led classes, under the leadership of Mary Burkhart, the program’s founding director. In 2007, AUALL received funding from the Bernard Osher Foundation and changed its name to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Auburn University. The foundation assists programs for those interested in

learning for the joy of learning. In 2010, OLLI at Auburn was endowed by the Osher Foundation.

Each year OLLI at Auburn offers more than 150 courses, lectures, and workshops for more than 600 members. For more information, contact Linda Shook, OLLI at Auburn director at (334)844-3105 or [olli@auburn.edu](mailto:olli@auburn.edu). Visit the OLLI at Auburn website for details about programs and events at [www.olliatauburn.org](http://www.olliatauburn.org). OLLI at Auburn is a program in the Office of the Vice President for University Outreach at Auburn University.



# Auburn Teams with Wallace State in New Poultry Science Program

Poultry, Alabama's most profitable agricultural industry, is the focus of a new 2+2 educational partnership between Auburn University and Wallace State Community College in Hanceville. The partnership is designed to open more career doors in a part of the state where much of the poultry industry is concentrated.

Students in the program will complete their freshman and sophomore years at Wallace State and their junior and senior years at Auburn, graduating with a bachelor's degree in poultry science.

"This is an excellent opportunity not only for Auburn and for Wallace State but for the state of Alabama," said Bill Batchelor, dean of Auburn's College of Agriculture. "Poultry is our state's leading agricultural resource, and it's an industry offering excellent career paths for students. We're grateful to our friends at Wallace State for helping make this partnership possible."

The poultry industry in Alabama generates more than \$3.1 billion each year and accounts for more than 65 percent of the state's annual farming revenues.

Wallace State President Vicki Hawsey said the college values the new partnership with Auburn.

"It recognizes the strength of our poultry industry in Cullman County and surrounding counties and provides a ringing endorsement of the outstanding education Wallace State offers," Hawsey said. "There is growing demand around the world for our state's expertise in this area, and together with Auburn, we are pleased to now produce graduates to meet those demands."

Hawsey credits Fred Cespedes, recently retired vice president of American Proteins and Wallace State Future Foundation Board member, with helping spearhead the partnership. Cespedes and wife Holly have established a scholarship fund for Wallace State students interested in entering the field.

"As important as poultry is to our area, it has made sense to me for a long time that Wallace State should have this program and that a partnership with Auburn would be a proverbial 'match made in heaven' - a win for both institutions," Cespedes said.

Cespedes helped Hawsey enlist industry support for such a program and garnered endorsements from



The new 2+2 poultry science partnership between Auburn University and Wallace State Community College in Hanceville will benefit college students in Cullman and surrounding counties who are interested in careers in the poultry industry and will benefit the industry as well.

industry leaders, including Randall Ennis, CEO of Huntsville-based Aviagen, the world's premier poultry breeding company; Ricky Walker, complex manager of Tyson Foods Inc.'s Alabama operations; Bill Ingram, president of Golden Rod/Ingram Farms; and Jason Spann, general manager of the Hanceville division of American Proteins, the largest poultry rendering complex in the world.

While traditional careers in poultry production and management remain important, poultry science graduates have a variety of career options, including jobs in sales, food science, nutrition, veterinary support, quality assurance/meat quality, feed milling, quantitative genetics, and genomics.

The high demand for highly trained producers, scientists, and business leaders in the industry is evident in Auburn's Department of Poultry Science, which has held a 100 percent job-placement rate of its graduates for several years, department head Don Conner said.

While at Wallace State, students enrolled in the 2+2 partnership program will complete their core curriculum as well as an introductory agriculture course that will be streamed live from the Auburn campus. Students also could have access to early internship experiences with local poultry companies. Conner said internships can help students decide which aspect of poultry science they want to specialize in upon graduation.

For enrollment information, contact the Wallace State Office of Admissions at (256)352-8238 or [lioncentral@wallacestate.edu](mailto:lioncentral@wallacestate.edu), or the Auburn Department of Poultry Science at (334)844-2881 or [plastcr@auburn.edu](mailto:plastcr@auburn.edu).



From May 6-14 this summer, six doctoral students in the College of Education's Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation and Counseling traveled to Korea University, in Seoul, South Korea, to take a special topics graduate course, Global Studies & Research in Education and Counseling. The course was taught by Sang Min Lee in the Department of Education at Korea University, in collaboration with Suhyun Suh, of SERC at Auburn. Randy Pipes, also from SERC, assisted Suhyun Suh and served as educational facilitator. Shown with the Auburn students, far right Randy Pipes and Suhyun Suh, with Outreach's Royrickers Cook; also shown, far left, CGS director Don-Terry Veal. Pictured with graduate students from the College of Education - Serey Bright, Juliana Groves-Radomski, Samantha Booker, Sadi Fox, Kori Hansing and Veronica Crawford (back).

# Office of Professional and Continuing Education Expands Professional Development Programs

Over the last several years, the Office of Professional and Continuing Education has sought to expand existing professional development training programs to enhance the skills and workforce readiness of workers in the state, region, and nation. The unit has undertaken several new initiatives, including the offering of quarterly leadership trainings and e-learning certificate programs, as well as the expansion of existing programs under the umbrella of the Accounting and Tax Training Institute.

Building on the success of previously offered leadership programs, such as the Glenn Shepard Leadership Seminar, which has been offered locally for 17 years, OPCE is launching a new quarterly leadership training series. The series will focus on a variety of leadership topics including employee engagement, establishing an organizational vision, communication skills, and leading by example. As the programs grow, an expansion plan is in development to take this type of programming to population and economic centers across the state. One facet of the expansion plan is to explore relationships with the Auburn Alumni Association in order to provide greater access to professional and continuing education opportunities for Auburn alumni. Another facet of the expansion plan is to build a series of related short-course webinars that focus on leadership, management, and supervisory skills.

In addition to new leadership programs, OPCE is actively engaged in the development and delivery of a variety of new e-learning certificate programs. Through collaborations with campus partners and third-party vendors, OPCE is experiencing considerable success by offering programs online to a wide variety of audiences. Although available to anyone, military spouses make up one segment of the population that is benefitting greatly. Through special funding opportunities, made possible by the federal government, military spouses are able to participate in e-learning programs that prepare them for high-demand careers. One stipulation for their participation in these programs is that the program must be conducted online so it can be completed from

anywhere in the world. By offering e-learning programs, OPCE is strengthening the Auburn University brand and extending the university far beyond its traditional service area.

Recently, OPCE's Accounting and Tax Training Institute, which has traditionally served Alabama tax preparers through seminars and workshops, began offering two-day seminars for tax preparers in Florida, Arkansas, and Nevada. The expansion of the programs into new areas has been well-received, and over the course of a couple of years they have cultivated a loyal out-of-state following. In addition to the two-day seminars, the institute expanded offerings of one-day workshops on a variety of topics relevant to tax preparers. The one-day programs are designed to provide participants with in-depth training in selected topics and through smaller class sizes to offer more one-on-one time with instructors. The successful growth and expansion of the programs reinforces the need for high-quality advanced professional training to meet the fast-paced changes occurring in our society.

OPCE is continually looking for ways to better serve the citizens of Alabama and beyond, which is not only the very core of its organizational mission, but also directly supports initiatives within Auburn University's Strategic Plan. To learn more about the Office of Professional and Continuing Education, visit [www.auburn.edu/opce](http://www.auburn.edu/opce) or contact Hope Stockton, director of OPCE, at [hope.stockton@auburn.edu](mailto:hope.stockton@auburn.edu).

# Record Participation in Auburn University Summer Experience Programs

Auburn University's Summer Experience programs had another record-setting year for residential academic camps held in 2013, with 637 campers visiting Auburn's campus, a 20 percent increase over the previous year. Participants in the camps traveled from 28 states and territories, including some from as far away as Washington, New Hampshire, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Summer Experience residential camps are managed by the Office of Professional and Continuing Education in partnership with academic departments across campus. This year's camp programs included Veterinary Camp, Design Workshop, Building Construction, Architecture, TIGERS Engineering, Fish Camp, World Affairs Youth Seminar, Musical Theater, Creative Writing Studio, Digital Forensics, and Project Design Week, as well as several new camps such as the Black Belt Legacy Foundation Camp, Macon County Citizens Camp, Strings and Chamber Music Camp, and Women in Engineering Camp.

Auburn University also hosted more than 2,000 campers in 11 client camps, which included programs for cheer and dance teams, lacrosse teams and a clinic for band front auxiliary squads. Instruction for the programs is provided by external clients and is supported by Auburn University summer camp staff comprised of student workers hired to work during the summer months. In addition to the instructional camps, Auburn hosted 128 Boy Scouts from the Bay Area Council of Galveston, Texas, as they traveled across the country to the 2013 National Jamboree.

Due to continued growth in numbers of participants and the addition of several new camp programs, there were a

number of changes made to the way in which camps at Auburn are facilitated. The most notable changes were the relocation of dining for campers to the new Village dining facility and the utilization of the Village dormitories, on a trial basis, for cheer and dance camps. The changes received outstanding feedback from camp participants.

The Office of Professional and Continuing Education already is looking ahead to 2014 with plans to add additional camp programs. Anyone with an idea for a summer youth program should contact the Office of Professional and Continuing Education to discuss the idea in more detail and explore ways to further enhance Auburn University's summer outreach programs. For more information on Auburn University's Summer Experience programs, contact James Birdsong at [james.birdsong@auburn.edu](mailto:james.birdsong@auburn.edu).



# 50 years of integration

## ENRICHING THE AUBURN FAMILY

# Commemorating 50 Years of Integration at Auburn University

Nearly 50 years ago, Harold Franklin arrived on campus to register for classes in the graduate school and became the first African-American student to enroll at Auburn University.

Other young men and women followed: Anthony Lee and Willie Wyatt Jr. came to Auburn as the first African-American undergraduate students in the fall of 1964, after playing an instrumental role in integrating Macon County schools as high school students; Josselyn Brittain Mathews was the first African-American student to receive a graduate degree from Auburn in 1966; Henry Harris, a basketball player, was Auburn's and the Southeastern Conference's first African-American scholarship athlete in 1968.

Over the next 14 months, Auburn is celebrating these and other individuals who were involved in the integration of the university through a yearlong commemoration that includes performances, programs, lectures and other events organizers say offer something of interest to everyone.

The celebration officially kicked off in October with the Women's Philanthropy Board's fall colloquium and luncheon featuring Thom Gossom Jr., the first African-American athlete to graduate from Auburn University and his wife, educator and entrepreneur, Joyce Gillie Gossom, along with Marybeth Gasman, director of the Center on Minority Serving Institutions at the University of Pennsylvania.

"Our history is our history, and I never back away from our history," said Gossom, who also is co-chair of the commemoration planning committee. "It doesn't mean that it's all positive. Sometimes you have to go through some things to learn what you should do and what you shouldn't do, but a large part of commemorating our history is to make sure we get the next 50 years right. That's why we look back because we want to be able to go forward as a global university."

"During the time the planning committee was meeting and we were talking about what the kickoff might be, I was looking for an opportunity that would provide a means for as many people as possible to be involved and the Women's Philanthropy Board fall luncheon provided that platform," said Paulette Dilworth, assistant vice

president for access and community initiatives in the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs. "There was a cross section of people from the institution and from the community, and that was the kind of audience I thought it was important to have because the commemoration is not just an initiative of my office or of one particular unit, but it is an Auburn University event."



Dilworth said that for her, events of the commemoration that bring to campus many of those who played a significant role in what happened during integration at Auburn are the most important.

"Having not attended Auburn University myself, having someone like Thom to co-chair the committee has been wonderful and so helpful to me in understanding some of that history from the people who were here," she said. "He's been really committed to making sure people who were significant during the time, like James Owens, Auburn's first African-American football player, and others are included in the programming."

Throughout the remainder of the fall semester, the Multicultural Center will share films and bring guest speakers to campus as part of their Watch and Learn and Lunch and Learn series. In January, the celebration will continue with a discussion forum to feature Harold Franklin, retired federal judge U.W. Clemon and attorney Fred Gray, as well as the events held as part of the university's annual King Week. The rest of the spring semester will offer films, exhibits, guest speakers and performances to involve both the campus and the greater community in the commemoration celebration.

"Sometimes when you land in a place, you wonder, 'Why am I here? What's my purpose?' and I understand now that for me, it was to be here to be a part of this," Dilworth said. "And for me, that is an honor. I don't know that – of all the institutions where I've worked – that I would have been a part of something as important as putting together something that would commemorate 50 years of history in one place."

# Women’s Philanthropy Board Event Opens Auburn’s Commemoration of 50 Years of Integration

The Women’s Philanthropy Board Fall Colloquium, Expo, and Luncheon in October served as the kick-off event for the yearlong, university-wide Commemoration of 50 Years of Integration at Auburn University. Thom Gossom Jr. ’75 and his wife Joyce Gillie Gossom served as the luncheon’s keynote speakers, and Marybeth Gasman, director of the Center on Minority Serving Institutions at the University of Pennsylvania led the colloquium, “Sustaining Legacies, Advancing Philanthropy.”

Thom Gossom Jr. was Auburn football’s first African-American walk-on in 1970, and the first African-American athlete to graduate from the university. Once at Auburn, he earned a scholarship and became a three-year starter for the football team.

Each year, WPB hosts educational programs featuring inspiring and oftentimes globally recognized speakers. Programs focus on pertinent issues such as personal finance, investing, estate planning, entrepreneurship, philanthropic and nonprofit leadership, and mentoring. WPB programs have hosted leaders such as: Jenna Bush Hager, author and contributing correspondent, NBC’s *Today* and chair, UNICEF’s Next Generation; Knight Kiplinger, editor-in-chief of *The Kiplinger Letter* and *Kiplinger’s Personal Finance* magazine; Truett Cathy, founder and chairman, Chick-fil-A; Andy Andrews, *New York Times* best-selling author; and Nancy Lopez, professional golfer. Annually, more than 1,300 individuals attend WPB programs.

In addition to providing educational opportunities and financial support to the College of Human Sciences, WPB has a mission to mentor the next generation of philanthropists and nonprofit leaders. Through its WPB Mentee program, Auburn University students regularly attend programs and learn from nationally recognized speakers while networking with alumni and campus leaders. In a recent partnership with the College of Human Sciences Academic Affairs Office, the WPB is co-sponsoring a series of seminars for students titled “College to Career” that focuses on preparing students for job searches and life after college. Session topics include: the “Dress and Dine for Success” etiquette dinner, financial planning for young professionals,

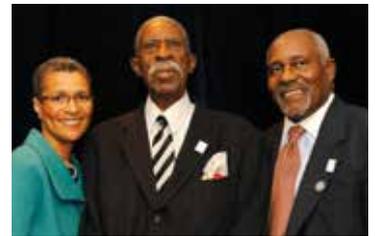
networking through social media and understanding your first job offer.

“In 2010, women became the predominant wealth owners in the United States,” said June Henton, dean of the College of Human Sciences. “Now is an important time in our history and a crucial time to educate women and men about financial issues and to help them realize their goals of making a philanthropic impact in their communities and the world.”

To demonstrate its commitment to philanthropy, the Women’s Philanthropy Board has given more than \$400,000 to the College of Human Sciences through student scholarships, faculty awards and programmatic grants. Today, there are more than 150 individual members and 12 corporate partners.

WPB started in 2002 with a small group of women leaders with a desire to promote philanthropic responsibility and financial sustainability through educational programs. Over the last 12 years, the organization has maintained consistency in its mission and, through its growth, has spawned multiple outreach initiatives, developed an undergraduate minor in philanthropy and nonprofit studies and established the Cary Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies, an academic center in the College of Human Sciences. The Cary Center is located in the historic Halliday Cary Pick home which was donated in 2010 by Frances Pick Dillard, founding member of WPB, and her family.

The Women’s Philanthropy Board is committed to making a difference by providing unique opportunities for its members and community to become educated, empowered, and enabled in the areas of financial sustainability and philanthropic responsibility. For more information about WPB programs or how to become a member of WPB, please visit [www.humsci.auburn.edu/wpb](http://www.humsci.auburn.edu/wpb) or call (334)844-9156.



The Gossoms with special guest, Harold Franklin, Auburn’s first African-American student.

# Auburn University to Host National Conference on Service-Learning

Auburn University will be the site for the 2014 Gulf-South Summit on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement, March 26-28. The 2014 summit is titled “Creating Capacity Collaboratively: Connecting Learning and Civic Outcomes” and is hosted by the University Outreach Office of Public Service.

The Gulf-South Summit is a collaboration of 14 universities and colleges with the mission to promote service-learning and other forms of civic engagement through the annual conference. The summit provides opportunities for peer networking and presentations on current research, ethical practices, reciprocal campus-community partnerships and sustainable engagement programs.

“As a land-grant institution, Auburn University is dedicated to the ideals of service-learning and civic engagement,” said Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach. “We are excited about hosting this high quality national conference.”

Now in its 12th year, the Gulf-South Summit has become one of the foremost annual conferences on service-learning in the United States. Originally organized by several major Southern universities, the summit continues its tradition of meeting in the South for its hospitality and pleasant spring weather. However, the summit is truly national in scope, annually attracting faculty, students, and service professionals from all over America to network with colleagues and meet leading authorities on civic engagement.

This is the first time the summit has been held in Alabama. A longtime institutional sponsor of the Gulf-South Summit, Auburn was selected to host the summit from among three other competing universities. Recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for the scope and quality of its curricular and community engagement, Auburn has an extensive organization dedicated to outreach and service learning.

Scheduled keynote speakers for the 2014 Gulf-South Summit include Timothy K. Eatman, Helen Shoals Lee and David Phillips. Eatman is co-director of Imagining America, and a national expert on best practices for faculty rewards for engaged scholarship. Judge Lee

presides over the Tenth Judicial Court of Alabama. She is the first African-American woman to serve in the Civil Division of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County. Along with her sister Barbara, Lee is co-author of *The Gentle Giant of Dynamite Hill: The Untold Story of Arthur Shores and His Family’s Fight for Civil Rights*, their firsthand account of growing up with their father, Arthur Shores, a prominent Civil Rights attorney, during the strife 11960s Birmingham. Phillips is a consultant at FSG, a nonprofit consulting firm specializing in the collective impact approach to addressing complex social problems in the community.

Along with the Office of Public Service, the Office of Professional and Continuing Education will provide management support for the event. Summit-sponsoring partners include Birmingham Southern College, Alabama Possible and the David Mathews Center for Civic Life, along with a dozen other institutions of higher education across the South. Auburn University faculty, staff, and students qualify for a special conference registration rate. For more information, visit the Gulf-South Summit website at [www.gulfsouthsummit.org](http://www.gulfsouthsummit.org) or contact the Office of Public Service.



# Student Audrey Ross Named Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow

Campus Compact named Auburn University student Audrey Ross a 2013 Newman Civic Fellow for her commitment to community development and the betterment of society through citizen action.

“Audrey Ross seeks to understand the ‘problems behind public problems,’” Auburn University President Jay Gogue wrote in his nomination letter, “and her writing, reflections, and actions throughout all of these experiences suggest that she will be an exceptional educator and civic leader.”

Ross, a sophomore majoring in math and minoring in community and civic engagement, is a College of Liberal Arts Living Democracy Fellow who spent 10 weeks of the summer in Hobson City, Ala., establishing community projects to benefit those living in the small town.

Hobson City is a town of about 800 people in Calhoun County and was the first all-black municipality in the state of Alabama and the second in the nation.

“Due to Hobson City’s small size, everyone must work together to improve its future,” Ross said. “I went there with hopes of creating a sense of unity and connecting existing groups to form lasting partnerships.”

Ross said she approached the project with a focus on the community’s young people.

“Everyone in the community wants to see good things for the youth,” she said. “They want them to be educated, to be given new opportunities, and to learn how to make their town a better place.”

She established a small youth group that meets three times a week, participating in leadership activities and planning community events, like a basketball tournament and baseball and flag football games. The group also took part in a beautification project where they repainted the big rocks in the city park.

“The kids are exposed to new things like art and information about other community groups,” Ross said.



Audrey Ross and Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach.

“They learn what it takes to make real changes in their community and gain the confidence to do it on their own.”

Ross worked with the local library to connect it with the Sable Learning Center, Hobson City’s free after-school and summer learning program. She and librarian Donna Ross administered reading tests to more than 50 children and provided them with workbooks based on their reading level. Students could complete activities

and earn points toward prizes through the library's summer reading program. The librarian also made visits to the center to allow children the opportunity to check out books on site.

"I was only there for a short period of time, so the challenge was making real sustainable progress for after I left," Ross said. "But I believe with the support of the whole community things can change. I couldn't solve every problem in 10 weeks, but I hope my being there can be a step in the right direction."

Ross also is the co-founder of the Human Touch program at Auburn University, a group whose mission is to hold meaningful and productive conversations among students, faculty, and administrators on issues related to diversity.

***"Audrey Ross seeks to understand the 'problems behind public problems,'" Auburn University President Jay Gogue wrote in his nomination letter, "and her writing, reflections, and actions throughout all of these experiences suggest that she will be an exceptional educator and civic leader."***

*– Auburn University President Jay Gogue*

Campus Compact is a national coalition of almost 1,200 college and university presidents—representing some 6 million students—who are committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education. The Newman Civic Fellows program honors Frank Newman, one of Campus Compact's founders, who was a tireless advocate for the role of higher education in preparing students for active and engaged citizenship.



# CGS Holds Conference on Workforce Development for the State of Alabama

The Center for Governmental Services hosted the 6th annual Governmental Excellence conference titled Workforce Development: Bridging Gaps to Increase Investments in Alabama. The one-day event was held in Montgomery in March. Approximately 200 participants discussed topics such as: education and training, the equalizers; exploring Alabama's workforce, development, and future; meeting Alabama's job needs; job training and education; the economics of workforce development; and workforce development and the veteran.

The conference, with keynote presentations and panel presentations, successfully brought together professionals from all levels of government across Alabama, academics and stakeholders representing the private sector to discuss and examine issues and opportunities impacting Alabama's workforce, employers and academic institutions.

Among the featured speakers were James R. Barth, senior finance fellow at the Milken Institute, and the Lowder Eminent Scholar in Finance at Auburn University; H. Philip Paradice Jr., regional director,

economic development administration, U.S. Department of Commerce; Mark Heinrich, chancellor, Department of Postsecondary Education; Greg Canfield, secretary, Alabama Department of Commerce; and William Canary, resident, Business Council of Alabama.

Representatives of the military also served as speakers to discuss veterans, their workplace needs and contributions.

"Economic growth, in today's economy, is dependent upon the skills and education of America's workforce in the public and private sectors," said Don-Terry Veal, director of the Center for Governmental Services. "As the job markets everywhere continue to experience challenges, it is essential that we work together to improve approaches to education, workforce development, and the direction of our long and frustrating experience with unemployment. This conference provided a unique opportunity for business leaders, educators, governments, veterans, and the nonprofit community to discuss ideas that will advance our working and growing Alabama together."



CGS trains and supports Alabama's County Commissioners.

# ECDI and Extension Provide Broadband Training throughout Alabama

The electronic information highway has now joined electricity and roads as a core infrastructure. In the global economy, access to broadband is essential for economic prosperity. Access to high-speed Internet is also vital to the success and well-being of individuals throughout Alabama. People can save time and money by paying bills, applying for jobs, doing their taxes and banking online. They can access social networks to strengthen ties with friends and family. Students can use high-speed Internet to improve their academic performance and prepare for future jobs. In many cases, those without Internet access are unable to apply for jobs or government benefits and are truly “left behind.” With only 56 percent of Alabama households having broadband access, the state ranks 48th in the nation. Only 47 percent of rural households in Alabama have access to high-speed Internet.

High-speed Internet is a tool with endless potential, but for Alabamians to effectively take advantage of the invaluable resource, someone must raise awareness of these benefits and create digitally literate citizens. That

is exactly what the Auburn University Economic and Community Development Institute and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System are doing in Alabama, in partnership with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind. “Connecting Alabama: Boosting Broadband to Bridge the Digital Divide” is a \$1.2 million sustainable broadband adoption project recently administered by ECDI. The U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program funded the project.

Over the past two years, ECDI and Extension educators have conducted hundreds of broadband training sessions in 65 Alabama counties. Under the direction of Amelia Stehouwer, ECDI developed the following training modules that describe broadband’s benefits and practical uses:

- Introduction to the Internet and broadband 101
- E-Home: Managing homes, families, and finances



- E-Community: Engaging community residents and organizations
- E-Commerce: Strategies and tools for entrepreneurs and small business
- E-Government: Making government more responsive and accessible
- E-Learning: Tools and resources for learners and educators
- E-Global: Accessing international markets
- E-Health: Tools and resources for patients/health care consumers and medical practitioners
- E-Workforce: Learning skills and finding jobs
- E-Public Safety: Resources for police, fire, and emergency service personnel

Each module, including both in-person training resources and a self-directed version, is available on the project website – [www.izzynet.org](http://www.izzynet.org). The Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind made each of the training modules available to deaf, blind, and severely disabled populations and worked with ECDI staff to conduct trainings at their regional centers located throughout the state. In several counties, free access to website training is offered in both Spanish and English for Hispanic small businesses.

According to Stehouwer, the individuals who have the most to gain from access to broadband technologies are also the least likely to have home subscriptions to high-speed Internet services. Because of this, ECDI and its Extension partners targeted these individuals in their training programs. Key program participants included residents of rural communities, senior citizens, youth,

low-income and unemployed individuals, individuals with disabilities, and members of minority populations.

ECDI and County Extension Coordinators also facilitated discussions about broadband in most Alabama counties. Connected Community forums engaged a wide cross-section of community members in discussing and exchanging ideas about broadband’s potential for improving their lives, both individually and collectively.

“Most of Alabama’s larger cities are well positioned to adopt high-speed telecommunications technologies but residents of the state’s rural communities are not,” said Joe Sumners, director of the Economic and Community Development Institute. Sumners said that because of lower levels of education, as well as economic, social, and physical isolation, rural areas are where broadband is most needed, and that the project has impacted the lives of thousands of Alabama citizens.



making a difference

# Innovative CADC Outreach Programs Making a Difference in Minority Recruitment

Growth in College of Architecture, Design and Construction summer camps and success in minority recruitment continues thanks to quality programs, the innovative efforts of the college's Office of Multicultural Affairs, and support from University Outreach and other donors.

Recruitment success is reflected in the rankings in the July edition of *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education's* "Top 100 Degree Producers, 2013." Of the institutions that confer the most degrees to minority students, Auburn University is ranked 14th in architecture and related services for undergraduate degrees awarded to African-American students—up 13 points from the previous year-end report and a 50 percent increase since the CADC Office of Multicultural Affairs was established in 2006.

CADC attributes the growth to the success of the Donor Scholarship Initiative established by Carla Jackson Bell, CADC director of multicultural affairs. Through the Donor Scholarship Initiative, the CADC provides funding support for high school students to participate in CADC summer camps. With the support of University Outreach and other institutional, industry, and individual donors, underrepresented high school students from Alabama's Black Belt and throughout the Southeast have received scholarships to attend camps and the Academic Success Action Program, or A.S.A.P.

After assessing the college's recruitment and diversity needs, Bell began several diversity programs to engage CADC faculty, staff and students in college-wide mentoring and community outreach initiatives. A.S.A.P. and the building construction camps were the first programs used to bring minority and female high school students to the Auburn campus to gain hands-on exposure to the architecture, design, and construction fields.

The primary objectives of A.S.A.P. are to increase minority enrollment, increase minority student representation in CADC activities, and expose students to the fields of architecture, design and construction. A.S.A.P.'s four elements—academics, student focus groups, analysis and practice—use mentoring and coaching strategies for the academic success of minority students who are interested in fields of architecture, design, and construction. The program promotes the



visibility of minorities and females in design learning environments in the college.

Ninth - through 12th - graders spend one week in A.S.A.P., developing their academic skills in college Algebra I and II, physics and computer-aided drawing. During week two, A.S.A.P. participants attend one of three summer camps with an architecture, building construction, or design focus. The first A.S.A.P. class in 2007 had eight students. In summer 2013, the DSI funded 20 high school students in the program.

Architecture Camp, conducted by faculty, staff, and students from Auburn's School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture, is offered to rising 11th - and 12th - grade students interested in the field of architectural design. A.S.A.P. places specific focus on the architecture camp by enrolling students in Alabama's Black Belt communities and surrounding areas. The program is a weeklong workshop that begins with basic design concepts and ends with an architectural design project. Each day is filled with hands-on exercises, technical demonstrations and professional guest speakers. Program faculty consists of dedicated and caring APLA faculty members who hold degrees in architecture, landscape architecture, and the fine arts. The faculty's diverse background ensures students experience a broad perspective of design.

"I began the Academic Success Action Program in summer 2010, and I would say that my experience at the A.S.A.P. and the architecture summer camps helped me determine that architecture was meant for me and Auburn was the place for me," said Sapphira Glemaud, a student from Atlanta. "It was fun yet informative, and I learned a lot academically about Auburn. I was accepted into the Summer Enrichment Experience Auburn Program, and I will be a pre-architecture major fall 2013."

The Design Camp offered by the School of Industrial and Graphic Design offers an intensive design experience beginning with the identification of a design problem and rapidly progresses through idea generation, concept development, and exploratory prototyping. Each day is filled with practical, hands-on design activities, technical demonstrations and in-depth instruction. Foundation skills such as sketching, rendering, and prototyping are emphasized throughout the week as participants develop their solution to the issue at hand. Working in dedicated studio spaces with industrial design faculty, participants have access to state-of-the-art photo, computer, and prototype fabrication labs.

Woodrow Blalock attended the design camp in summer 2012, and participated, along with Sapphira Glemaud and Khari Siebie, in the Auburn Summer Enrichment Experience, or SEE Auburn, this summer.

"Design camp was a great experience. In the camp, I had the opportunity to meet and learn from the professors in the department," Blalock said. "The camp walked me through almost every step that a design student would go through. In my opinion the camp is a must for anyone considering studying industrial design. I will be attending Auburn in the fall."

Building Construction Camp began in 2007 and was the first CADC summer camp. Basic construction concepts are presented by faculty from the McWhorter School of Building Science. Building Construction camp participants learn how to integrate building design with site, climate, function, and sustainability considerations. They obtain hands-on experience by working on projects supervised by building science faculty and students. Over the past six years, camps have completed construction projects such as a storage shed for local Auburn Daycare Facilities, compost bins and dog houses for the humane society, and utility sheds for disaster victims in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

"My experience at Auburn's building construction camp was one of a kind," Siebie said. "I had fun with friends while also learning about building construction and how academically challenging the courses are. I was so happy when Dr. Bell contacted me and offered me the PLUS Scholarship this fall. I couldn't wait to come back to Auburn as a building science major in fall 2013."

All campers experience campus life while residing in Auburn's residence halls, eating at campus dining facilities, and enjoying evening social and recreational activities, all with round-the-clock counselor supervision. Any high school student interested in architecture, design, and construction is welcome to attend the CADC summer camps. Scholarships are limited.



## DSI FUNDS ASSISTANTSHIPS AND OTHER RECRUITMENT INITIATIVES

Students are encouraged to further their education in one of the five graduate programs CADC offers. The Donor Scholarship Initiative provides financial assistance for graduate teaching and research assistantships for minorities and females in CADC.

“My graduate assistantship in the CADC Office of Multicultural Affairs has given me the opportunity to get involved with the university on a level in which I wouldn’t have been able to participate. It is rewarding to be a part of the initiatives that further strengthen the same education that I am benefiting from as a student,” said Valecia Wilson, a graduate student in community planning.

The CADC camps and other recruitment initiatives showcase guest speakers in architecture, construction, design, and related fields. The speakers are professional architects, designers, or contractors who discuss the importance of understanding their field of interest and other topics that inspire the participants and help them understand what career paths are available. A yearly culminating activity closes out the summer camps and provides the opportunity for mentors and camp donors to speak publicly about the impact of the diversity programs.

In 2010, A.S.A.P. and the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture hosted renowned architect Philip G. Freelon, FAIA. Freelon’s lecture discussed the functions of the African-American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh as the physical and virtual vehicle for telling the African-American story through cultural expression. He also conducted design critiques in the third-year studio where he recognized a talented third-year architecture student, Phillip Ewing. Freelon hired him as an intern during the summer 2010. Ewing, a 2012 architecture graduate, is currently studying design computation at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is the first African-American student to be awarded the Robert L. Taylor Fellowship. Freelon is one of many mentors who have provided Auburn’s students with positive feedback and inspiration.

“The talent needed to secure the future of the construction industry is being developed now,” said George Harris, executive director of Corporate Social Responsibilities for the GE Johnson Construction Company. “Young students in K-12 may or may not know that they want to be in construction management now, but now is the time to educate them to the opportunities in the industry. The Building Construction Camp at Auburn University is a great vehicle to educate students to this great industry. Being a donor to this



Vernell Barnes (first African-American graduate of the school of architecture '75), Barbara Miller (former Auburn University assistant vice president, Development), William E. Pitts (Miller’s father), and Carla Bell.

camp just makes sense. As a contractor, we need to do everything we can to support this effort. So when Dr. Bell asked me for a donation for the camp, I immediately said yes. We are interested in securing the future of the construction industry by building the talent we’ll need now.”

A statement from Wayne Gandy (retired NFL offensive tackle and '94 Auburn graduate) Foundation sums up that organization’s reasons for contributing to the program: “We challenge ourselves to be the best at all times. When we encourage others by our words and our actions, we are leaving a legacy of greatness. Helping students through scholarships and opportunities can open up doors that allow them to dream and achieve beyond measure.”

Other primary donors are McWhorter School of Building Science’s Construction Industry Fund; State Representative Richard Laird, 37th District; Vernell Barnes, AIA architect; Robins and Morton, INC.; Matrice Jackson, '99, Kimberly - Clark Corp., Atlanta; Balfour Beatty, Columbus, Ga.; Brasfield and Gorrie, Atlanta; and George Harris at GE Johnson, Denver.

“The CADC’s commitment to outreach is embodied in our long standing belief in the importance of extending access and opportunity,” said Vini Nathan, dean of the College of Architecture, Design and Construction. “We are delighted in the support that we have enjoyed in sustaining our outreach efforts, and we look forward to continuing to build on our collective efforts.”

In fall 2013, CADC will welcome five former A.S.A.P. participants into its undergraduate degree programs: Woodrow Blalock, pre-industrial design; Sarah Curry, pre-architecture; Sapphira Glemaud, pre-architecture; Claudia Paz Melendez, pre-architecture; and Khari Siebie, pre-building science.

For more information about the camp and sponsorships, visit [www.cadc.auburn.edu/diversity/Pages/Summer\\_Camps](http://www.cadc.auburn.edu/diversity/Pages/Summer_Camps) or contact Bell at [cjj0001@auburn.edu](mailto:cjj0001@auburn.edu) or (334)844-4549.

# Veterans and Auburn Students Collaborate on Assistive Technology

Six veterans who had left the challenges of active duty military life behind to face new challenges in civilian life recently teamed with students at Auburn University to generate ideas for customized devices that would improve quality of life for themselves and for other veterans with disabilities.

For the sixth consecutive year, industrial design students and rehabilitation students have collaborated to design solutions for the disabled through assistive technology projects. This year, six student teams were each paired with a veteran of the U.S. military who has a disability.

The inspiration to include military veterans in this year's assistive technology project came from Doris Hill, who joined Auburn's Center for Disability Research and Service in 2011 and had retired from a career in the U.S. Army. Hill said as a veteran, she thought the model that was already in place – using a team approach with the assistive technology end user as part of the team – had applications for veterans with disabilities.

The center opened in 2010 and is housed in the College of Education's Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, and Counseling. The Department of Industrial and Graphic Design is in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction.

The partnership between the two departments began with the idea of using assistive technology to improve quality of life for Auburn students with disabilities, later



broadened its scope to include the surrounding community and this year expanded even further by asking military veterans to participate.

“Assistive technology is defined as any piece of equipment or device that can improve the quality of life for an individual with a disability and help that person be more independent,” said Scott Renner, the center’s coordinator for assistive technology.

“Students and veterans worked together to uncover challenges, research each disability, and learn what already existed in the marketplace before turning to the job of finding solutions,” said Jerrod Windham, an assistant professor of industrial design who directs students in the assistive technology project.

Concepts ranged from simple solutions to complex customizable prosthetics. Some of the devices explored by the teams in this year’s project include an assist to move from a wheelchair to a standing position; a prosthetic with a more comfortable socket and greater range of mobility for an active person; a storage compartment to attach to a wheelchair that holds items used on a daily basis and helps the user be more self-sufficient; a portable attachment to aid getting in and out of a tub or shower; a mouth stick to operate electronic devices; and a customized crutch-like device to improve balance.

“With funding through the Auburn University Intramural Grant Program, some of the solutions are beyond the concept phase and are in further development,” Windham said. “Over the six-year

life of this collaborative project, there are a number of inventions that have directly helped the project volunteers. We also hope, through public and private economic partnerships, these inventions will help others with and without disabilities in the future.”

The veterans who participated in this year’s project had a range of military service - from two to more than 21 years - and a variety of disabilities.

The Wounded Warrior Program coordinator at Ft. Rucker asked Army veteran Andrew Weissenberger if he’d be interested in participating in the project at Auburn.

“Before he could even finish getting the question out of his mouth, I was committed to it,” Weissenberger said. “Because anything that would help the boys coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan – I was all for it.”

Weissenberger is in a wheelchair and has leg and spinal injuries and traumatic brain injury.

Marshall “Mac” Nelson is a Vietnam veteran who heard about the program from the director of prosthetics at the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System.

Nelson lost a leg below the knee when he stepped on a land mine. He said he’d been so mobile for so long he wasn’t sure there was anything the team could come up with that would be of help, but as they discussed ideas, he saw the benefits for himself but more importantly, for other veterans.

“Like other vets, I think about all of us,” he said.



**Honoring the Past,  
Charting the Future:**  
*A Luncheon Commemorating  
Integration at Auburn University*  
*Tuesday, January 21, 2014  
11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*



**Tell me more ...**  
To register visit:  
[www.aualum.org/main](http://www.aualum.org/main)  
For more information call  
334-844-1150 or email  
[alumniprograms@auburn.edu](mailto:alumniprograms@auburn.edu)

COMMEMORATING  
**50** Years  
INTEGRATION  
AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Event featuring Frank X. Walker, Poet Laureate and Founder of Affrilachian Poets. A performance by the Auburn University Gospel Choir.

## Outreach News

### **ECDI Hosts Alabama Broadband Summit**

The Economic and Community Development Institute held the Alabama Broadband Summit in July in Prattville, Ala. The summit attracted a diverse audience of community leaders, health care professionals, economic developers, business leaders, educators, and elected officials.

The event included a one-day workshop, which highlighted success stories of how high-speed Internet is changing lives and communities for the better in Alabama. The summit concluded with a half-day Alabama Broadband Roundtable, which consisted of participants who discussed and identified opportunities, challenges and concrete strategies for increasing broadband adoption.

The summit was the culmination of a two-year project by ECDI and Cooperative Extension to develop broadband adoption training materials and resources and to deliver training and facilitate countywide broadband forums throughout Alabama.



### **Officials meet with Malawi President**



Pictured from L-R: Overtoun Jenda, John Jernigan, Royrickers Cook, president Joyce Banda, Octavia Tripp, and Constance Hendricks.

### **Harrison School of Pharmacy**

Members of the National Community Pharmacy Association in the Harrison School of Pharmacy and the Auburn Police Division joined forces for two Medication Take Back days in the past year and collected more than 170 pounds of unused or expired medications for safe and legal disposal.

The Drug Enforcement Administration sponsors the events across the country each year to combat the abuse of prescription and over-the-counter medications. Since the DEA began sponsoring Take Back days in 2010, more than 2.8 million pounds of pills have been collected nationwide.

Local Take Back days were held at Our Home Pharmacy in Auburn, offering the community a convenient, safe, and legal way to dispose of unused or expired medications.

### **Auburn University named to President's Higher Education Community Service honor roll**

For the third consecutive year, Auburn University was named to the 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.

Auburn is one of two universities from the state of Alabama and one of three from the Southeastern Conference to be named to the honor roll with distinction. A total of 690 higher education institutions were named to the 2013 honor roll; of this number, 113 institutions earned the recognition of honor roll with distinction.

"Being named to the honor roll with distinction is significant because of the scope of the award," said Ralph Foster, director of public service. "The institution must demonstrate commitment and impact in both its outreach programming and curricular engagement, as well as faculty, staff, and student service activities."



The Corporation for National and Community Service considered the scope and innovation of the university's outreach program; 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 engagement.

Another requirement was placement of at least 7 percent of work-study students throughout the community, a requirement which Auburn filled four-fold with almost 30 percent placed in off-campus outreach positions.

"We are very excited to be recognized on the President's Honor Roll with Distinction for a third consecutive year," said Royrickers Cook, assistant vice president for University Outreach. "This shows that Auburn is among the leading institutions nationally for public service and outreach."

The Office of Public Service coordinated Auburn's application for the honor roll designation. The honor is administered 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.

## **First ever Auburn "WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S®" raises more than \$7,800**

More than 140 students and residents from the Auburn area participated in the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's at Auburn University's Jordan-Hare Stadium, uniting in a movement to reclaim the future for millions.

Participants raised more than \$7,800 to fund Alzheimer's care, support, and research programs. The first ever to be held on the Auburn campus, the event was chaired by Kayley Fleming, a graduate student in clinical mental health counseling with the assistance of the University Outreach Office of Public Service, the University Architect's office, the Facilities Division, and the Athletics Division.

"I was inspired by Auburn residents uniting in the fight against Alzheimer's disease at Walk to End Alzheimer's," said Peter Cowley, associate director of the Alabama/Florida Panhandle Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. "With funds raised, the Alzheimer's Association will be able to provide much-needed care and support to people affected by the disease as well as fund critically needed Alzheimer's research."

Walk to End Alzheimer's participants did more than complete the nearly three-mile walk. They learned more

about Alzheimer's disease and the association's critical role in the fight against it, including the latest about Alzheimer's research and current clinical trials, how they can become involved in advocacy efforts at home and in Washington, D.C., and the association's support programs and services. The event also included an emotional tribute to those who have experienced or are experiencing Alzheimer's.

Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death. As "baby boomers" age, the number of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease will rapidly escalate, increasing well beyond today's more than 5 million Americans living with Alzheimer's. In Alabama alone, there are 91,000 people living with Alzheimer's.

The Alzheimer's Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's research, care, and support. Walk to End Alzheimer's is the nation's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's issues. For more information or to make a donation, visit [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk).

## **Staff Changes in the Office of Public Service**



**Jennifer Commander** completed her year of service in the Office of Public Service in July. She was instrumental in expanding the Campus Kitchen at Auburn University and starting training programs to build capacity for nonprofit agencies in the AuburnServes Network. After completing her year of service, Jennifer is now taking on the role of newlywed and law student.



**Christopher Patterson** joined the Office of Public Service in August as part of the federal AmeriCorps VISTA program. He will focus on oversight and expansion of the Campus Kitchen at Auburn University, Blessings in a Backpack, and community partner training in addition to other duties within the office. Patterson, a graduate of Tennessee State University, is a native of Franklin, Tenn.

## **College of Human Sciences**

The East Alabama kickoff event for End Child Hunger in Alabama, the first outreach initiative of the Hunger Solutions Institute, was held with Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey and Jason and Amanda Dufner at Greater Peace Baptist Church in Opelika.

The trio visited the summer feeding program at the local church and even helped serve lunch to students that day. Since 2003, the Greater Peace Community Development Corporation has provided meals to children from low- and moderate-income families through the USDA Child Nutrition Programs.

Jason Dufner, a pro golfer and Auburn alumnus, and his wife, Amanda, joined Ivey as supporters of the university's effort to combat local hunger. The Jason Dufner Charitable Foundation has partnered with Auburn's Office of Public Service to feed hungry children in Lee County through Blessings in a Backpack, a national program that targets childhood hunger.

### **43rd Annual Alabama County Government Institute**

The Center for Governmental Services at Auburn University hosted more than 80 attendees of the 43rd Annual Alabama County Government Institute in June. The institute brings together Alabama county commissioners, tax collectors, revenue commissioners, and other county and local officials to explore ways for Alabama counties to enhance their revenue environment, position their counties for economic development and growth, and effectively build for the future.

The theme of this year's institute was "Staying Ahead of the Game: Innovations for Increasing County Revenue." Dr. Don E. Williamson, state health officer and director of the Alabama Department of Public Health, provided the keynote address on Medicaid Transformation. Other prominent speakers included James Barth, Lowder Eminent Scholar in Finance at Auburn University and Paul Beddoe of the National Association of County Commissions.

### **Gogue recognizes commissioners**

The Center for Governmental Services initiated a program designed to recognize the accomplishments of and support county commissioners who have been successful in completing graduate-level continuing education courses provided through the center. Commissioners who have achieved success at the senior level receive a letter of commendation from Auburn University President Jay Gogue with copies of the letters also being sent to the appropriate legislators. Seven commissioners received the recognition this year and were acknowledged during the Association of County Commissions of Alabama convention. Commissioners receiving certificates in 2013 were Tony L. Cherry - Choctaw County, Stanley Yarbrough - Cullman County, Jeff Overstreet - Etowah County, Gregory Reynolds

- Henry County, Charlie Harris - Pike County, Otice Russelle - Sumter County, and David Cummings, Jr. - Winston County.

### **Shook named OLLI director**

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Auburn University has named Linda Shook director for the



organization. Shook holds an MEd in adult education from Auburn University and has been affiliated with OLLI at Auburn since 2008. Prior to this, she worked for nonprofit organizations and has many years of experience in volunteer management. Shook is active in the Auburn

University Administrative and Professional Assembly, serving on several member committees. Professionally, she is involved in the Southern Regional Conference for Institutes for Learning in Retirement, serving as co-director in 2008 and 2009. In 2013, she was the opening session presenter at the OLLI National Conference. Shook also is active in a number of volunteer organizations in the local area, as well as the Alabama Association of Nonprofits.

### **OPCE hosts UPCEA South conference**

Auburn's Office of Professional and Continuing Education served as host for the annual Southern region conference for the University Professional and Continuing Education Association in Birmingham in October. The UPCEA-South conference attracts more than 100 continuing education faculty and professionals from around the Southeast. Leading the keynote speakers for the conference was Auburn Distinguished Professor of History Wayne Flynt. Auburn University also was recognized with the UPCEA Program for Special Populations Award for its Anti-Bullying Summit conference, a collaboration of the College of Education Truman Pierce Institute and the Office of Professional and Continuing Education. John Freeze, associate director in OPCE, served as a member of the conference planning committee for the 2013 regional conference; Freeze also was selected as chair-elect for the UPCEA-South organization for 2014. He will assume the chairmanship for the group in 2015.



John Freeze pictured with Cindy Reed, director of the Truman Pierce Institute.

## Destination Africa: Malawi 2013 Outreach Education Study Abroad Program

Fifteen students and five faculty members recently returned from a three-week trip to Lilongwe, Malawi, in eastern Africa. The group was part of the Auburn University summer study abroad outreach program, Destination Malawi 2013. The team departed May 24 for the 7,200-mile journey and returned June 16. The students of Destination Africa: Malawi Summer 2013 represented the colleges of Education, Liberal Arts, and Sciences and Mathematics. Faculty leading the program included L. Octavia Tripp, Jared Russell, Angela Love, Megan Burton, and Chippewa Thomas.

Students had the opportunity to teach in Malawi's government school, Lumbadzi Primary, and they mentored and tutored orphans at Mtendere Village, which is an orphanage sponsored by 100X, a development foundation out of Montgomery, Ala., under the direction of Dana Blanchard.

Auburn students and faculty presented three successive professional development workshops to the teachers in the Lumbadzi community. Most teachers said they found the strategies to be useful and helpful in their classrooms.

In addition to working in the schools, the Auburn faculty met with faculty members from the University of Lilongwe to share ideas about collaborations between the two universities.

Outside the classroom, Auburn students and faculty spent a Sunday afternoon with the former first lady of Malawi, Madam Cecilia T. Kadzimir. Auburn students enjoyed fellowship, a Malawian dinner and conversation with "Mama" Kadzimir about her time as first lady.

The group participated in other activities including a safari adventure to MVUU Wilderness Reserve in Liwonde, Malawi, where students encountered hippos, elephants, monkeys and a host of other wild animals. A restful and peaceful visit to Lake Malawi allowed students to take a boat ride to a fishing village and experience entertainment from a local acoustic band.

The students commented on the beauty of the land, the magnificent sunsets, and the mild weather and made lasting friendships with the orphans of Mtendere Village. Some have agreed to keep in touch with their new friends via the Internet.

To learn more about the experiences, check out Destination Africa: Malawi, Summer 2013's blog at [destinationmalawiafrica.wordpress.com](http://destinationmalawiafrica.wordpress.com).



## Auburn Abroad in Italy Program Immerses Students in Country's History, Culture with Lectures and Field Trips

The Joseph S. Bruno Auburn Abroad in Italy program gives Auburn University students the opportunity to participate in a modern equivalent to the Grand Tour of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Just as educated European men and women would end their formal education with a trip around Europe, spending months, sometimes years, visiting the places and sites they had studied, Auburn's only permanent overseas study-abroad program offers all Auburn students the opportunity to spend a semester living and studying in Italy, while traveling throughout the country and much of Europe.

For three months, students typically have lectures on Mondays and Wednesdays that cover all aspects of the Italian culture – its language, music, art, history, architecture and cuisine. They live in the Palazzo Chigi (pronounced key-gee), a historical feature of Ariccia, Italy designed by the famous architect Gian Lorenzo Bernini, and immerse themselves in the local community.

Field trips around the country typically occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week to visit what they discuss in class. Such trips include a leather school in Florence, a pottery factory and wood workshop in

Orvieto, the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, and tours in Rome and Pompeii.

Senior Libby Woodruff once studied Italy and did a full analysis on Michelangelo's David. When the summer Auburn Abroad in Italy class traveled to Florence during one of the 12 weeks, she was finally able to see the famous statue and sketch it.

Since 2002 when the College of Human Sciences and the city of Ariccia agreed to offer a unique educational opportunity for American college students, the people of Ariccia have become accustomed to the influx and welcome a new group of Auburn students three times a year.

"I think Auburn purposefully put us in Ariccia so this community could help us grow and really become cultured," said senior Kathryn Davis.

Margaret Anne Albritton participated in the study abroad experience as an undergraduate during the summer of 2011 and noted during her return this summer as a graduate teaching assistant that the people continued to appreciate having temporary residents from Auburn.

"They are waving at you and saying 'ciao' the second you get off the bus," she said. "I think that's beneficial for our students to know they're home and they do have a family here. It's just like the Auburn tradition. We are all a family, and we're even a family in Ariccia."

Although Auburn Abroad in Italy is offered through the College of Human Sciences, all majors are eligible to apply. The trip is one of two ways to earn an international minor in human sciences at Auburn. The program is also open to students from other colleges and universities. The summer of 2013 marked the first time a non-Auburn student participated.

To learn more about the Joseph S. Bruno Auburn Aboard in Italy program, visit [www.humsci.auburn.edu/italy](http://www.humsci.auburn.edu/italy).



Students who participated in the Joseph S. Bruno Auburn Abroad in Italy program this summer toured much of Italy, including St. Patrick's well in Orvieto.

# THIS IS OUR DIRECTION. THIS IS OUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.

*“The new plan will help us prepare for the ever-changing educational landscape while we also maintain our longstanding strategic commitments in instruction, research and outreach.”*

— President Jay Gogue

As one of the nation's preeminent comprehensive land-grant universities of the 21st century, Auburn University is implementing a new five-year Strategic Plan to guide the university's direction by focusing on five priorities through 2018. The plan calls for Auburn to enhance student success; support faculty excellence and strengthen Auburn's reputation; enhance research, scholarship and creative work; become a national model for public engagement; and align resources with institutional priorities.

“We believe this is a bold plan that will strengthen Auburn's role and prominence as an outstanding land-grant institution,” said Provost Timothy Boosinger, who led the University's planning efforts and chaired a steering committee that included faculty, student, and staff representatives. The committee solicited feedback from alumni nationwide and brought together members of the Auburn Family during listening sessions held throughout the state.

Read the full plan guiding Auburn's future online:  
[auburn.edu/strategicplan](http://auburn.edu/strategicplan)

**THIS IS AUBURN.**



AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY

[www.auburn.edu/outreach](http://www.auburn.edu/outreach)



WILLIAM J. SAYFORD HALL





*Learn more about Auburn University  
Outreach and read additional  
issues of Beyond Auburn Magazine.*



**AUBURN**  

---

**UNIVERSITY OUTREACH**