

# Misrepresentation

## Nature of Education Programs

The Assistant Provost of Institutional Effectiveness serves as a liaison to AUM's regional accrediting agency, the Southern Association for Institutional Research, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and manages the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. The main purpose of the office is to maintain official data for planning, improvement, and external reporting. Centralized reporting to state, federal, and external publications serves to prevent misrepresentation of information. Official census files are maintained including: enrollment, new students, degrees, credit hours, and faculty data, retention, and graduation rates. This office also monitors and documents adherence to SACSCOC standards which also serves to prevent misrepresentation. This office also convenes the Academic Assessment Committee each term to review Academic Program Reviews and Program Accreditation Reviews. By continued monitoring of all facets of Auburn University at Montgomery, this office can effectively spot and report any misrepresentation to the Provost's Office, appropriate faculty committees, vice chancellors and ultimately the Chancellor.

### Official List of Programs

The Commission on Colleges requires an official list of programs which is maintained by OIE within the Consumer Information Page:

Consumer Information Page:

<http://www.aum.edu/institutional-effectiveness/consumer-information>

Majors and Minors:

[http://www.aum.edu/sites/default/files/AUM\\_Degrees\\_Majors\\_and\\_Minors\\_1-31-17.pdf](http://www.aum.edu/sites/default/files/AUM_Degrees_Majors_and_Minors_1-31-17.pdf)

This list is also made available as a comprehensive printable list at the following site:

<http://www.aum.edu/academics/degrees>

As new programs are approved by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE), and SACSCOC, if required, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness works with the Office of the Provost to maintain this current list of programs. A representative from the Provost Office, the Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Faculty Services, serves as liaison to the Alabama Association for Higher Education. This working relationship with ACHE also prevents misrepresentation of educational programs. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness reports to the Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Faculty Services. Therefore two offices work to maintain this list which was last updated February 15, 2017. There are currently two programs awaiting SACSCOC approval prior to admitting students which are included in this list. Any additional future plans will follow AUM's policy for program approvals.

### Consistency of Information Reported for Educational Programs

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is responsible for completing the Common Data Set designed to assure accurate information reported to external audiences. Every year, a survey is conducted by OIE

across campus units in order to update practices and services offered. All student services are described online at AUM, but are also described comprehensively to SACSCOC and external publications. Examples of links to offices which describe academic policies and services which are reviewed by OIE include:

<http://www.aum.edu/current-students/records-registrars-office>

<http://www.aum.edu/academics/academic-support/warhawk-academic-success-center>

<http://www.aum.edu/campus-life/student-affairs/center-for-disability-services>

<http://www.aum.edu/academics/academic-support/learning-center-ISL/instructional-support-lab>

Examples of additional information collected by OIE and reported to external surveys and to accrediting agencies (SACSCOC and program accreditations) include: faculty credentials, proportion of credit hours taught by full-time faculty, registrar policies, student services, educational facilities.

The Office of Strategic Communications and Marketing and the Office of the Provost screen any printed recruiting information. Items are submitted by the creating party to the Office of Strategic Communications and Marketing (OSCM). OSCM will then forward to the Associate Provost of Undergraduate Studies, or the Associate Provost of Graduate Studies, who are responsible for assuring that any facts published are accurate. Both OSCM and the Office of the Provost must provide signatures acknowledging approval. Many facts for brochures or publications are obtained from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE). Any Bureau of Labor statistics cited online, related to programs, are updated by the Office of Strategic Communications and Marketing. The combination of accessibility of OIE data and requiring Provost approval for program recruiting materials aids in the prevention of program misrepresentation.

Finally, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness in conjunction with the Registrar's office, and Student Affairs and Admissions, assures that all prospective and enrolled students are informed of all matters that are to be disclosed by maintaining the Consumer Information Page and sending out notices of Student Right to Know Information and FERPA information.

### **Nature of Financial Charges**

While the nature of all charges are made clear by the Office of Student Accounts and the Office of Financial Aid, the reporting function of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) serves to monitor for any misrepresentation. After assuring that all charges have been approved by Auburn University's Board of Trustees, the cost of attendance is reported to the state and federal government, external audiences, and recorded in the consumer information page and Common Data Set. Annually the Office of Student Accounts and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness cooperate with Auburn University financial services to reconcile enrollment and credit hours with tuition received. Additionally the Assistant Provost of Institutional Effectiveness monitors the accurate reporting of the following services to SACSCOC:

<http://www.aum.edu/admissions/scholarships-and-financial-aid/student-accounts>

<http://www.aum.edu/admissions/scholarships-and-financial-aid/financial-aid>

<http://www.aum.edu/admissions/scholarships-and-financial-aid/scholarships>

## **Employability of Graduates**

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is responsible for capturing any information regarding job placement. The State of Alabama does not participate in a longitudinal database at this point. Therefore, Auburn University at Montgomery uses a graduating student survey to capture employment upon matriculation. The response rate to the survey conducted every term is typically over 40%. The results are reported in the Student Achievement section of the Consumer Information Page. Licensure rates are also reported to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and reported on the Student Achievement Section of the Consumer Information Page.

<http://www.aum.edu/sites/default/files/StudentSuccess.pdf>

Additionally the results of each year can be found on the following site:

<http://www.aum.edu/institutional-effectiveness/assessment/graduation-survey>

AUM provides assistance to its graduates as they seek employment with face-to-face counseling and online career resources. These resources include the ability to search for full-time and part-time internships, the ability to upload resumes and network with employers across the globe.