Greetings from the EEEC

The Experiential Education and Engagement Center (EEEC) is an on-campus resource that gathers and facilitates experiential learning opportunities for our students, focusing on peer mentorship, service-learning, undergraduate research, and internships.

The EEEC also supports faculty and staff through professional development and funding for faculty-led research.

Working in collaboration with AUM campus partners, the EEEC’s goal is to help students become more engaged and connected to our campus and community. This helps students:

- Create networks among professionals in the workplace, employers, faculty members, and other students.

- Develop career skills and competencies with hands-on learning projects that add value to the student’s degree program and enhance the student’s resume and/or portfolio.

Upcoming Events

LIFE BEYOND COLLEGE: INTERNSHIP PROCESSES AND OPPORTUNITIES (STUDENTS AND FACULTY) APRIL 13 - 12:15-12:45 PM 230 TAYLOR CENTER

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE COURSE DESIGN, PART 3 (FACULTY & STAFF) APRIL 19 - 12-1 PM HTTPS://AUBURN.ZOOM.US/ MY/AUMEEEEC

AUM CELEBRATION OF RESEARCH & CREATIVE ACTIVITY (STUDENTS AND FACULTY) APRIL 29 - 12-2 PM
Internships

Some courses offer course credit for completing an approved internship. Contact your advisor to see if you meet the requirements for taking an internship course.

Scholarships are also available for students who are enrolled in approved internship classes. Check out the EEEC website to apply.

Go to: aum.edu/academics/academic-support/eeec

Applications will be accepted:

- Summer 2022 (May 18th-June 8th)
- Fall 2022 (August 1st - August 22nd)
- Spring 2022-2023 (December 1st-January 17th)

Tell us about your experiences

If you have participated in experiential learning activities during the Spring, let us know by completing this form. Your responses help us make improvements and offer additional opportunities. We also want to highlight faculty and students in upcoming newsletters.

Faculty: https://aum.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4ZKWEdwX2L7YfxY

Students: https://aum.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3L4JwjRjoyo0Ymy

"Internships are an integral part of the college learning experience. Students acquire valuable and practical job skills that pertain to their major and future career goals while making important connections with professionals who already work in their prospective fields. Students learn skills that they can list on their résumés and mention on job interviews. Through internships, students learn if this is indeed the career they wish to pursue. Internships also foster significant connections and lines of communication between the university and the community."

- Eric Sterling (English and Philosophy)
Peer Mentorship

The EEEC offers support to students in two ways:

- Embedded Peer Mentors for the EEEC Peer Mentor Program are students who help guide and encourage fellow AUM students. They are class leaders who act as a support system by helping students understand course material and class expectations. The role of a peer mentor can be compared to that of a teaching assistant without the responsibility of grading assignments. These peer mentors are paid $10 an hour.

- The Mentor Collective program enhances the student experience by linking them one-on-one with a peer mentor. Students are paired with upperclassmen that are invested in their success. Providing students with a person ready to listen, inspire, help navigate challenges, and recognize opportunities. Students will learn what to expect at AUM, how to approach challenges and gain career advice and valuable insights. Mentors will gain transferrable skills such as leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills.

For more information on how you can participate in these programs visit us at: aum.edu/peer-mentoring
An undergraduate student enrolled in a research or internship course should complete this application to apply for the scholarship:

The Provost has established a scholarship program to encourage undergraduate students to enroll in directed undergraduate research courses. The scholarship covers the cost of one credit hour of tuition. This opportunity is a great way to learn more about topics related to your major.

- An undergraduate student enrolled in a research or internship course should complete this application to apply for the scholarship:

https://aum.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1AMJaXVTtI90cgC

Join us for our 2nd Annual Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity on Friday, April 29th, preceding AUM’s Honors Day in Taylor 230 and surrounding areas from 12 – 2 pm.

Students from all disciplines are welcome to submit a presentation proposal. Go to https://aum.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7WeSXk3weQrTeVE to register!

**Research News**

**Congratulations to our student researchers who participated in the Auburn Research 2022 Student Symposium!**

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*AUM Department of Biology and Environmental Science students* Alexandra Jackson and Samantha Mejia, won awards for Best Oral Presentation and Best Poster Presentation at the Symposium! Both projects were funded by Office of the Provost & EEEC Mini-Grants.

**Mini-Grants Available!**

Office of the Provost & EEEC sponsored grants are for faculty-led undergraduate research in all disciplines. Thus far, we have awarded 22 grants totaling over $60,000. Grants are meant to support undergrad stipends, conference travel, research supplies, and more.

For more information and to apply go to: aum.edu/research-and-creative-activity
During the Fall 2021 semester, Dr. Erin Reilly took her students to the Alabama State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (ASAHPERD) conference to present “Fun Large Group Activities for Pre-K and Primary Grades. Dr. Reilly stated that all three students presented well. Among the participants was Joshua Moore. Joshua recently reached out to Dr. Reilly to tell her that he accepted a position as a physical education teacher at a charter school. He attributes his successful interview to a lesson plan that he presented at the ASAHPERD conference. Dr. Reilly will soon bring another group of students to the ASHAPERD conference to present their findings. The EEEC will continue to provide and help facilitate experiential opportunities like these so that our students can gain real-world experience.

Dr. Ruonan Zhang, Assistant Professor of Communications and Theatre, and senior Savanna Pruitt recently had their paper on cancel culture accepted to the National Communication Association's 2022 Convention in November.

Dr. Prit Kaur, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, along with graduate and undergraduate students participated digitally in the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. Senior Christy Blake was a speaker on the topic of “Women in the Forefront of Policing Physical and Digital Sex Crimes.” Dr. Kaur and AUM students helped organize the event.

Community Connection

The EEEC and the City of Montgomery have agreed to continue their partnership to support the development of a new public trail and trailhead park at Shady Street, along the Alabama River. This partnership will allow AUM students to volunteer with the City of Montgomery to improve Shady Street and our community. Since the Shady Street partnership was established, AUM students have participated in research, service-learning, and field experiences to aid the City of Montgomery. If you would like to participate in the Shady Street project, please reach out to the EEEC.