

## **A- 7. AUBURN UNIVERSITY AT MONTGOMERY STATEMENT OF ROLE**

From its inception, AUM has been dedicated to the proposition that a solid instructional program characterized by academic rigor and accessible to all students with the capacity for academic achievement constitutes the foundation of the teaching/research/service enterprises. Accordingly, in the selection of faculty, the allocation of resources, and the development of academic programs, the institution has given priority to building an instructional program with the depth, range, and rigor to fulfill its mission of fostering and exemplifying excellence in education.

To meet the needs of a diverse student population, AUM offers a range of academic programs and degree levels. Programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels are designed to accommodate traditional as well as nontraditional students and, because of flexible scheduling in day and evening hours and through weekend college, are accessible to the working student. The variety of program offerings serves equally well students seeking education principally for enrichment and those preparing for careers or advanced study. Both undergraduate and graduate degrees span the liberal arts and professional programs.

AUM's metropolitan location provides a good opportunity for the placement of students in internships in a broad array of settings, thereby enhancing the instructional program and strengthening the connection between the university and the community in ways that foster AUM's mission of being an integral part of the community that it serves.

Research conducted by AUM faculty, staff, and students enhances instruction for students in all disciplines; however, that research reaches a larger public through publications, shared research findings and technology transfer. In addition, AUM is involved in specific research projects for government, business, industry, and education which have local, regional, and national impact.

The process of probing for new knowledge and new ways of approaching old problems, whether in the laboratory, archives, corporate office, or the corridors of government, provides the raw material for students' education and Alabama's economic development. Graduate research attempts to conserve, revise, and expand human knowledge in every realm. Exposure to the research enterprise is an important and desirable part of formal academic training. A growing faculty grant-in-aid program enables research faculty to develop their projects and encourages the seeking of extramural support for continued research endeavors.

AUM's program of service seeks to extend the instructional and research resources of the University into the community and to provide governance and leadership on campus. This extension of service makes expertise and special programs available to all segments of the campus and community.

~~———The personal and intellectual development of student is the inherent goal of a university education. This assumption, complemented by the belief that knowledge is valuable in itself, underlies the primary aspiration of AUM: to create in students a realization of their potential as responsible, ethical human beings. Therefore, AUM adopts the following goals to reinforce its role:~~

~~I. Instruction~~

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~~A. Academic Programs~~

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~~The University will:~~

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- ~~1. Establish and regularly review the goals of all academic programs to insure that they are consistent with the mission of the University;~~
- ~~2. Allocate sufficient resources for existing programs while remaining sensitive to the need for additional programs, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels;~~
- ~~3. Seek appropriate accreditation for all academic programs;~~
- ~~4. Develop interdisciplinary programs and courses, recognizing that knowledge transcends the boundaries of traditional university disciplines;~~
- ~~5. Offer programs to attract, retain, and challenge the academically superior student;~~
- ~~6. Establish thesis requirements where appropriate in graduate programs to encourage graduate student research;~~
- ~~7. Provide the library and media resources needed to support the educational, research, and service functions of the university;~~
- ~~8. Develop cooperative programs with Auburn University at Auburn, with other colleges and universities and with business, arts, industry, and government, in a manner consistent with the mission of the university;~~
- ~~9. Maintain a physical plant appropriate for the support of quality academic programs.~~

~~B. Students~~

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The University will:

1. Produce graduates who are distinguished by abilities and attitudes characteristic of a well-educated person, including:

- a. A knowledge and understanding of the arts and humanities, of the principles of mathematics, science, and technology, and of their impact on society and the individual;
- b. An ability to locate, organize, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information;
- c. An understanding of the scientific method and its application;
- d. An ability to think creatively as well as critically;
- e. An ability to apply abstract concepts and ideas to specific situations;
- f. An intellectual curiosity and discipline that result in life-long inquiry;
- g. The ability to make ethical decisions;
- h. The skills necessary for effective communication with others;
- i. An understanding of those democratic processes and values underlying the concepts of responsible citizenship.

2. Recognize and provide for individual differences in students through:

- a. Effective advising;
- b. Academic placement programs;
- c. Developmental and accelerated courses;
- d. Accommodation for exceptional studies;
- e. Counseling and health services;
- f. Career placements services, to include internship and cooperative education opportunities.

- ~~3. Evaluate student proficiency in both written and oral communication and encourage the reinforcement of written and oral skills throughout the curricula;~~
- ~~4. Pursue funds to provide scholarships for meritorious students with appropriate methods of awarding and publicizing the scholarships;~~
- ~~5. Offer and support opportunities for students to study abroad in programs appropriate to promote international understanding;~~
- ~~6. Provide co-curricular opportunities which enhance academic, ethical, physical, and social development;~~
- ~~7. Develop and support intramural sports;~~
- ~~8. Provide sufficient on-campus housing to promote social interaction and enhance university campus life;~~
- ~~9. Encourage diversity in the student body by recruitment of students from varied demographic backgrounds;~~
- ~~10. Provide intercollegiate athletic programs conducted to allow the student-athlete opportunities for the full development of athletic skills in balance with his or her academic progress.~~

## ~~G. Faculty~~

~~The University will:~~

- ~~1. Recruit and retain well-prepared, talented, and dedicated faculty;~~
- ~~2. Use adjunct faculty to the extent they enhance academic programs;~~
- ~~3. Provide opportunities for faculty and staff development through seminars, workshops, study abroad, and by annually awarding sufficient numbers of professional improvement leaves;~~
- ~~4. Include faculty participation in decision-making at the university, school, and departmental levels;~~
- ~~5. Assess teaching quality and reward teaching excellence.~~

## II. Research

- The University will:

- ~~1. Provide opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students to develop research skills;~~
- ~~2. Encourage faculty and professional staff in grant activity and research, participation at professional meetings, and publication;~~
- ~~3. Provide sufficient financial support for faculty and graduate student research;~~
- ~~4. Assess and reward excellence in research.~~
- ~~5. Provide applied research opportunity through specialized research and development centers to assist in solving problems in government, business and economic development.~~

### ~~III. Service~~

- ~~The University will:~~
- ~~1. Provide cultural activities for the community, state, and the region;~~
- ~~2. Provide professional expertise and services of faculty and staff to the community, state, and the region;~~
- ~~3. Provide professional expertise to societies and associations;~~
- ~~4. Provide for the life-long learning needs of the community, state, and region by offering a comprehensive program of continuing education;~~
- ~~5. Provide the effective governance of the university by encouraging faculty and staff participation on university committees and councils;~~
- ~~6. Provide faculty and staff leadership for student honor societies, service organizations, and other special groups;~~
- ~~7. Provide a comprehensive program of alumni services which includes alumni participation in the areas of academics, research and development, recruiting and fund-raising, and which recognizes outstanding achievement by alumni;~~
- ~~8. Assess and reward excellence in service.~~

~~Approved by Board of Trustees, June 5, 1989~~

DISAPPROVED: June 19, 2009