



# AUBURN

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## BIGGIO CENTER

*For the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning*

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AUBURN

BIGGIO CENTER

*For the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning*

Locations: Foy 136, Foy 118

Mission: Promote the professional development of all Instructional, administrative and professional staff in support of excellent teaching & enhanced learning.

Programs: for faculty, for graduate students & University in general

Phone: 334-844-8530    <http://wp.auburn.edu/biggio/>

# Biggio Center leadership



- Director: James Groccia (2003-13\*)
- Associate Director: S. Raj Chaudhury (2009-)
- Assistant Director: Stacey Nickson (2008-)
- Faculty Fellows:
  - Bill Buskist (Liberal Arts)
  - Gisela Buschle-Diller (Eng.)
  - Jared Russell (Education)
- Distance Learning & Testing Services (2011)



# Supporting Auburn's priorities

- #1 Enhance Student Success
  - Student retention and achievement
  - Innovations in eLearning (including distance ed.)
- #2 Support Faculty Vitality
  - Ongoing faculty development programs
  - Strong environment for academic work
- #3 Enhance Research & Scholarship
  - Graduate Student professional development
  - Grantsmanship & scholarship

# Priority 1. Enhance Student Success

- Instructional feedback program
- Mid semester formative assessments
  - Helps students and faculty match expectations –



# Data on Instructional Feedback

- ~60 in-person Small Group Instructional Feedback sessions/year
  - ~2 hours per session (prep, data, write-up, consult)
- ~40+ electronic feedback surveys/year
- Gathering feedback from ~5000 students/year
- **Faculty appreciate it, students appreciate it**
- Confidential process (**not** 'teaching police')

# Priority 1. Enhance Student Success

Goal 3. The university will redefine its role in the development of eLearning programs (including distance education), meeting the needs of current and new Auburn students in ways that are consistent with the university's academic standards.

- Supported development of 30+ new distance education courses in last 2 years (mainly undergrad.)
  - Instructional design assistance
  - Audio-video materials assistance
  - Financial incentives
  - Curriculum review and approval assistance
- Parts of the core now available fully online

# Support staff & Grad Assts.

## Instructional Design/Technology/Multimedia

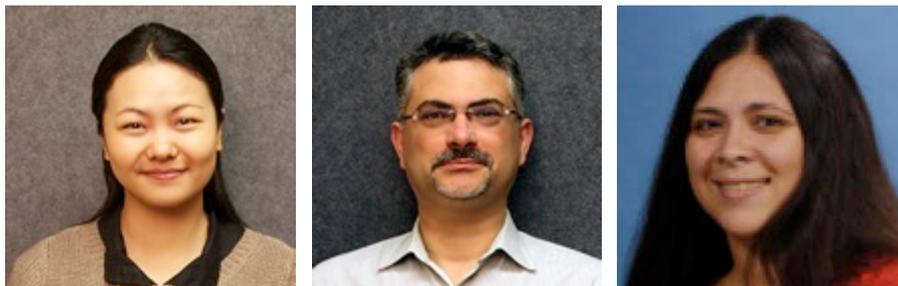


## Distance Learning/Testing Services



## Academic programs

## Administrative support

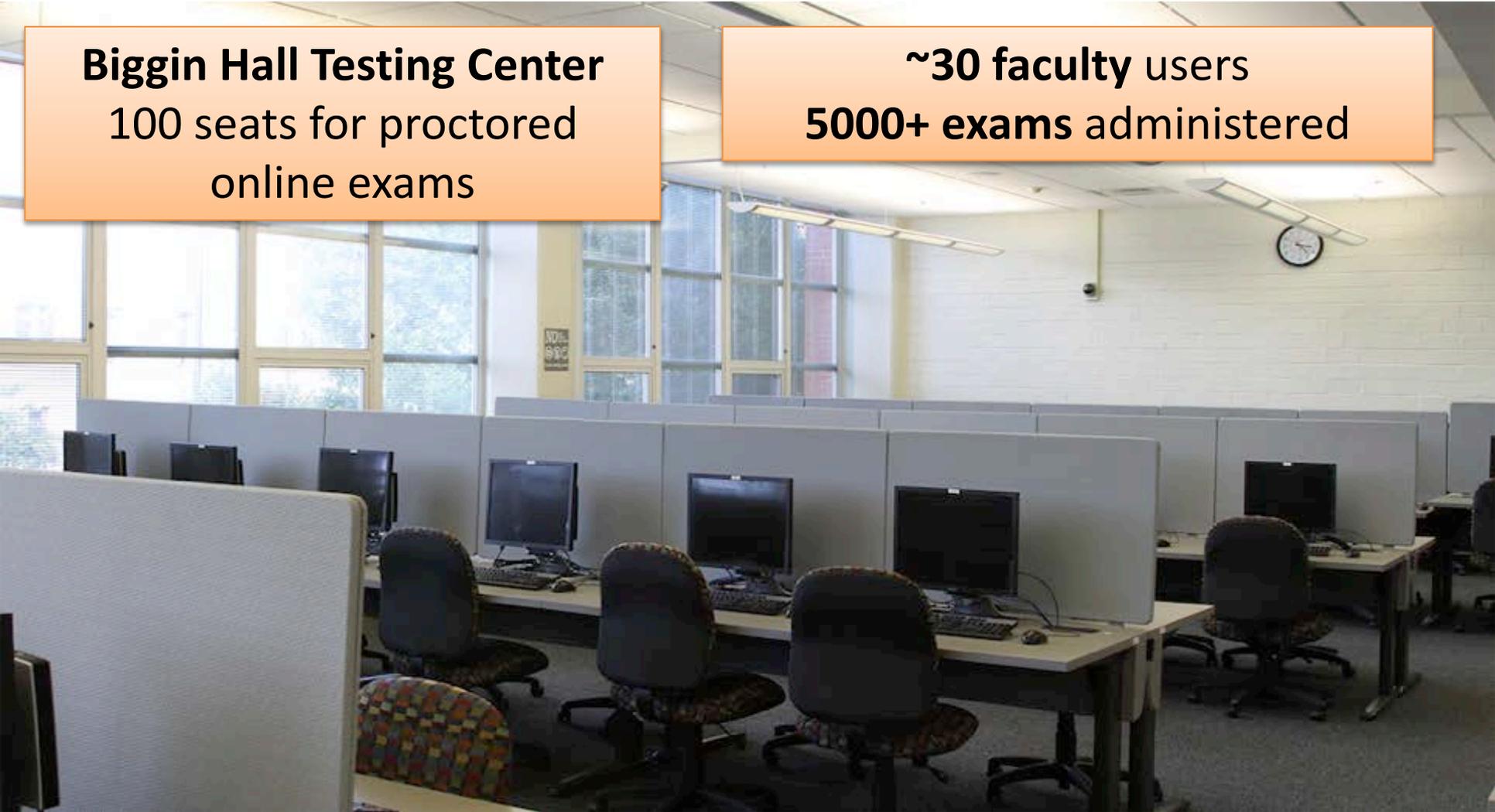


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# eLearning via online Testing

**Biggin Hall Testing Center**  
100 seats for proctored  
online exams

**~30 faculty users**  
**5000+ exams administered**



# eLearning via online Testing

## Foy Hall Testing Center

14 seats for proctored online exams

2012: **800** exams

2013: **1000+** exams  
(MECH 2000/3000 assessments)



# Bringing national exams to Auburn

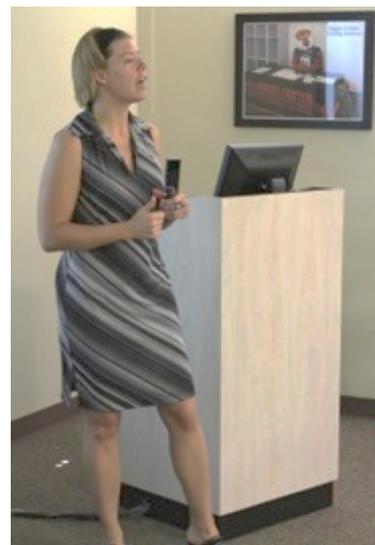
- GMAT
- GED
- MCAT (coming soon)
- GRE Subject Tests (Spring)
- Engineering FE exam

# Priority 2. Support Faculty Vitality



# Supporting Faculty

- Needs assessment survey (Fall '12; N=215)
  - Facilitating effective classroom discussions
  - Incorporating active learning strategies\*\*
  - Designing effective lectures
  - Developing critical thinking/problem solving skills
  - Using technology to enhance learning



# Supporting Active Learning

<http://www.auburn.edu/easl>

<http://youtu.be/HllxkoEdlZA>

“Incubator Classroom”





# Strategic Commitment: Intellectual Environment

- “Cultivate an exciting intellectual environment by increasing opportunities for greater faculty dialogue and engagement.”
  1. Ongoing opportunities for faculty dialogue
  2. Special events focused on timely topics





AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY  
BIGGIO CENTER  
CULTURAL  
INSIGHT  
PROGRAM

- Trained 30+ Auburn faculty in Culture Bump
- Train national/international external audiences
- Support Study Abroad/International Experiences for students through pre-departure seminars
- Contribute to scholarship in inter-cultural communication



# GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING

HOME PROGRAM REGISTRATION PROPOSALS SPEAKERS ABSTRACTS TRAVEL



## Our Handbooks



Registration is free for Auburn University students and faculty with valid ID.

## Key Information

Poster Session Deadline: March 29, 2013  
Dates: April 7-9, 2013  
Location: The Hotel at Auburn University

## Latest Updates

- [The Culture Bump Experience](#)
- [Symposium Theme](#)

2008; 2010; 2013

# Priority 3. Enhance Research & Scholarship

- Graduate Student Professional Development
  - Preparing Future Faculty program (year long; 2 credits)
  - 10 years (over 200 students; 75-80% completion)
  - ~30 doctoral students/year (since 2010); 12+ departments
  - Engineering; CoSAM; Human Sciences; Education
  - In collaboration with the Graduate School



# PFF student comments

- I would like to work in Industry and had never even thought of working as a faculty. But after taking PFF class, I have realized that if I do get an faculty job, I am ready for those challenges.
- I was lost when writing my first teaching statement but after the class on teaching philosophies and research statements (and the acadmic eportfolio) I felt much more prepared for the job seeking process.
- *I enjoyed the different perspectives and opinions in the class that came from different disciplinary backgrounds (76% agreed)*

# Graduate Teaching Assistants

- Fall Orientation (half-day)
  - 200+ new GTAs
  - GTA 101: [First Day of Class](#); [Etiquette](#); [Trouble Students](#); [Technology Usage](#); [Teaching Labs](#) etc.
- Spring Orientation (since 2013)
  - 75+ GTAs (half-day)



# GTA Fellows Program

- Leadership, professional dev. for experienced GTAs
- Launched in 2012 (10 GTAs) – 1 year commitment



Applications due Nov. 10

## Auburn University GTA Survival Guide

written and maintained by and for Auburn GTA's

last updated June 2013

[License](#)

# Grantsmanship & Scholarship

- STEM Education grants
  - NSF CAREER Grants (letters of support)
  - USDA (funded), NSF-REU (funded)
  - NSF, NASA, HHMI
- Publish and present on Teaching & Learning
  - Books/Annual Journals
  - Peer reviewed articles
  - Book chapters
  - Conference proceedings

# Service

- Senate Teaching Effectiveness Committee
- Prestigious Scholarships Committee
- Early Alert Grade Committee
- Information Technology Council
- College of Education DE Committee
- SACS Reaffirmation review
- SACS QEP Exploratory Committee
- Strategic Plan implementation committee[s]

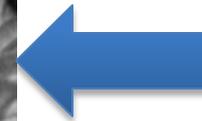


# THIS IS INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION.

Zachary Watson's undergraduate research involves looking at the effect of using different materials in constructing acoustic, flat-top guitars to better understand the influence of different materials used for the nut and saddle in relation to the sound of the guitar. He is majoring in materials engineering with a music minor.



**Zach  
Watson**



**Auburn Indian Music Ensemble**

Questions?

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