

AUTHENTICALLY AUBURN

UNDERSTANDING AND APPLYING THE AUBURN BRAND

HR CONFERENCE 2024 BRIDGET WYKE





AGENDA

- 1. Purpose of Branding
- 2. Visual Brand Identity
- 3. Brand Assets and Resources
- 4. Brand Coherence
- 5. Brand Positioning
- 6. Brand Voice and Messaging
- 7. Brand Campaign
- 8. Questions/Discussion



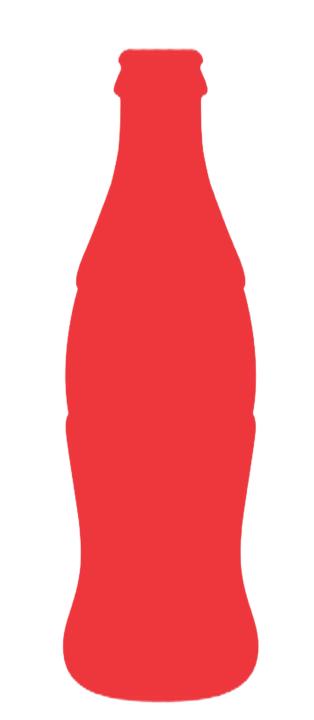


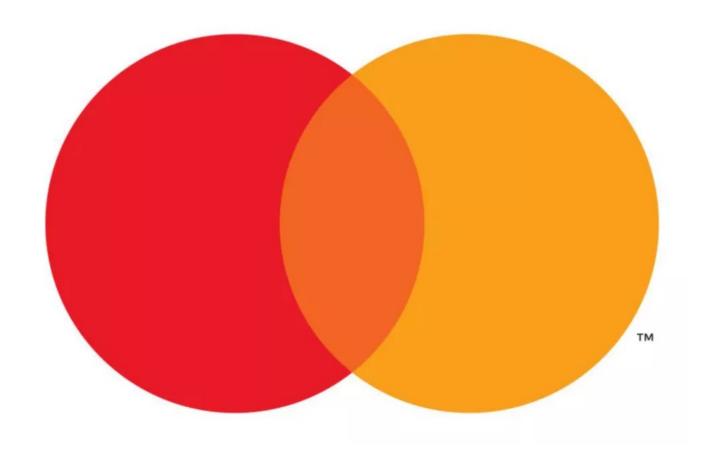


THE PURPOSE OF BRANDING

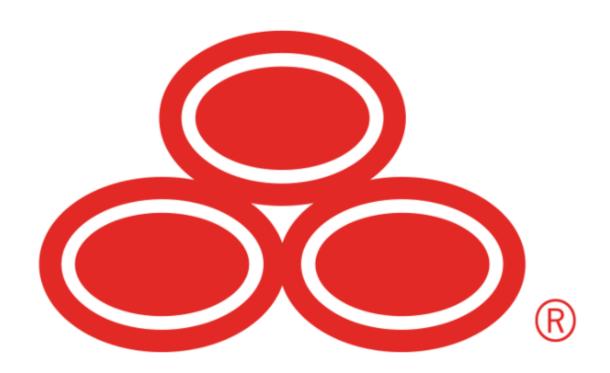
- Create an instantly recognizable identity.
- Establish trust and credibility.
- Convey a persona that the target audience relates to.















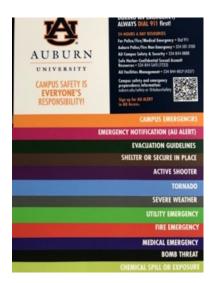


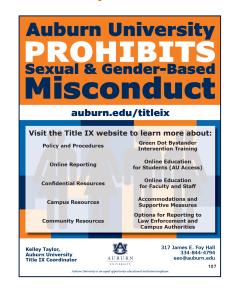




WHERE WE STARTED (BEFORE BRAND IDENTITY)

NO COHESIVE BRANDING, LACK OF CONSISTENCY

















WHERE WE ARE NOW

Join us for Auburn University's COLLEGE **PREVIEW** DAY!



8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Melton Student Center Ballrooms A and B

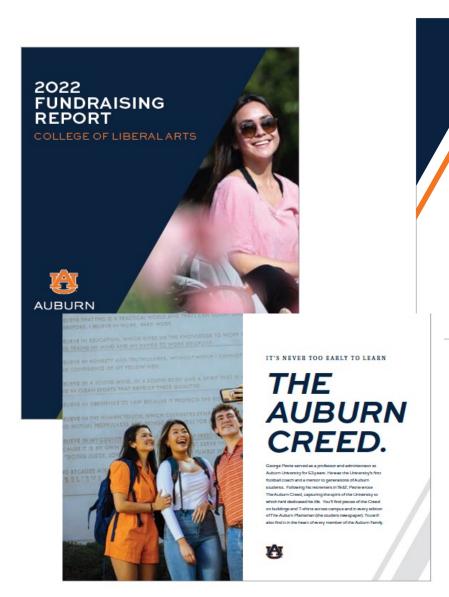
- · Meet faculty, staff and campus partners.
- · Talk with students and learn how to shape your own Auburn Experience.
- · Explore Auburn's beautiful campus.

Lunch provided



ourn University is an equal opportunity educational institution/employs duced by the Office of Communications and Marketing, October 2022.







Saturday, April 22nd

The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center







Harrison College of Pharmacy Division of Clinical Affairs and Outreach

Brianna Foster OFFICE OF ALUMNIAND PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS





Dear [NAME],

This year, the College of Agriculture celebrates 150 years of transformative, world-changing research, teaching, and extension. What we have achieved is possible because of committed donors such as yourself.

As we celebrate this milestone, we want to continue providing exceptional learning opportunities for our students, as well as facilitating groundbreaking research from our faculty members.

Our priorities this year include:

- . The Transformation Garden, a 16-acre teaching garden on Ag Hill that will offer our students hands-on experiences in horticulture, agricultural technology management, crop, soil and environmental sciences and
- . A new Agricultural Science Research Building. This state-of-the-art facility will provide faculty members and students currently housed in Funchess Hall with new workplaces and research facilities.
- . The restoration of Comer Hall. This 100-year-old building is one of the most iconic on campus, and its interior needs updating. The restoration of the inside of this building will serve students and faculty, while reflecting the beauty of its exterior.

Please give to the College of Agriculture today.

Your continued commitment will help us fulfill our vision to prepare students to lead the way in agriculture, food, and natural resources for the purpose of improved quality of life and well-being for individuals and communities.

Thank you and War Eagle,



Paul Patterson

P.S. Give online at AuburnGiving.org/Ag or return the enclosed gift envelope. Thank you!



I am a senior from Lakeland, Fla. Pm majoring in animal science, with minors in poultry science and business

THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE:

I knew I wanted to work in animal agriculture and the College of Agriculture provided so many opportunities - a sense of family and the promise of a successful future if I was willing to put in the work.

The generosity of those who give to our college has allowed me the opportunity to explore my passion and learn how to feed the world. Our facilities offer an amazing learning environment, and the scholarships have significantly lessened the burden of out-ofstate tuition for me.

SUPPORTING THE AUBURN **FAMILY**

The Foy Society consists of 26,760 loyal members of the Auburn Family, representing all 50 states, eight countries, and includes alumni from the classes of 1941 through 2022.





AREAS OF SUPPORT

SCHOLARSHIPS -MORETHAN-\$312 MILLION



PROGRAMS -MORETHAN-\$777 MILLION

နှာ FACULTY -MORE THAN-\$96.5 MILLION



26,760 DONORS 789,500 GIFTS -TOTALING MORE THAN-\$1.45 BILLION

Foy Society members with 25 or more years of consecutive giving to Auburn **3,479** DONORS

\$486 MILLION



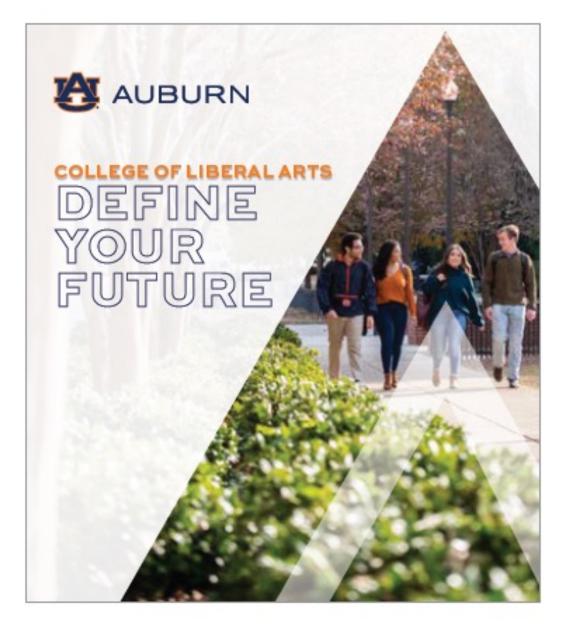




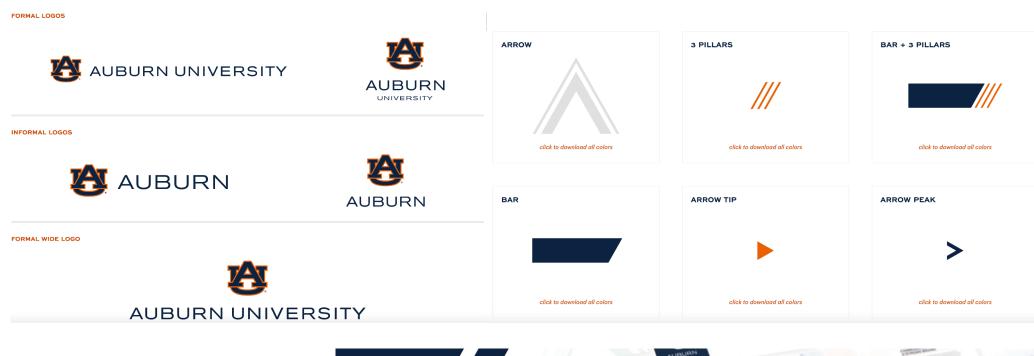








COHESIVE BRAND IDENTITY SYSTEM







THE CORE VISUAL IDENTITY ELEMENT

- Meaningful, directly connected to Auburn
- Flexible in application
- Ability to evolve over time



AUBURN ARROW



THREE PILLARS





A CONNECTION BETWEEN ADMINISTRATION & ATHLETICS







COLOR PALETTE BASED ON AUBURN EXPERIENCE



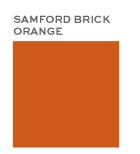






AUBURN BLUE















PRIMARY

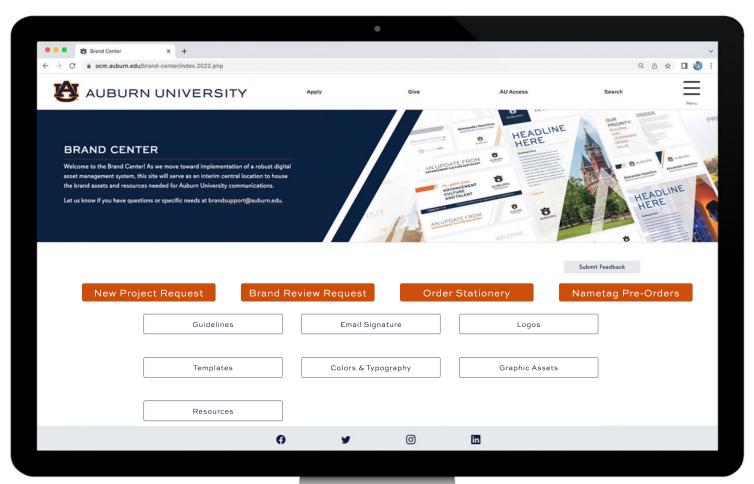
SECONDARY





BRAND CENTER

https://aub.ie/brandcenter

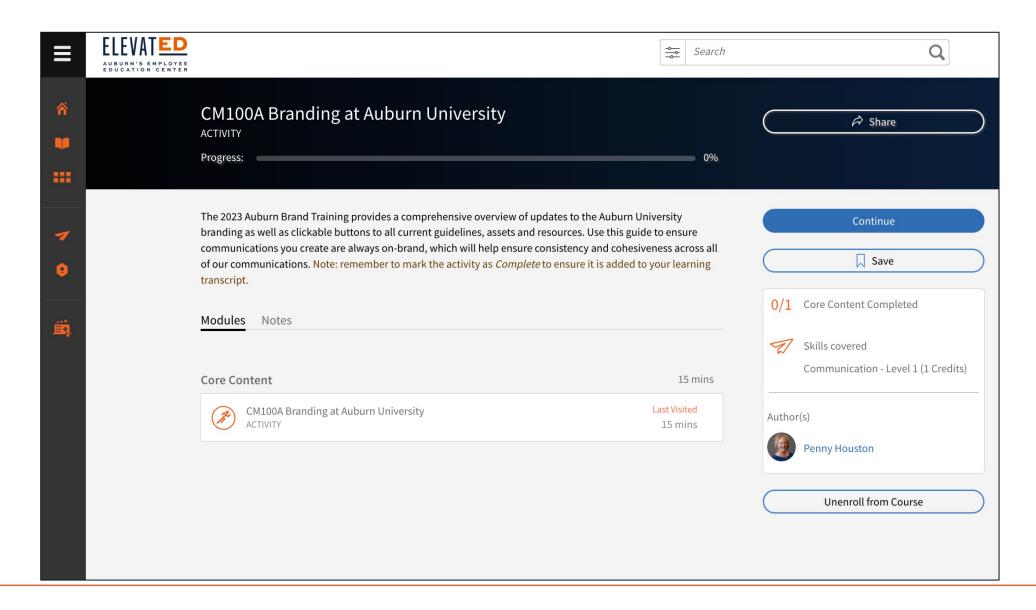


- Project Request
- Brand Review Request
- Order Stationery
- Order Nametags
- Guidelines
- Email Signature Generator
- Logos
- Templates
- Colors & Typography
- Graphic Assets
- Resources





BRAND TRAINING



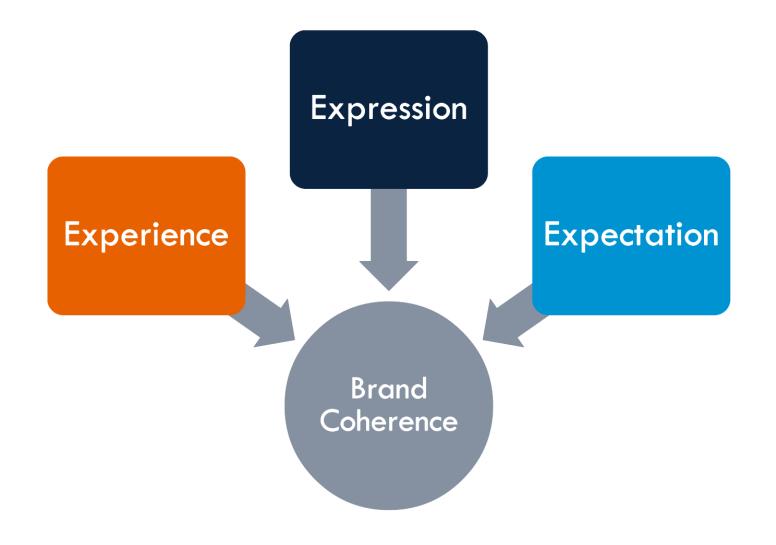




FOCUS ON BRAND COHERENCE

Coherence exists when the answers to three foundational questions are in alignment:

- 1. Experience
 What is true about Auburn?
- 2. **Expression (Message)**What does Auburn say is true about itself?
- 3. **Expectation (Brand)**What do others say and believe to be true about Auburn?





COMPREHENSIVE BRAND RESEARCH

CAMPUS LISTENING SESSIONS

- Approx. 100 people
 - President & SLT
 - Advancement SLT
 - College Communicators
 - cAUse Marketing & Philanthropy Communications
 - OCM
 - Trademark & Licensing
 - Admissions/Enrollment
 - Athletics Leadership
 - Student Affairs/Student Involvement
 - Extension & Outreach
 - Career Services
 - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
 - Faculty / Assoc Deans of Research
 - Undergrad & Grad Students
 - Alumni (virtual sessions)

BRAND STUDY: QUALITATIVE

- Completed 14 listening sessions among 12 audience groups:
 - Students
 - Staff
 - Faculty
 - Deans/Dept Chairs
 - Alumni
 - Donors
 - Corporate Foundations
 - Employers
 - Mayors
 - High School Guidance Counselors
 - Journalists
 - Economic Development Leaders

BRAND STUDY: QUANTITATIVE

- 3,246 respondents:
 - Undergraduate Students
 - Graduate Students
 - Staff
 - Faculty
 - Alumni
 - Donors
 - Economic Development Leaders
 - Employers

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH OVERVIEW



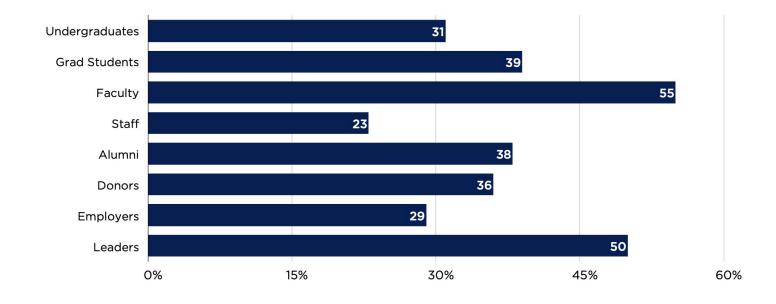
- Completed 14 listening sessions among 12 audience groups:
 - Current Students
 - Staff
 - Faculty
 - Deans/Dept Chairs
 - Alumni
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 - Employers
 - Mayors
 - High School Guidance Counselors
 - Journalists
 - Economic Development Leaders

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH AND BRAND HEALTH INDEX

 Auburn's 2023 Brand Health Index = 53.17



On average, only 37% of respondents were extremely familiar or very familiar with Auburn's research, extension and outreach activity and impact.

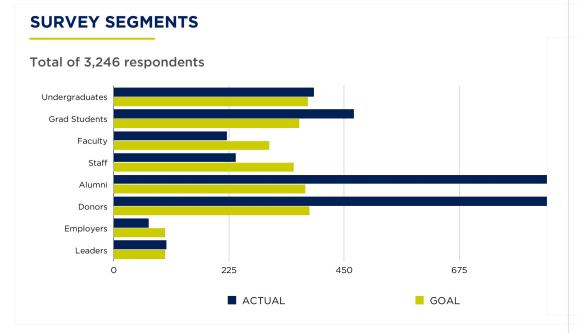


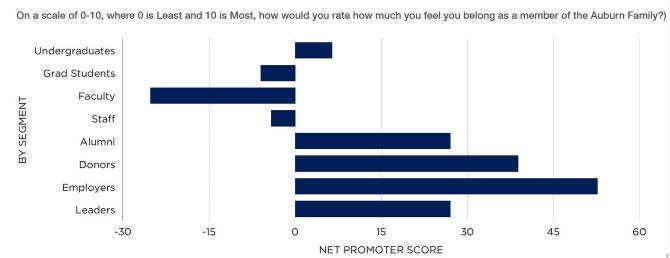
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KEY FINDINGS FROM RESEARCH

FACULTY AND STAFF

 Faculty and staff were the only internal groups that did not meet survey response goals. Faculty, staff and graduate students were the only groups to have a negative NPS score for Belonging.





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WHAT WE LEARNED FROM RESEARCH

FACULTY AND STAFF

While employee satisfaction is generally strong, to achieve the desired culture of excellence and innovation, we need
to address gaps in the employee experience that the survey results revealed.

- "Auburn is extremely inconsistent in how different departments operate. The culture, policies and procedures, opportunities for staff development and satisfaction among employees varies greatly depending on unit and largely the leadership of that unit. We are not all moving towards common goals."
- "As a student, the Auburn experience was unmatched. As a staff member, there are a lot of issues and politics that make the work environment more challenging than it needs to be."

How likely is it you would recommend applying for a staff position at Auburn University to a friend or colleague?



WHAT WE LEARNED FROM RESEARCH

FACULTY AND STAFF

• As a key part of the university's brand strategy, there is **opportunity to develop the employer brand** in alignment with overarching university branding.

How likely is it that you would recommend applying for a **faculty position** at Auburn University to a friend or colleague?



On a scale of 0-10, where 0 is Least and 10% is Most, how would you rate how much you feel you **belong** as a member of the Auburn Family?



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WHO WE ARE

Our Core DNA

Authentically Auburn

WHAT MAKES US AUTHENTICALLY AUBURN

What We Believe and What We Do



OUR BRAND PERSONALITY DEFINES WHAT WE SAY AND HOW WE SAY IT

Message and Tone of Voice

Brand Narrative

Authentically Auburn

The Auburn Creed remains a set of values that Auburn family members continue to live by on and off campus.



The eagle flight serves as a symbol of the Auburn spirit and is kept alive through Auburn's battle cry and greeting "War Eagle." ESPN named it the SEC's best pre-game tradition.

Mindset of faculty and researchers to help students and colleagues be successful rather than doing it for the credit.

Tailgate Location 247 Sports



After big wins, fans come together to "roll" Toomer's Corner with toilet paper. The New York Post named this one of the nation's top college experiences to see live.

Auburn is part of a tiger preservation consortium with Missouri, Clemson and LSU to protect and restore wild tigers.



62% A chemistry professor goes out of his way, recognizing prospective student's potential and

sets up an advising

appointment for him in

chemical engineering.

of Tiger Giving Day 2022 donors were alumni. Largest number of donors in University history.

of students involved in at least 1 of 500+ clubs supported by the First 56.

Auburn family members will see someone at an airport in another country wearing Auburn gear and instantly bond, and even maintain a friendship.

TOP **Tailgates** Insider

Almost half of 240.000+ living alumni remain in Alabama.

Auburn fans line up three hours before home and away games to participate in the Tiger Walk.

Auburn students ranked happiest in the country by Princeton Review.

Hey Day

encourages students, faculty, staff and the rest of the Auburn family to wear a name tag and greet one another in an effort to maintain a welcoming environment.

Authentically Auburn

TOP 11 %

Research Institutions

NSF's Higher Education Research & Development Survey

#3

SEC Public University

US News 2023 Report Top 50 Public University Top 100 National University

1000₀
job placement rate for graduating seniors for 8 years in a row at college of Business: 100% internship

Nationally ranked programs

placement rate for juniors.

Venture Accelerator

helps students develop successful businesses.

 2_{nd}

Highest Per-Capita 15-year Income in the SEC Almost every sport has won a national title.

The Auburn family lives the Auburn Creed every day and in everything they do.

HARD WORK

LAND-GRANT, & SEA-GRANT, & SPACE-GRANT MISSION

The Auburn Across Alabama
Experience provides Auburn
faculty, staff, students and
administration with experiences
across the state to help them better
understand the needs, assets, and
opportunities for engagement
throughout Alabama in order to
help build a better Alabama.

Received Carnegie R1 Classification as a top-level university with "very high research activity."

40+

Centers & Institutes

150+

Programs in 12 Colleges

107%

approx. increase in research expenditures over last 10 yrs.

According to the Alabama Board of Nursing, Auburn has an average NCLEX pass rate of 97.8%, and the nursing program is ranked #1 in the state.

56%

seniors participated in an internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement. 43%

seniors held a formal leadership role in a student organization or group.

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Authentically Auburn

\$6.3 billion

economic contribution to the state of Alabama, including creating more than 30,000 jobs in addition to university employment.

NOTABLE ALUMNI

in the world influencing business, government, engineering, & more

Octavia Spencer

Charles Barkley Tim Cook Frank Thomas

Jimmy Wales

Bo Jackson

Millard Fuller

Kathryn Thomas

Samuel Ginn

(and more)

AT THE FOREFRONT OF ENSURING A MORE CYBERSECURE WORLD.

"Our graduates are the ones who make the state of Alabama work,"

astronauts part of 20 missions

out of 10 NASA Directors are Auburn Alumni

OnMed

makes healthcare accessible and affordable to communities.

Rural Studio

making internet accessible to Newburn, AL residents.

Add Milk!

provides healthy fluid milk to more than 116 locations.

Researchers challenge the status quo finding new information or new ways of doing things affecting people's everyday lives from textbooks to supply chain and understanding medicine.

A specially designed belt to relieve discomfort for marching band drummers.

Custom 3D printed protective equipment for athletes.

Food safety sensors for detecting pathogens in the supply chain.

A bio-based soil amendment to improve crop yield.

A renewable catalyst for the removal of toxic chemicals from ground and drinking water.

A method to produce an MRI contrast agent that is safer than current options on the market.

Innate immune system discovery opening the door to understanding immune system evolution.

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MESSAGING ALIGNMENT



Auburn Amplifiers, Media



HR MESSAGING ALIGNMENT (EXERCISE)







BRAND VOICE AND TONE

Auburn's institutional voice is wise, straight forward, no nonsense. But it is not cold. It is warm and engaging, confident and assured.

Not because we believe we know it all, but because we know that the challenges we seek to address through our work demand poise and precision. Cool heads and steady hands will prevail.

We already walk the walk. Let's talk the talk.

BRAND NARRATIVE

We believe in work, hard work. We always have and always will.

We work wisely and skillfully. Intentionally. For our Auburn Family, for the betterment of our neighbors, for those we've never met and for those we may never meet.

We believe that knowledge is meant to be shared – beyond our classrooms and campus – with those who need it most. Our alumni – engaged citizens shaped by a student experience like no other – believe the same. As a result, the work we do finds its way into the world.

You can find the fruits of our labor in boardrooms, laboratories and classrooms around the world, in the skies above the plains, in the food we eat, on gallery walls.

But our work isn't done.

We now come to a crucial moment in history. The very nature of work is changing. Where we work. The tools we use. The complexity of the problems we're asked to solve. Amid all this change, what will see us through? Those enduring tenets that make us **Authentically Auburn**: Family. Belief. Hard work. Curiosity. A spirit that is not afraid.

BRAND NARRATIVE (CONTINUED)

What cannot be achieved when a community believes? What challenge cannot be met when a family unites? What might we accomplish if we work together – harder and smarter – toward a common goal?

At the forefront of every challenge, you will find us **Innovating, Building, Serving, Leading.** Advancing intelligent systems, building resilient communities, improving health and healthcare, and creating a safer, more prosperous future.

The Auburn Family never backs down from the work the world demands. The result: Challenges met. Problems solved. Communities transformed.

We've earned the right to dream the biggest dreams. So let us dream them. And let us pour **our heart and our hard work** into making them a reality.



FIVE KEY MESSAGING TENETS OF AUBURN EXPERIENCE

EXERCISE

1. Family

- Support our teams
- Hold each other accountable to achieve goals for mutual success

2. Belief

- In ourselves and each other
- Have the best of intentions and assume the same from others

3. Work

- How might HR specifically talk about Work?
- 4. Curiosity
 - How might HR specifically talk about Curiosity?
- 5. A spirit that is not afraid
 - How might HR specifically talk about a spirit that is not afraid?





OVERARCHING CHARGE

Increase the reputation and ranking of Auburn University

Exceptional student-centered experiences Elevate our impact Culture of excellence and innovation SUPPORTING GOALS Attract brightest minds Increase awareness in Alabama and nationwide (students, faculty, staff) Showcase economic and societal impact Attract economic investment and partnerships **Activate Auburn family** Increase reputation outside of Alabama (alumni, parents, friends, donors) Capitalize on athletics brand **Expand the narrative**

Audiences: Auburn Family, Extended Family & Neighbors, Business Leaders & Partners, Peers, Influencers & Ambassadors, Future Family

BRAND CAMPAIGN PLANNING TIMELINE

Q4 2023 - Q1 2024

Q2 2024

Q3 - Q4 2024

Q1 2025

Q2 2025

Brand Study

National Campaign Planning

> National Campaign Creative Concept

> > University Strategic Plan Rollout

Campaign Executions Work and Campus Partner Integration

Internal Campaign Rollout

Peer Campaign in Market

QUESTIONS?

brandsupport@auburn.edu



