



AUBURN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION | 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



AUBURN
College of Education

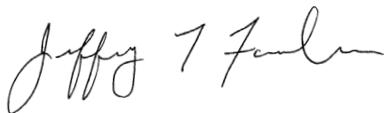
A Message from Dean Jeff Fairbrother

2023 was a year of noteworthy accomplishments for Auburn University's College of Education. From groundbreaking external funding to the literal groundbreaking for our new building scheduled to open in 2025, we saw tremendous advances in our commitment to academics, research, and outreach.

Throughout the pages of this annual report, you will discover compelling initiatives, exceptional student success, significant philanthropic impact, and much more. We hope you will be inspired to join us in building a better future for all.

We remain grateful to our donors, partners, alumni, and friends who help make our mission possible.

Thank you and War Eagle!



Jeffrey T. Fairbrother
*Dean, College of Education
Wayne T. Smith Distinguished Professor*



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

College of Education faculty members pioneer funded research, outreach, and programmatic initiatives with impact on a wide range of critical health and education issues. In 2023, our faculty partnered in funded projects with

nearly every college on Auburn's campus and many universities throughout the nation. Our greatest success is found in collaboration with colleagues who are also committed to building better futures for all.



\$76 million

total active funding of projects involving the college

\$44.7 million

total active funding of college-led projects



Research collaborations in **10** out of
Auburn's other **11** colleges

Auburn's College of Education continues its upward climb with a consistent year-over-year growth in research funding. We've maintained more than 90 active projects for the past three years and continue pursuing research

collaborations with real-world impact. The College of Education's research — on topics ranging from cardiovascular health to teacher shortages — advances our mission to build a better future for all.

STUDENT SUCCESS



1,643
Undergraduates



897
Graduate Students

One of the most compelling aspects of the Auburn College of Education student experience is found in the research opportunities available to our exceptional students like those listed below.

Predocloral Clinical/Translational Research Program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's (UAB) Center for Clinical and Translational Science

UAB's Predocloral Clinical/Translational Research Program is a full-time program for predoctoral students funded through the National Institutes of Health National Research Service Award program.



Chloe Jones | Kinesiology
Soolim Jeong | Kinesiology

Presidential Graduate Opportunity Program

The Presidential Graduate Opportunity Program Fellowships are part of a focused initiative to enhance the diversity, inclusion and retention of Auburn University's graduate student population.



Derick Anglin | Kinesiology
Tamarceo Shaw | Music Education

Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship

The Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship is part of a focused initiative to enhance Auburn University's research and scholarly profile by attracting outstanding students for doctoral studies.



Marina Meyer Vega | Kinesiology
Moriah Wallace | Math Education

Not Pictured **Keven Santamaria-Guzmán** | Kinesiology

EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION

School of Kinesiology

- 68% of undergraduates participate in research
- Received the American Kinesiology Association Inclusive Excellence Award in 2023

Department of Special Education, Rehabilitation, & Counseling

- American Psychological Association accreditation — Counseling Psychology
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs accreditation — Counselor Education doctoral program, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling master's programs

Department of Curriculum & Teaching

- Houses the only Agricultural Education program in the state of Alabama
- 100% certification rate for graduates of teacher education programs

Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership, & Technology

- Garnered an historic \$18.4 million federal grant for innovative GEAR UP Achieve initiative
- Education and Administration Program ranked #13 by US News and World Report





COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES

GEAR UP Achieve

Led by efforts from the College of Education and University Outreach, Auburn University received a seven-year **\$18.4 million** grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education in 2023. The program will provide more than 6,500 Alabama middle school students greater access to higher education and the preparation to thrive when they are in college.

AUteach

Professors from Auburn University's College of Education and College of Sciences and Mathematics joined forces in 2023 to help reverse a glaring shortage of K-12 STEM teachers throughout the state of Alabama. An interdisciplinary team from both colleges will use a **\$3 million** grant from the Alabama Commission on Higher Education to develop a UTeach program at Auburn.

School Counseling Integrated Program

Auburn professors in the College of Education and College of Nursing have launched a new collaborative initiative designed to increase mental health services in rural Alabama schools.

A first-year grant award of \$352,526 from the U.S. Department of Education and nearly **\$3 million** in expected total funding over five years has allowed faculty to create the School Counseling Integrated Program. This program brings together the distinct skills of school counselors, school nurses and English to speakers of other languages teachers to address the growing mental health needs of K-12 students.



Developing CLEAR Thinking

Professors in Auburn’s College of Education and the College of Liberal Arts have been awarded more than **\$2 million** in funding from the U.S. Department of Education to conduct virtual professional development with secondary social studies teachers from across the Nation.

AI Educational Program

In a collaboration between Auburn’s College of Education and the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, several Auburn University faculty members have recently been awarded a nearly **\$200,000** National Science Foundation (NSF) Rapid Response Research (RAPID) Grant to initiate a career-driven AI educational program for highschool students.

Rural Health Disparities

Auburn University’s College of Education recently received a **\$850,000** philanthropic grant from the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation to support research into health disparities in rural communities. The funding will support a pioneering study that examines the impact of discrimination on Black people living with multiple sclerosis in rural communities. Findings from the study will help researchers develop customized support for patients—improving the disproportionate health outcomes in this population.

PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT

The Auburn Family’s generous support ensures our exceptional students have the access and opportunity to attend our college and that our academics, research, and outreach programs thrive.

Total: **\$3,491,339**

Student Support: \$1,452,372

Programmatic Support: \$1,128,653

Facilities Support: \$910,314



Gifts/Pledges: \$2,783,839

Planned Gifts: \$707,500

of donors: 1,393

Average Gift: \$1,460

Largest Gift: \$300,000

BY THE NUMBERS

850

degrees awarded

82%

of 2023 graduates
employed

400

classroom ready teachers
graduated (15% increase)

91,600

faculty combined
career citations

RANKINGS

#13

School of Kinesiology
doctoral program ranked
nationally by the National
Academy of Kinesiology

#10

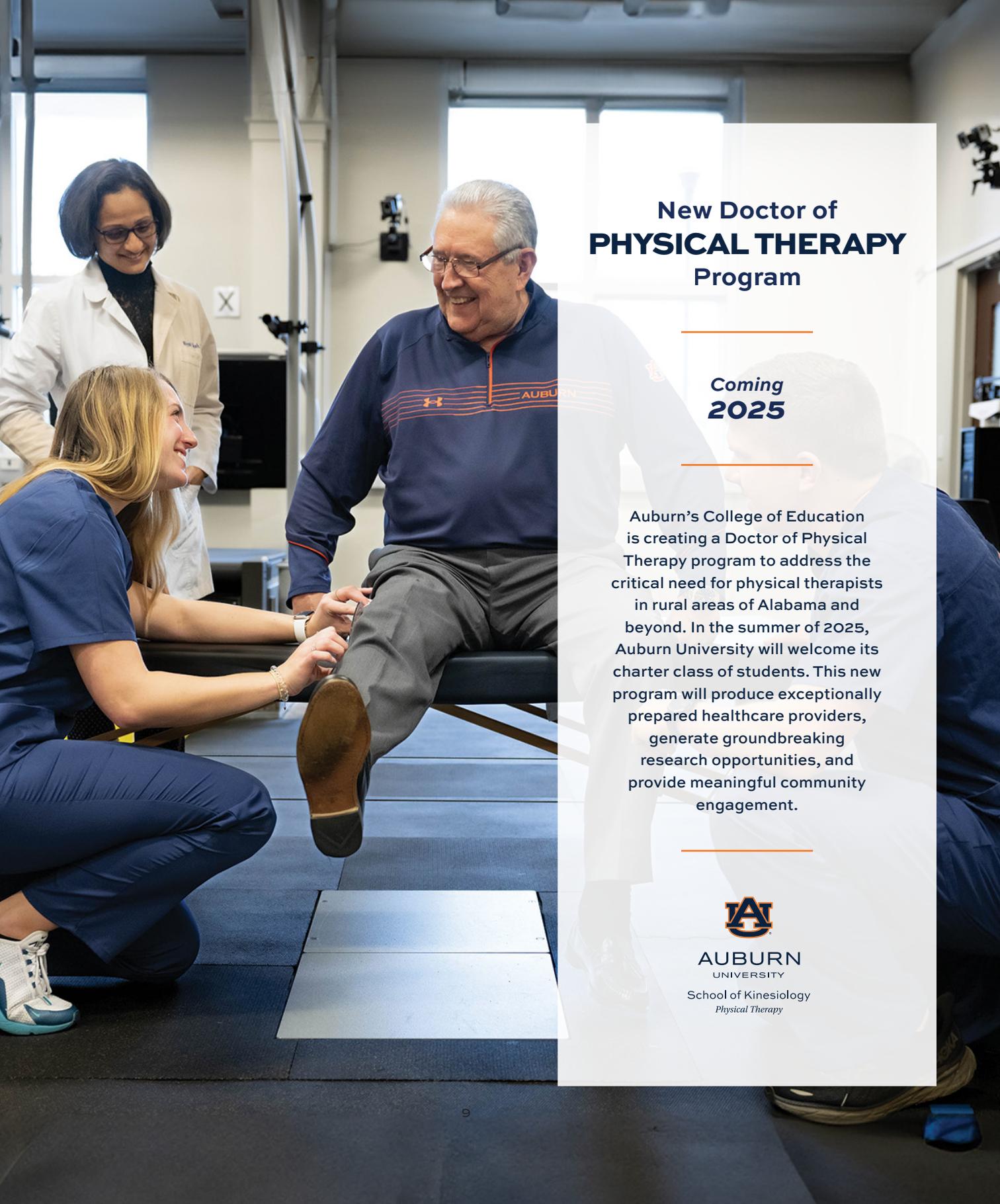
Online Master’s in
Education Program
ranked by US News
and World Report

#12

Curriculum and Instruction
Online Master’s Programs
ranked by US News and
World Report

#19

Clinical Rehabilitation
Counseling program
ranked by US News
and World Report



New Doctor of **PHYSICAL THERAPY** Program

**Coming
2025**

Auburn's College of Education is creating a Doctor of Physical Therapy program to address the critical need for physical therapists in rural areas of Alabama and beyond. In the summer of 2025, Auburn University will welcome its charter class of students. This new program will produce exceptionally prepared healthcare providers, generate groundbreaking research opportunities, and provide meaningful community engagement.



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

School of Kinesiology
Physical Therapy

**At Auburn's College of Education,
THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME**

"This new building will bring the majority of the college into one space, fostering cohesiveness, promoting a stronger sense of identity, and creating more opportunities for students to interact with faculty and staff."

**JEFF FAIRBROTHER
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**



COMING: IN 2025!





“I’m thrilled that the university is placing education at the forefront. It’s time to put **a spotlight** on all the outstanding work being done in the college and **this new building is going to do that.**”

KAREN ANDERSON ‘12 | ALABAMA STATE DEPT. OF EDUCATION

“Our new building will enhance **the student experience** for all of us in the college. I’m most excited about the new classrooms, study rooms, and places we can just hang out. **I can’t wait to move in!**”



MADDY MESSICK | ELEMENTARY EDUCATION JUNIOR



Discover more about the impact of our new building at aub.ie/EDUnewbuilding





AUBURN UNIVERSITY

College of Education

education.auburn.edu