# The First Year Experience Office

### Where we fit

- Division of the Office of Undergraduate Studies
- Report to Dr. Constance Relihan
  - Other OUS units include the AU Career Center,
    Academic Support, Co-op, Undergraduate
    Research, the Honors College, and more
- Physical location is 189 Foy Hall

- Camp War Eagle
  - Orientation for freshmen and parents
- SOS
  - Orientation for transfers and families
- First Year Seminars
  - Academic courses for transitional students
- Learning Communities
  - Cohorts of students taking multiple classes together including a first year seminar
    - Major based
    - Interdisciplinary

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### **Camp War Eagle Mission Statement**

 Camp War Eagle is committed to providing an orientation experience which will promote the academic, social and personal success of incoming freshmen students, aiding in their adjustment to Auburn University and increasing the student retention rate into the second year.

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# Camp War Eagle Schedule

#### Student Schedule

- Series of five Tiger Talks, two browse sessions, and three breakout sessions on first day
- Second day includes academic advising, registration training, fall semester registration and additional Tiger Talks

#### Parent Schedule

- Series of panel discussions from university administrators and faculty, plus breakout and browse sessions
- Parents join students for academic advising

# **Camp War Eagle Attendance**

Attendance at CWE is a result of the admissions process

Year	CWE Registered	CWE Attended	% CWE Attended	Total Freshmen
2010	4,259	4,161	97.7%	4,204
2011	4,328	4,190	96.8%	4,202
2012	3,901	3,803	97.5%	3,852
2013	3,778	3,704	98.0%	3,726
2014	4,591			

# **Camp War Eagle Partners**

- Every College/School
- Division of Student Affairs
- Auxiliary Enterprises (Housing, Dining, Parking, TigerCard)
- Communications and Marketing
- Athletics
- OIRA (BCSSE)

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### **SOS Schedule**

- Two different schedules
  - Full day offered five times a year
    - Includes two small group sessions, breakout sessions, campus tour, computing resources session, academic advising and registration assistance
  - Half day offered in August and January
    - One small group session, academic advising, optional campus tours and registration assistance
  - Parents/family members attend, but much less frequently than CWE

### **SOS Attendance**

Term Attending SOS	Term Enrolling	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Spring/Summer	Summer/Fall	1,295	1,168	1,149	948*
Fall**	Spring	241	167	220	236

<sup>\*</sup> August 2014 session not included

<sup>\*\*</sup> Includes freshmen who began in spring term

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### **First Year Seminars Mission**

First Year Seminars at Auburn University are committed to teaching and having students demonstrate critical academic, career, and personal success skills that help students effectively and efficiently adjust to university life. A diverse and rich curriculum will help students develop and master critical thinking skills, time management, study skills, note taking, goal setting, career and major exploration, academic and emotional adjustment issues, healthy behaviors, and an appreciation for and understanding of diversity among people. Additionally, first year seminars will help instill a sense of belonging to the University community by exposing students to Auburn's institutional history, traditions, and research mission and by facilitating access to campus and community support services and involvement opportunities.

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### First Year Seminar Enrollment

Year	Sections Taught	Students Enrolled	Freshman Class	% Freshman Class
2009-10	101	2,308	3,918	58.9%
2010-11	112	2,423	4,204	57.6%
2011-12	102	2,307	4,202	54.9%
2012-13	90	2,022	3,853	52.5%
2013-14	83	1,863	3,726	50.0%

### **First Year Seminars**

- Will transition completely to e-book this fall
- Will incorporate more career exploration this fall to aid in students' choice of major
- Will partner with Student Affairs in administering AlcoholEdu and Haven

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# **Learning Communities Mission**

 The Auburn University Learning Community program is committed to providing students with a supportive and challenging environment that supports students in achieving the general education outcomes through freshman seminar classes taught by dedicated instructors, coregistered core classes with outside support, residential communities, out-of-class engagement opportunities, integrative experiences, service-learning, and leadership opportunities beyond the freshman year.

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# **Learning Community definition**

- Learning communities are groups of 25 students who share a common interest in either an academic college or interdisciplinary topic.
- A learning community takes several classes together including either a First Year Seminar course or an introductory course in the major and one to three core curriculum courses.

# **Learning Community Enrollment**

Year	Learning Communities	Students Enrolled	Freshman Class	% Freshman Class
2009-10	27	600	3,918	15.3%
2010-11	40	934	4,204	22.2%
2011-12	40	898	4,202	21.3%
2012-13	38	865	3,853	22.5%
2013-14	37	844	3,726	22.7%

# How can faculty help?

- Develop a Learning Community
- Teach a First Year Seminar class
- Attend advising at CWE and SOS