

## Auburn University Samuel Ginn College of Engineering

### Young Alumni Council Student Engagement Guidelines

The guidelines presented here are intended to provide a framework for Young Alumni Council (YAC) members to interact directly with department representatives with the purpose of increasing young alumni (YA)/current student engagement.

#### What is the Young Alumni Council?

The Samuel Ginn College of Engineering is committed to engaging its young Auburn engineers with the activities of the college. To demonstrate the value of its YA, the college has a YAC to serve as a focus group to help keep our alumni involved in Auburn Engineering. The Mission is to engage, support and connect engineering YA. YA provide a unique opportunity to engage with current engineering students to provide valuable knowledge and coaching for a successful professional life after college. This document is intended to serve as a guide for the relationship between Engineering Departments and YA regarding student engagement.

#### YAC Role with Student Engagement

Why	What	How
Auburn engineering students will be more successful if they hone their soft skills while at Auburn in addition to developing a solid technical foundation. There are opportunities for engineering YA to help with both of those objectives.	Connect current students with YA in order to achieve the following benefits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Networking</li> <li>• Current students learn from YA about:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What they wish they had known while still in school</li> <li>○ What to expect about life after graduation</li> <li>○ Lessons learned / best practices</li> <li>○ Career opportunities</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Provides an opportunity to engage YA with College of Engineering activities other than giving</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentor students</li> <li>• Participate as a guest speaker / panel member</li> <li>• Attend networking events such as tailgates</li> <li>• Help with senior design and course projects               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sponsor</li> <li>○ Submit ideas</li> <li>○ Mentor teams</li> <li>○ Judge presentations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

#### Program Contacts

Department	Department Contact	YAC Contact
Aerospace	<a href="#">Joe Majdalani</a>	<a href="#">Dion Aviki</a>
BioSystems	<a href="#">Steve Taylor</a>	<a href="#">Lindsay Tucker</a>
Civil	<a href="#">Justin Marshall</a> / <a href="#">Mary Hughes</a>	<a href="#">Angela Fanney</a> / <a href="#">Julia Green</a>
Chemical	<a href="#">Mario Eden</a>	<a href="#">Darryl Bowman</a> / <a href="#">Laura Clenney</a> <a href="#">Kezar</a>
Comp/Software/Wireless	<a href="#">Dean Hendrix</a>	<a href="#">Rose-Gaelle Belinga</a> / <a href="#">Bo Bledsoe</a>

Electrical	<a href="#">Mark Nelms</a>	<a href="#">Bo Bledsoe</a> / <a href="#">TJ Pruitt</a>
Industrial	<a href="#">Jorge Valenzuela</a>	<a href="#">Kyle MacDonald</a> / <a href="#">Siobhan MacDonald</a>
Mechanical	<a href="#">Sushil Bhavnani</a>	<a href="#">Nick Abernathy</a> / <a href="#">Andrew Stockton</a>
Polymer / Fiber	<a href="#">Julia Freeman</a>	<a href="#">Margie Godwin</a>
College of Engineering	<a href="#">Steve Duke</a> and <a href="#">Wade Welch</a>	<a href="#">Lindsay Tucker</a> / <a href="#">Laura Clenney Kezar</a>

### Guidelines for Program Contacts

Activity	Frequency	Communication Method	Department Contact Involvement	YAC Contact Involvement
YAC Contact to reach out to Department Contact at the beginning of the semester.	Twice a Year	Email or Phone	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Offer suggestions on how the YAC can help support the department.</li> <li>2. Enable YAC member to implement student engagement ideas within your department.</li> <li>3. Share ideas or best practices back with other stakeholders within your department.</li> <li>4. Share any student engagement best practices with the YAC contact.</li> </ol>	Solicit: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How can you / the YAC provide support / feedback to your department?</li> <li>2. Share any best practices from other departments.</li> </ol>
YAC Contact to Share Student Engagement Best Practices / Lessons Learned with other YAC Members	Twice a Year	YAC Spring / Fall Meetings	Provide feedback to YAC member so they can share ideas with other YAC members.	Engage with department
Liase with Student Organization Presidents to increase awareness that YA are here and would like to help them.	Twice a Year, Beginning of Each Semester	Email or Phone	Provide contact information for Student Organization Presidents to YAC member.	Reach out to Presidents for student engagement ideas. YAC member can “coach” and encourage the chapter leaders and ways YAC can help the chapter with its goals.

Implement Student Engagement Ideas	As Appropriate	Will Vary	<p>Enable YAC member to implement student engagement activities / ideas by providing guidance / resources. Support participation by communicating events and encouraging professors to provide extra credit for event attendance.</p> <p>Upon Event Completion, gather feedback from students and other department members, and share this feedback with your YAC contact.</p>	<p>Work with department contact to plan and implement student engagement ideas the department deems appropriate / valuable. YAC Contact does not have to be the lead for the event, can engage other YA or a committee of YA to lead the planning and implementation.</p> <p>Upon event completion, report best practices / lessons learned back to the entire YAC.</p>
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### Example Student Engagement Activities

- YA Panel Sessions
- YA Newsletters (or a YA section / “How Can YA Get Involved?” section in a standing department newsletter)
- YA Tailgates or other networking events
- YA Guest Speakers in classes or at Professional Societies
- Social Media Communications
- Senior Design and Course Projects
  - Judging
  - Mentoring
  - Sponsorship
  - Ideas for new Senior Design projects
- Internships
  - Internship Career Fairs
  - Database for internship contacts (Companies looking for interns)
- Mentor Programs (Mentorship program between sophomores and seniors (buddy system))

### We want your feedback

If you have any ideas as to how the YAC can better support student engagement initiatives, please send those ideas to Wade Welch – [wade.welch@auburn.edu](mailto:wade.welch@auburn.edu) or 844-7461.