

A U B U R N U N I V E R S I T Y



FACULTY AWARDS

CEREMONY



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

FACULTY AWARDS

Distinguished Graduate Faculty Lectureship: *Recognizes faculty for service in support of graduate education and excellence in research.*

Alumni Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award: *Recognizes the outstanding teaching of undergraduates from nominations made by department heads, deans, alumni, and students. A committee of retired faculty selects the recipients.*

Alumni Professor: *Recognizes 25 faculty members for research, publishing, and teaching by awarding five-year, non-renewable professorships through the Auburn Alumni Association. The Alumni Writer-in-Residence, a creative writer from the English faculty, is the only ongoing appointment.*

Award for Excellence in Faculty Outreach: *Honors the engagement of exemplary faculty members and demonstrates the tremendous impact Outreach has on our community, state, and nation.*

Research Advisory Board Advancement of Research and Scholarship Achievement Award: *Recognizes high quality, competitive research, and scholarly activity that exemplifies and advances Auburn's research and scholarship mission.*

Creative Research and Scholarship Award: *Honors the research achievements and contributions of Auburn University faculty who have distinguished themselves through research, scholarly works, and/or creative contributions to their fields.*

Ralph "Shug" Jordan Professorship of Writing: *Honors teaching excellence by an Auburn University faculty member who has demonstrated a commitment to student success through effective and innovative writing assignments integrated into the course content.*

Gary Brown ePortfolio Project Faculty Cohort Award: *Recognizes individuals or teams of two to five faculty members from a program, department, or college who have exhibited exemplary leadership in promoting the ePortfolio Project Faculty Cohort and have been engaged in practices that support the implementation of ePortfolios at Auburn University.*

Departmental Award for Excellence in Education: *Presented by the University Senate, this award recognizes the efforts of departmental faculty for their commitment to improving education at the undergraduate and graduate levels.*

President's Outstanding Collaborative Units Award: *Presented to those Auburn University units whose collaborative efforts result in unique exemplary service or academic excellence within the university and the community.*

Provost Award for Excellence in Fostering Undergraduate Research and Creative Scholarship: *Recognizes sustained efforts to promote excellence in undergraduate scholarship through research.*

The Gerald and Emily Leischuck Endowed Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching: *Honors two full-time, tenured faculty members who have demonstrated effective and innovative teaching methods and a continuing commitment to student success through advising and mentoring inside and outside the classroom.*

RALPH "SHUG" JORDAN PROFESSOR OF WRITING



Rebecca Jo Barlow
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist,
School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences

PhD, Forestry and minor in Wildlife Sciences;
2005 – Mississippi State University
MS, Forestry; 1994 – Mississippi State University
Bachelor of Landscape Architecture;
1992 – Mississippi State University

“MY PROUDEST MOMENTS AT AUBURN
ARE WHEN I AM TEACHING EITHER
ON CAMPUS OR AS AN ALABAMA
EXTENSION SPECIALIST AND I SEE
STUDENTS AND LANDOWNERS GET
EXCITED ABOUT MANAGING OUR
FOREST RESOURCE.”

Rebecca Jo Barlow joined Auburn University in 2007 after serving as a forester with Weyerhaeuser Company from 1994-2006. In her role as an extension specialist with the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, she aids private forest landowners in the management of their property for multiple uses, including traditional forest management, silvopasture, and other forms of agroforestry, non-timber forest products, and forest aesthetics. She also teaches several courses in forest measurements and land management basics, where she enjoys the use of the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center and the Mary Olive Thomas Demonstration Forest for hands-on learning and problem solving. She received three awards in 2016: Teacher of the Year from the Auburn University Student Forestry Club and Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, Outstanding Faculty Member in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences from SGA, and the Outstanding Professional Skill Award for her longleaf pine poster from the Association for Communication Excellence.

GARY BROWN EPORTFOLIO PROJECT FACULTY COHORT AWARD



Robert Bubb

Lecturer,

**Department of Human Development and
Family Studies, College of Human Sciences**

PhD, Industrial and Organizational Psychology;

2016 – Auburn University

MS, Applied Social Psychology;

2008 – Brigham Young University

BS, Psychology; 2004 – Brigham Young University

“EVERY SEMESTER I GET TO MEET SMART, MOTIVATED, AND ENERGETIC STUDENTS WHO ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR FIELD OF STUDIES. I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD AND INSPIRED BY THOSE STUDENTS WHO I WORK CLOSELY WITH AS TEACHING OR RESEARCH ASSISTANTS. I GET TO SEE THEM DEVELOP INTO POTENTIAL GRADUATE STUDENTS OVER SEVERAL SEMESTERS. I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER FOR THEM ONCE THEY ARE ACCEPTED INTO A GRADUATE PROGRAM.”

Robert Bubb joined the Department of Human Development and Family Studies in 2011 as a lecturer, and currently instructs introductory statistics and research methods courses. He has taught courses in introductory psychology, industrial and organizational psychology, and the psychology of teaching. Bubb also spent four years as an academic advisor, and has several research interests including the study of the scholarship of teaching and learning, stigma toward persons with disabilities, and post-emancipation studies. He has received several graduate teaching awards including the First Year Graduate Teaching Assistant of the Year Award and a Teaching Fellow Award. In 2013, he was honored with the American Psychological Association Wilbert J. McKeachie Teaching Excellence Award. He and his wife, Rebekah, have four children: Katherina, Abigail, James, and Samantha.

GARY BROWN ePORTFOLIO PROJECT FACULTY COHORT AWARD



Emily Cumbie
Professor,
Department of Human Development and Family
Studies, College of Human Sciences

MS, Human Development and Family Studies;
2006 – Auburn University
BS, Human Development and Family Studies;
2003 – Auburn University

"I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT HELPING
STUDENTS LEARN TO REFLECT ON
WHO THEY ARE, WHAT THEIR GIFTS
AND TALENTS ARE, AND HOW TO
USE THOSE TO ENRICH THE LIVES
OF OTHERS."

Emily Cumbie came to Auburn in 2007 after earning both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the university. She is the lead teacher of the classroom for three-year-olds at the Auburn University Early Learning Center. Cumbie is also involved in the ePortfolio Project as a way to be more knowledgeable and invested in assisting students in reflective thinking, while also coaching them in how to best present themselves to potential graduate programs, internship sites, and employers. Her current appointment in the College of Human Sciences reflects her passion of providing high-quality education to young children, while also educating the next generation of teachers and caregivers through lecture courses and lab supervision. She is married and a mother to three young children.

GARY BROWN ePORTFOLIO PROJECT FACULTY COHORT AWARD



Jamie Sailors

Director of Undergraduate Programs and Internships, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, College of Human Sciences

PhD, Family Studies; 1996 – Auburn University
MS, Marriage and Family Therapy;
1989 – Auburn University
BS, Psychology;
1983 – State University of New York Fredonia

Jamie Sailors is the director of internships and undergraduate programs in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. She is a native of Western New York, where she completed her undergraduate training in psychology at SUNY Fredonia. Sailors completed her graduate studies at Auburn University, where she earned a master's degree in marriage and family therapy and a doctorate in family studies. She left Auburn for postdoctoral research as a clinical research associate at Girls and Boys Town in Omaha, Nebraska. Sailors later served as a faculty member in the department of Family and Consumer Sciences at the University of Nebraska, the Mental Health and School Counseling program at Alabama State University, and the Counseling Psychology program at Troy State University. She is a licensed marriage and family therapist who maintains a small, part-time practice. Her passion is combining her clinical and academic expertise to promote the success of students interested in pursuing professions in the field of human services. She is married to Roger, and has three children: Asher Andersen, Erin Machan, and Thomas Machan.

"I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST COLLEAGUES. THE SUPPORT STAFF WHO ARE ESSENTIAL TO MY WORK AND THE OVERALL SUCCESS OF OUR INSTITUTION ARE CARING, DEDICATED, AND WILLING TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND. THE STUDENTS ARE THE ENERGY OF THE UNIVERSITY AND THEY INSPIRE ME EVERY DAY WITH THEIR DESIRE TO LEARN, GROW, AND ACHIEVE. IT IS PEOPLE WHO MAKE UP A HOME AND I AM PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE AUBURN FAMILY."

GARY BROWN ePORTFOLIO PROJECT FACULTY COHORT AWARD



Margaret Vollenweider
Instructor and Assistant Director,
Auburn University Early Learning Center,
College of Human Sciences

MA, Human Development and Family Studies;
1998 – Auburn University
BA, Psychology; 1995 –
University of Southern Mississippi

“WORKING WITH OTHERS WHO ARE
EQUALLY COMMITTED TO HELPING OUR
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IS ITS OWN
REWARD. HOWEVER, BEING RECOGNIZED
FOR OUR WORK IN THE ePORTFOLIO
HIGHLIGHTS A COMMITMENT OUR TEAM HAD
TO IGNITE PASSION AND INTEREST IN OUR
STUDENTS WHILE GIVING THEM A USEFUL
TOOL AND SKILL SET AS THEY LEFT
AUBURN UNIVERSITY.”

Margaret Vollenweider has a master's degree from Auburn University in human development and family studies. She has been an academic advisor and taught undergraduate courses including professional development and ethics for 15 years. Vollenweider believes it is important for students to take the time in college to uncover their passions, explore career options, and develop goals for their adult life. She and her husband, Glen, have a son, Joe.

GARY BROWN ePORTFOLIO PROJECT FACULTY COHORT AWARD



Sharon Huey Wilbanks

**Director, Auburn University Early Learning Center,
College of Human Sciences**

MS, Family and Child Development;

1993 – Auburn University

BA, Psychology; 1991 – Auburn University

“RECEIVING THIS AWARD TELLS ME THAT OUR WORK AS A COHORT IS VALUED AND THE HIGH LEVEL OF QUALITY THAT WE PURSUE IS APPRECIATED. OUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN COMMITTED FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE ePORTFOLIO INITIATIVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE EXCELLENCE IN THE WAYS THAT WE SUPPORT BOTH THE INITIATIVE AND OUR STUDENTS.”

Sharon Huey Wilbanks has a master's degree from Auburn University in family and child development. For 20 years, she has centered her professional life on the Auburn University Early Learning Center, where she served as an assistant teacher and head teacher before becoming the director in 2008. She is also an academic advisor and an instructor, teaching professional development and ethics. Each semester, Wilbanks helps students build an ePortfolio for their professional use. She is the co-founder of Camp iCare, a joint venture of the Auburn University Early Learning Center and the Cary Center for the Advancement of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies. Wilbanks also serves on the board of Alabama Rural Ministries and as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, or CASA, for abused and neglected children in Lee County. She and her husband, Chad, have two daughters, Amanda and Olivia, with both expected to become Auburn graduates.



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