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Student Government Association

**SGA Bill of Law**

**PSSC:** 20-1012-01

**Name of Law:** Commendation of Auburn Faculty for Rapid Response to COVID-19 Solutions

**Student Senate Sponsor(s):** Collin Dorrill, *College of Agriculture*, Mary Cate Saville, *College of Engineering*

**Date of Student Senate Approval:** October 12, 2020

**Vote:** Passed

Reviewed by the President of the Student Senate:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hays Kassen

Approved by the President of the Student Government Association:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Ada Ruth Huntley

Reviewed by the Advisor of Student Governance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pearson Brown

Reviewed by the Assistant Director of Student Involvement:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Brad Smith

Reviewed by the Director of Student Involvement:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Corey Edwards

Reviewed by the Senior Vice President of Student Affairs:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Bobby Woodard

Approved by the President of Auburn University:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Jay Gogue

**Copies to be filled with:**

*President of the Student Senate • President of the Student Government Association • Advisor to the Student Senate*

**BILL TO:** Student Senate

**FROM:** Collin Dorrill, *College of Agriculture*, Mary Cate Saville, *College of Engineering*

**RE:** Commendation of Auburn Faculty for Rapid Response to COVID-19 Solutions

**DATE:** October 1, 2020

**PSSC:** 20-1012-01

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### Commendation of Auburn Faculty for Rapid Response to COVID-19 Solutions

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected nearly every aspect of life and caused a need for hospital equipment, a vaccine, economic strategy for businesses, learning techniques for online classes, solutions for minority groups disproportionately affected and food insecure individuals, and more; and,

**WHEREAS**, innumerable Auburn Faculty members have risen to the occasion to dedicate time to solving these important issues and examining every factor for our community in addition to their regular obligations; and,

**WHEREAS**, the professors noted below are only few of a large number of faculty that have put an extensive amount of effort forward to find solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic while delivering an exceptional class experience to students in an entirely new format; and,

**WHEREAS**, we commend all of the Auburn Faculty members for their dedication and diligence throughout the COVID-19 pandemic in addition to the following notable examples of exemplary work; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Spencer Durham, Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, was selected to be the sole pharmacist on Governor Kay Ivey's Coronavirus task force; and,

**WHEREAS**, sharing the impacts of COVID-19 from the perspective of all pharmacists by serving on the Coronavirus task force for Governor Kay Ivey directly affects COVID-19 related decisions that have been made over the past months; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Marilyn Bulloch, Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, has been on the frontlines treating patients and researching adjunctive therapies for use in the treatment of COVID-19; and,

**WHEREAS**, College of Science and Mathematics professors Nedret Billor, Jingyi Zheng, Tyler Smith, and Chris Goldsmith are actively working to mathematically model the spread of COVID-19 cases, and detect and treat COVID-19 symptoms, and determine potential changes in environmental risk due to the pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, professors Tom Burch, Michael Zabala, and student Hayden Burch of the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering designed an accessory device called "RE-INVENT" that converts a common household CPAP machine to function as an emergency ventilator; and,



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**WHEREAS**, “RE-INVENT” costs only \$700 and a few hours to assemble, as opposed to hard to find \$25,000 hospital ventilators, which directly alleviated the ventilator shortage and allowed a much larger amount of COVID-19 patients to recover; and;

**WHEREAS**, in the College of Agriculture, Dr. Ryan Thomson is leading a project that is researching the response of rural communities in the South to the COVID-19 Pandemic and determining the key issues these communities are facing; and,

**WHEREAS**, associate professor Tannista Banerjee of College of Liberal Arts was published in a top research journal discussing “U.S. county level analysis to determine if social distancing slowed the spread of COVID-19”; and,

**WHEREAS**, the research conducted and devices developed at Auburn University in the recent months have directly been a part of the solution and have positively impacted the Auburn community, and beyond; and,

**WHEREAS**, these are only a few examples of the extraordinary amount of research and relief efforts of Auburn faculty, and many more faculty members have contributed to find solutions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and make their own impact on the Auburn community; and,

**THEREFORE**, we, the Auburn University Student Senate, commend Auburn Faculty for fulfilling Auburn University’s mission of improving the lives of the people of Alabama, the nation, and the world through forward-thinking education, life-enhancing research, and selfless service through the COVID-19 pandemic and working continuously to find solutions.

CC:

**Dr. Jay Gogue**

**Dr. Spencer Durham, *Harrison School of Pharmacy***

**Dr. Marilyn Bulloch, *Harrison School of Pharmacy***

**Nedret Billor, *College of Science and Mathematics***

**Jingyi (Ginny) Zheng, *College of Science and Mathematics***

**Tyler Smith, *College of Science and Mathematics***

**Chris Goldsmith, *College of Science and Mathematics***

**Dr. Tom Burch, *Samuel Ginn College of Engineering***

**Dr. Michael Zabala, *Samuel Ginn College of Engineering***

**Hayden Burch, *Samuel Ginn College of Engineering***

**Dr. Ryan Thomson, *College of Agriculture***

**Tannista Banjeree, *College of Liberal Arts***