

Cameron Stephens
2023 SGA Miss Auburn Campaign
Initial Materials - Platform

Name: Cameron Stephens

Year: 03

Major: Biomedical Sciences (Pre-Medicine)

Qualifications:

President of COSAM Leaders

Former Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Alpha Chi Omega

The Exceptional Foundation of East Alabama Volunteer

Auburn University Dance Marathon

The Big Event at Auburn

Platform: An accumulation of both my personal experiences and my involvement have equipped me to advocate for my platform, which I believe will touch every person in the Auburn family. “Catch Up with Cameron” is centered around three points: connect, compensate, and cope, in which I will fight and promote changes on Auburn’s campus that will benefit what I feel to be an overlooked majority.

As a graduate of a small, 3A high school with no AP classes and less than ten graduates continuing to a four-year university, the pressure to succeed was high. I did not know how to study, nor was I aware of the academic recourses available. My goal is to connect other high school graduates with Learning Communities on campus that teach study tips and strategies while also highlighting Auburn’s other amazing academic resources. I also hope to build a community for students from rural areas to plug into to be able to feel supported and uplifted. The first-year experience can be expanded massively, and I look forward to filling the varying gap that many must cross from high school to college.

Compensate comes from my experience of being a working college student with not much other financial support. Almost every major on campus requires some form of professional exam to be able to advance to the next stage of education. These resources are expensive, and as a pre-medical student studying for the MCAT, I have realized that these materials are not easily accessible to those without significant financial support. I plan to partner with the AU Bookstore to ensure that every student can have access to materials at affordable prices- for both undergraduate and graduate preparation. This will be a buy-back program, in which the bookstore will buy materials from students and turn around and sell them at cheaper prices. This is a win-win transaction that I believe will benefit both parties. Every person on Auburn’s campus deserves the opportunity to fulfill their dreams no matter their financial hardships.

Lastly, cope refers to my desire to make working through college an academic accommodation. Students should not feel penalized for not being able to attend useful SI or LA

review sessions. These students deserve to be rewarded for their hard work and deserve an equal opportunity to pursue their academic endeavors with the help of academic support. It is my ambition that with this change working students will be able to find alternative times to receive and attend the academic support sessions so critical to a person's success. It is time to demolish the assumption that everyone is here because they can afford to be.

Not everyone comes to college on an equal playing field, but equal academic opportunity once enrolled in the University should be a top priority. Wisdom is knowing that there is always work to be done, and if elected the next Miss Auburn, there will never be a moment where I cease working to improve this University for my past, present, and future Auburn family.