

Name: Abbie Starr

Year: 03

Major: Animal Science

Qualifications:

College of Agriculture Student Council

Ag Ambassador

Younglife Leader

Former Sorority Chaplain

Platform: It has been such a joy to have the opportunity to love and be loved by Auburn University as I walk through this process. I truly believe Auburn is unlike any other school because it encourages each individual as they are. The purpose of my platform, “Shine with Starr”, is to enable students to find their role at Auburn where they can shine the brightest.

The sixth line of the creed is the basis of my platform. It says, “I believe in the human touch, which cultivates sympathy with my fellow men and mutual helpfulness and brings happiness for all.” This line perfectly explains how community leads to betterment and joy for those involved. The goal of my platform is to connect each student at Auburn with the community available to them. Community is almost everywhere we look, but the challenge is finding the community unique to your interests and goals. My platform aims to solve this problem through three points: Connect, Collaborate, and Community.

“Connect” is all about utilizing the unique relationship between the city of Auburn and Auburn University’s campus to allow opportunities for service and growth to students. This relationship is something that is uniquely Auburn and should not be overlooked. This looks like highlighting organizations at Auburn that already connect the campus and city as well as providing new outlets for this connection.

“Collaborate” will work to allow collaboration between students and alumni as well as students and professors. In my experience both alumni and professors are eager to help students. I believe the key to encouraging students is to reach out to alumni and professors and equip them with the tools to do so. I wish to initiate a mentorship program between alumni and current students. Though some currently exist for a few colleges, it would be beneficial to provide this in every college across campus. With that, I also wish to encourage students to attend professor’s office hours through incentives. While Auburn encourages developing personal relationships between students and faculty, many students are nervous or intimidated by office hours. This incentive system would encourage students to make personal connections with their professors that would benefit them in the classroom.

“Community” is about equipping students to find the community unique to them. Practically this can be achieved by college-specific involvement fairs. This allows students to see what organizations interest them and ease the nervousness of attending the first meeting by connecting them with a current member of the organization. By being college-specific, it also encourages students to develop new relationships in their major as well as see involvement opportunities outside their major they would enjoy.

The concept of finding a community at Auburn to shine in is something that is extraordinarily tangible and beneficial for Auburn students. My goal is to allow every student

to find their specific community because I have seen the positive impacts first hand. It is truly something that can completely change your college experience and beyond.

War Eagle!

Abbie Starr