Name: Claire Congo

Year: 03

Major: Nutrition Science

Minors: Business and Leadership Studies

## **Qualifications:**

The Campus Kitchen at Auburn University – Vice President of Campus Relations College of Human Sciences Dean's Student Advisory Council Kappa Omicron Nu (Human Sciences Honor Society) – Vice President Chi Omega Executive Board – Director of Programming Student Alumni Ambassadors – Events Committee

## Platform:

Auburn University has shaped me into the Auburn woman I have become and I am forever grateful. While the campus, academics, and University itself have undoubtedly influenced me, the greatest impact has been the sense of family fostered at Auburn. The line of the creed "Because Auburn men and women believe in these things, I believe in Auburn and love it" exemplifies my experience at Auburn because of the love, support, and collaboration I have felt throughout my time here. The heart behind this platform is my love for the Auburn family.

As a Miss Auburn candidate, I have the opportunity to advocate for international students on Auburn's campus. Through serving with The Campus Kitchen, I have gotten to meet and form relationships with many students across campus, but specifically with international students. Learning from their wisdom and diverse experiences has helped me appreciate the community I have found in Auburn. The Auburn family transcends cultures and backgrounds to unite us as one. Through encouraging all members of the Auburn family to get out of their bubbles and take a step outside of their comfort zones, we can enable new ideas and foster community in new circles.

Specifically through informing everyone of all the resources Auburn offers for students, these resources can be made accessible to all students. Coming to college in general, but especially from another country, can be overwhelming and disorienting. However, Auburn University can make sure all students know all of the mental and physical health, financial, and academic resources that are available to them to ensure that every student is set up for success.

It has been proven that a healthy community and support system make an immense impact on quality of life and overall success in college. Earning a degree may be our primary purpose for being at Auburn, but maintaining relationships that will last a lifetime is equally as significant. Building connections, creating friendships, and engaging with a diverse community not only enhance our college experience but also contribute to personal growth and a well-rounded education.

Regardless of a student's background, Auburn University has a responsibility to support their success. Miss Auburn has the responsibility of representing all student voices, advocating for inclusion, and encouraging all Auburn students to take advantage of the incredible opportunities offered to us while on campus and beyond. By actively engaging with all students, Miss Auburn can foster a community where everyone can thrive both socially and academically.

War Eagle, Claire Congo