

Jack Barben

Year: 02

Major: Agricultural Business and economics

Qualifications: Ag Orientation Leader, Interact Club Vice President, 4-H Member, FFA Member.

As a candidate for Senator of the College of Agriculture at Auburn University, I bring both a passion for agriculture and a deep connection to its roots. Growing up in a farming family—my mother a fourth-generation farmer and my father a fifth—I understand firsthand the challenges and opportunities within this field.

One of the key challenges I aim to address is the lack of student involvement in the College of Agriculture. While our college is filled with talented and driven individuals, many students feel disconnected from the larger community or unsure how to participate in activities. I believe that increasing student involvement is essential to fostering a collaborative environment where everyone can succeed.

To address this issue, I propose expanding our existing events and enhancing their accessibility to promote participation. By working with established activities such as agriculture career fairs, Tiger Fridays, picnics, and Ag-roundup we can increase visibility and inclusivity. This means creating more engaging promotional strategies, such as utilizing social media campaigns, personalized invitations, and peer-to-peer outreach. By focusing on expanding key elements of current programs, we can foster a more connected and involved student body.

Beyond student involvement, I am committed to preserving and enhancing the legacy of agriculture at Auburn University. As someone with deep ties to this field, I recognize the importance of honoring our traditions while embracing innovation. I will work to ensure that students have access to the resources, mentorship, and experiences they need to thrive academically and professionally. This includes advocating for increased funding for scholarships, internships, and research opportunities.

I believe my unique perspective and personal connection to agriculture make me the ideal candidate for this role. My upbringing has instilled in me a strong work ethic, a collaborative spirit, and a deep respect for the agricultural community. As your senator, I will dedicate myself to representing your interests, amplifying your voices, and fostering a college environment where every student can grow.

Together, we can grow our community, cultivate meaningful connections, and plant the seeds for a brighter future. I humbly ask for your vote to serve as Senator of the College of Agriculture.