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AUBURN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

2015-2016 YEAR IN REVIEW



ABOUT AU DEMS

With over 200 members, the Auburn University College Democrats provides an organization for progressive-minded students to be involved with those who have similar views. We volunteer with Democratic campaigns, participate in Democratic events, inform the campus and community about Democratic issues, perform community service and host social events.



OFFICERS



President
Calvin Wilborn



Vice President
Ben Baker



Secretary
Shannon Authur



Treasurer
Chip Browlee



Social Director
Evvie Walker



Membership Director
Jacob Lacey

OFFICERS



Political Director
Blake Hamilton



Service Director
Aurora Kirbo



Assistant Political Director
Weston Sims



Faculty Advisor
Dr. David Carter

CAUCUS CHAIRS

Head Caucus Chair

Aurora Kirbo

Black Caucus

Co-Chair: Shannon Aruthur
Co-Chair: Ben Baker

Disability Caucus

Chair: Molly Rhodes

Enviromental Caucus

Chair: Jacob Lacey

Faith Caucus

Chair: Peter Taliaferro

Hispanic Caucus

Chair: Alex King

LBGT Caucus

Co-Chair: Chip Browlee
Co-Chair: Nicholas Dolzonek

Women's Caucus

Co-Chair: Emily Hale
Co-Chair: Rita Jones
Co-Chair: Mackenzie Brezinski

Bipartisan Involvement



Voter Registration Drive

For two weeks in February, the sisters of Omega Phi Alpha, the College Democrats, the College Republicans, the Young Americans for Liberty and the Student Government Association (SGA) all joined forces and worked together to help students register to vote. Their slogan, "No matter the Party, let your voice be heard," seemed to resonate with students. Overall, the clubs helped register over 200 students to vote.

The Big Debate

The College Democrats participated in "The Big Debate" with the College Republicans and the Young Americans for Liberty. Topics included gun control, the Middle East, subsidized healthcare and questions from the audience. Members enjoyed being able to openly and civilly discuss issues that all Americans face.

Higher Ed Day

Each year, students from every public university converge at the Statehouse in Montgomery to lobby lawmakers for more education funding during Higher Ed Day. The SGA has chartered buses for the first 100 students, many of whom were College Democrats, to attend this year's Higher Ed Day.

2015-2016 EVENTS

The Auburn University College Democrats had a record year when it came to hosting and attending events. We were able to meet Alabama legislators, presidential candidates, campaign advisors and so much more! In the following pages you will see some of our favorite event highlights from the 2015-2016 academic year. Thank you to all of the people who came to speak to us and to the students who were involved!



VISIT TO MEET PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER



The Auburn University College Democrats recently had the opportunity to meet former President Jimmy Carter. The AU Dems got the chance to visit Plains, Ga. to attend his church service and Sunday School. Members met church members and also had an interview with CBS news about their overall experience.

MEETING PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE BERNIE SANDERS



Members of the AU Dems had the opportunity to travel with the Auburn Students for Bernie to listen to Senator Sanders speak in Montgomery. He also stopped to take photos with a few of our members, some of which have worked for his campaign!

MEETING PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE HILLARY CLINTON



Some members of the AU Dems got the chance to listen to Hillary Clinton speak at the Alabama Democratic Conference this year. A few members were even able to snag a selfie with the presidential candidate!

LEMONADE AND LEGISLATOR



The College Democrats kicked off the year by hosting our annual Lemonade and Legislator! Lemonade and Legislator gives students and faculty the unique opportunity to have a one-on-one interaction with a member of our state legislative body. This year's speaker was Representative Patricia Todd of Birmingham. She spoke to us about how to be a liberal in a conservative state, winning elections when the odds are against you and LBGT rights.

ATLANTA PRIDE PARADE



Thanks to our LGBT Caucus Chairs, the College Dems were able to travel to the Atlanta Pride Parade on October 11! This year was the 45th year of the Atlanta Pride Festival that celebrates the present and past contributions of the LGBT community. Students had an amazing time traveling to Atlanta to support LGBT rights!

MEETING WITH SHAY FARLEY OF ALABAMA APPLEASEED



Shay Farley spoke to the Auburn College Democrats about her work at Alabama Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, Inc. As their Legal Director, Shay assists the executive director in the development and governance of organizational projects, coordinates internships and manages all of Alabama Appleseed's legislative activities. In addition, Shay oversees and works directly on the Immigration Policy, Payday Lending Reform and Poultry Plant Worker Safety Projects.

HALLOWEEN AND RNC DEBATE WATCH PARTY



In October, the AU Dems broke out their best Halloween costumes for a Halloween Themed RNC Debate watch party! Aside from just watching one of the first RNC Debates together, we were able to listen to an excellent speech by special guest, Joe Hubbard. He spoke to the group about his political journey, the state of politics in Alabama and what we as students could do to be involved in the political process.

CONDOMS AND CANDY



The Auburn University College Democrats hosted Condoms and Candy during both the Fall and Spring semesters. This event's goal is to promote safe sex and provide education to students about the risks of STDs. During the two events, we handed out more than 1,000 condoms (and candy) to students on the concourse!



12 FEB 2015

MEET AND GREET WITH MARCUS FERRELL



The AU Dems had the opportunity to have a special meeting with Marcus Ferrell, Bernie Sanders' campaign director of African American outreach. Students came ready to network as well as discuss upcoming statewide events, ideas and opportunities for canvassing!

POPCORN, PRIMARIES, AND THE PARTY



Our spring kickoff meeting with guest speaker Nancy Worley, Chairwoman of the Alabama Democratic Party, was a huge success. She still talks about how many college kids showed up to an extra curricular activity during a rainy night in Auburn. Aside from just hearing Chairwoman Worley speak, students had the opportunity to hear from representatives from the Sanders and Clinton campaigns.

SELMA BRIDGE CROSSING JUBILEE



The College Democrats planned a trip to Selma for the 51st Anniversary Jubilee. This annual event in Selma, Alabama, commemorated "Bloody Sunday," which occurred March 7, 1965, when a group of about 525 African American demonstrators gathered at Browns Chapel and proceeded to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge to demand the right to vote.

CONTACT

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