

Opelika High School students tour Utilities & Energy



Utilities & Energy Plant Operations Supervisor David Howell gives a tour of Auburn's chilled water plant to a group of Opelika High School students as part of their Ready to Work program.

Students with the Opelika High School Career and Technical Education group recently toured Facilities Utilities & Energy to get a better grasp of what utility work at Auburn encompasses and to learn about different career opportunities at Facilities.

The students spent the morning learning the ins and outs of utilities from Director Ken Martin, Assistant Director Malcolm Dailey and Supervisor David Howell, touring the chilled and hot water system plants as well as electrical and control rooms of Auburn Arena as part of their regular curriculum with the CTE program. They also heard career testimonials from Automotive Mechanic Lucy Kriel, HVAC Technician Clayton Howard and Howell, and a presentation showing career paths at Facilities from Facilities

Human Resources Senior Manager Loren Winn.

"The OHS Ready to Work students enjoyed visiting Auburn University," said Katie Murray, career technical coordinator for Opelika City Schools. "They were excited to learn about the variety of employment opportunities available and the possibility of reduced tuition."

Opelika High implemented the Ready to Work program during the 2019-20 school year. Students learn about different career paths through different CTE programs from industries in the area. The different pathways introduce students to a wide variety of career opportunities, whether planning for future college courses or heading straight into the workforce from graduation.

"Even with interruptions due to the pandemic, the class has been successful," Murray said. "Students have had the opportunity to learn about multiple career pathways available to them if they are entering the workforce immediately following high school graduation."

Facilities is one of the most career-diverse sections of the university with employees representing different fields in every building, making it ideal for students to learn about many different fields they can be a part of.

Invited by Winn, the opportunity to host the students and their teachers represented a workforce development initiative for Facilities, and a chance to show future graduates what Facilities has to offer.

"This project has a few goals: to give awareness of what our amazing Facilities staff does each day to support Auburn University and the associated job opportunities and career paths, as well as build relationships with our community of young people," Winn said. "All of which are key to building a strong sustainable team for the future of Facilities."

The High School Ready to Work program is an initiative of Birmingham-based staffing organization the Onin Group and AIDT, the state workforce development training agency.

Employee Communications *from the Office of Employee Engagement*

Congratulations:

Grant Kirby, Plant Operations, for graduating this past semester with a master's in electrical engineering from Auburn University.

Utilities & Energy for passing 1,200 days since their last personal injury.

Utilities & Energy for passing 200 days since their last at-fault vehicle incident.

Kristy Fulmar Cannon on her April 20 marriage.

Dee Sneed on celebrating three years of employment on May 1, 2021.

Anthony Driver for graduating from Southern Union Community College.

Nylah Cohen for graduating from Auburn University.

Employees who received a cash award for April 2021:

- Paul Barringer
- Rovel Burney
- Bernetha Burt
- Joey Catrett
- Nylah Cohen
- James Duncan
- Ladarius Ezell
- Donna Giles
- Reta Jackson
- Dale Jeffers
- Joe Moody
- Tonia Rosser
- Jerome Russell
- Cole Shafer
- Ashley Sharpe
- Thomas Tatum
- Erika Taylor
- Sharn Washington
- Edwin Wood
- Scooter Wood

New Employees/Welcome

Denis Bett | Co-op Student, Energy Management | *May 10*

Chauntel Dunnigan | TES, Custodial Services | *May 10*

Jeffrey Dyal | TES, Landscape Services
April 26

Garrett Mann | TES, Plant Operations
April 27

Retirements/resignations

Margaret Devall *retiring June 1.*

Gabriel McKenzie *resigned May 2.*

Carl Payne *retired May 1.*

Robert Whittaker *resigned April 23.*

Facilities Training

The Facilities summer and fall 2021 training schedules are posted on the training calendar, which can be located at <https://aub.ie/trainingcalendar>.

"Zoom into the Facilities Training Room" series

Each Friday, 9-10 a.m., starting in May 2021 via Zoom:

The Facilities training manager is available during this time to:

1. Introduce new Facilities employees to the Facilities training department.
2. Answer any questions new and current Facilities employees might have pertaining to the training calendar, upcoming training sessions, how to register for trainings, etc.
3. Provide assistance with registering for any Facilities training.
4. Answer questions and provide assistance with Auburn University Human Resources Department training registrations, transcripts.
5. Provide one-on-one training sessions when applicable.

Register on the Facilities training calendar for summer and fall 2021 sessions. The Facilities training manager will provide the Zoom link via calendar invite after registration.

Contact for training sessions:

Kathleen Jones | ktj0004@auburn.edu | 334-844-9411 | Building 1, Room 1173D

The training calendar can be found at <https://aub.ie/trainingcalendar>.

Employment Opportunities

Maintenance

- Campus Architect III/IV/V (*no close date*)
- Roofer I/II, Heavy Construction (*close date of June 10, 2021*)
- Tech I/II, Infrastructure, Heavy Construction (*close date of May 25, 2021*)
- Tech I/II, HVACR (Second Shift, PM Shop) (*close date of May 26, 2021*)

Campus Services

- Tech I/II, Solid Waste, Waste & Recycling (*close date of May 26, 2021*)
- Assistant Manager, Mail Services (*close date of May 25, 2021*)

Planning, Design and Construction

- Campus Architect III/IV/V (*no close date*)
- Interior Designer I/II/III (*close date of May 20, 2021*)

Facilities IT

- Specialist IV/V/VI, Info Tech (*close date of May 24, 2021*)

****The close date for a posted position occasionally is extended. Check the dates at auemployment.com.****

For more information about, or to apply for, the jobs listed above, visit the Auburn University online employment site at auemployment.com.

These announcements are gathered by the Facilities Management Office of Employee Engagement. Submit announcements via email to Cynthia Baccus at geercyn@auburn.edu.

Auburn names Dempster Employee of the Year



Bill Dempster, Service Support, holds a check he received as an award for being named the Auburn University Employee of the Year in Service/Maintenance. Photo: Dee Sneed

Burmester receives 2021 Spirit of Sustainability



University Traffic and Site Engineer Ben Burmester was awarded a 2021 Spirit of Sustainability Award through the Office of Sustainability for his focus on campus planning that shows Auburn's commitment to sustainable practices. Whether creating a more pedestrian-friendly campus or planning bioretention cells that naturally control stormwater runoff, Burmester is at the forefront of effective campus sustainability. The full story can be found at aub.ie/sustain2021. **Photo: Office of Sustainability**

Facilities Feature — Greg Hayes, Safety Manager



Greg Hayes

Greg Hayes began working at Facilities Management Dec. 1, 2020, coming from Bailey-Harris Construction where he served as safety director since July 2014. From 2011 through 2014, Greg served as safety manager for Williams Plant Service of Atlanta, working nuclear plant maintenance outages across the United States, and from 1998 through 2011, he was

the chief bulk asbestos analyst for Safety Environmental Laboratories in Birmingham. He has served as the chair of the safety committee for the Associated Builders and Contractors of Alabama since June 2019.

Greg is a graduate of Columbia Southern University with a bachelor's in occupational safety and health and an MBA in public administration. Greg has been happily married to Lisa Hayes for almost 18 years and has three beautiful and talented daughters; Sydney, Ashlynn "Cricket" and Addisyn "AK."

What brought your safety expertise to Auburn University?

Many years ago, while living in Hoover, Lisa and I began discussing a move to Auburn, which is "home" for her. The more we talked about relocating, the more it became a goal of mine to work for Auburn University.

What has been your favorite part about working at Auburn so far?

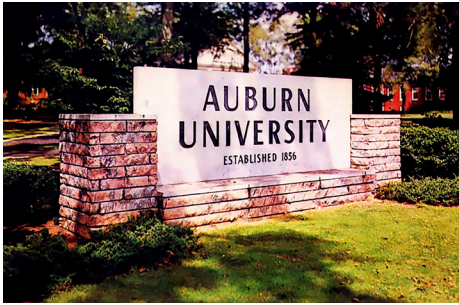
Without question, it's the people! The

entire Facilities department and the Risk Management & Safety group that I have had the pleasure of working with are amazing. The support I have received has been far greater than I imagined.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I have three wonderful daughters, two of which are still school aged. We spend much of our time at the local sports fields! I love coaching rec league ball and have for the past seven years. My girls have covered it all from soccer, basketball and softball to golf, cheer and gymnastics. I currently serve on the Auburn Soccer Association Board, and I'm looking forward to coaching my youngest in soccer this fall. I enjoy going to live concerts from time to time and traveling with my family (especially to the beach). I also have a miniature Goldendoodle (Jimmy Brown), a stray cat (Mr. Dog) that has taken us in and a couple of fish, so life is pretty full!

Auburn sign history goes beyond graduation



A postcard mailed to Jackson, Tenn, in 1968 shows what the Auburn sign looked like before updates and reconstruction work was completed in 1995.

When graduation comes around, sure to follow are photos of hopeful students near the Auburn University sign with Samford Hall in the background.

As hallowed a tradition as not walking across the Auburn Seal outside Langdon Hall, thousands upon thousands of graduates have had their photo taken with the sign, with

Facilities supporting the tradition by building steps and a stage for easy use around ceremony time.

The sign itself, however, is not one of Auburn's ancient traditions. Interestingly enough, the sign didn't even exist prior to 1959 since Auburn University was still the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, which was then adorned by a smaller wooden sign in the same location as the current one.

It wasn't until January 1960 that the permanent sign was put into place thanks to a donation from the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity. The sign was made of a solid piece of Georgia Grey Cloud marble, purchased from the then Georgia-Alabama Marble Co.

Reconstruction plans were drafted in 1986 due to structural decay around

the sign, as well as to move the sign closer to Samford Hall and farther away from South College Street for the safety of those waiting to take pictures.

The reconstruction efforts didn't begin until 1995, and it was immediately halted after workers found the large underground cement slab the sign is embedded in. The moving plans were scrapped, and a new plan was put forth to build a brick facade around the sign, as is currently seen at the site.

In its short lifespan, the Auburn sign has definitely proved its mettle. It took more than 100 years for the university to get a proper one, and it will stand well beyond 100 years, shouldering student and family photos for years to come thanks to the care and planning of Facilities Management.

City of Auburn recognizes Auburn University Japanese Maple as an Outstanding Tree



A Japanese Maple located between Ingram and Biggin Halls was recently named by the city as the 2021 Outstanding Tree. Several nominations were submitted for trees located throughout the city. Josh Woods of the College of Agriculture nominated the maple because his son loves to climb in the tree during their walks through Samford Park. Photo on left: Alexander Hedgepath, university arborist; the Woods family; Auburn Mayor Ron Sanders and Auburn Urban Forestry Specialist Anne Randle. Photo on right: The honored Japanese Maple.