

## Auburn Graduates Contribute to Alabama and the Nation

### Graduate Student Spotlight:

#### Travis Brown

PhD student, Auburn University



- Developing new system for catfish cultivation
- System could drastically cut production costs for Alabama catfish farmers
- Tracking other ways to draw revenue from catfish ponds
- Leveraging technology to work for Alabama farmers

### Program Spotlight:

#### Marriage and Family Therapy

Auburn offers an MS in Marriage and Family Therapy.



- Operates the Auburn University Marriage and Family Therapy Center
- As part of statewide partnership with Alabama Community Healthy Marriage Initiative, helps Alabama residents build and sustain healthy marriages and relationships.
- Jointly administers millions of dollars in grant monies for research and education

### Center Spotlight:

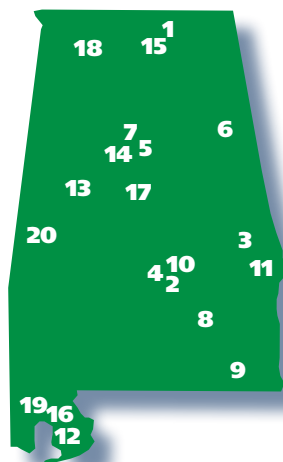
#### Center for Bioenergy and Bioproducts

Unit of the Auburn University Natural Resources Management & Development Institute



- Recently awarded \$4.9 million grant for research on logistics systems to harvest and transport forest biomass
- Total awards for bioenergy research over the last two years exceed \$7 million
- Center looks for ways to use Alabama's natural resources for biofuels, renewable electrical power, and high value products
- Research aimed at reducing dependence on fossil fuels, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and bringing new jobs and sources of revenue to Alabama

### Contributing Graduate Institutions in Alabama



1. Alabama A&M University
2. Alabama State University
3. Auburn University
4. Auburn Montgomery
5. Birmingham-Southern College
6. Jacksonville State University
7. Samford University
8. Troy University
9. Troy University Dothan
10. Troy University Montgomery
11. Tuskegee University
12. United States Sports Academy
13. University of Alabama
14. University of Alabama Birmingham
15. University of Alabama Huntsville
16. University of Mobile
17. University of Montevallo
18. University of North Alabama
19. University of South Alabama
20. University of West Alabama

### What can you do to learn more about graduate education at Auburn University?

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Presentation prepared by the Alabama Council of Graduate Deans and the Auburn University Graduate School.



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE SCHOOL

[www.auburn.edu](http://www.auburn.edu)

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# Graduate Education: It's a Great Investment

From accountancy to zoology, the universities in Alabama offer more than 500 degrees in more than 200 fields and award more than 8,000 graduate degrees annually. In fact, one out of 20 Alabamians holds a graduate or professional degree. These degree seekers and graduates contribute to our state in terms of a highly skilled workforce, increased economic contributions, hours of community service, partnerships with industry, and the funding of new discoveries.



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE SCHOOL

## What does it take to build a strong technology-based economy in Alabama?

### The combination of 7 elements:

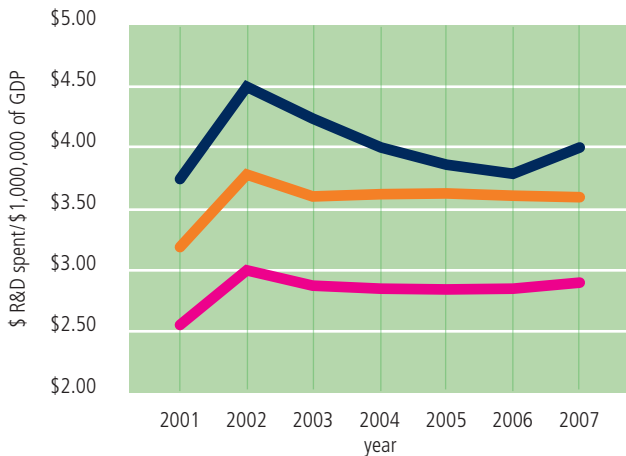
- Intellectual infrastructure
- Mechanisms to transfer knowledge
- Physical infrastructure
- A highly skilled technical workforce
- Sources of venture capital
- Quality of life
- Entrepreneurial culture

Source: State Science and Technology Institute, "A Resource Guide for Technology-based Economic Development," August 2006. [http://www.ssti.org/Publications/Onlinepubs/resource\\_guide.pdf](http://www.ssti.org/Publications/Onlinepubs/resource_guide.pdf)

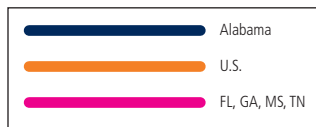
## Building Alabama's Economic Infrastructure

All seven elements depend on Alabama's strong commitment to graduate education and the vital research dollars that those elements bring to our state.

### Academic R&D Expenditures per \$1 million of GDP



### Academic R&D in Alabama (2007) \$655 million



Source: Data taken from National Center for Higher Education Management Systems. [www.higheredinfo.org](http://www.higheredinfo.org). Data retrieved on March 5, 2009.



## We're Training Alabama Citizens for the Requirements of the Alabama Economy

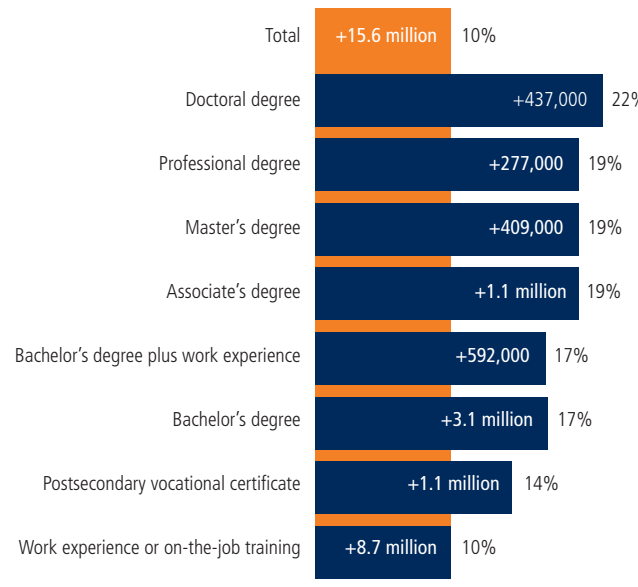
### Total Graduate students in Alabama: 27,949

From AL:	17,320 (62%)
From elsewhere:	10,629 (38%)
Adjoining states	4,135 (15%)
Non-adjoining states	3,306 (12%)
Non US citizen	3,188 (11%)

(Both Masters and Doctoral Students)

Alabama Commission on Higher Education data: 2008

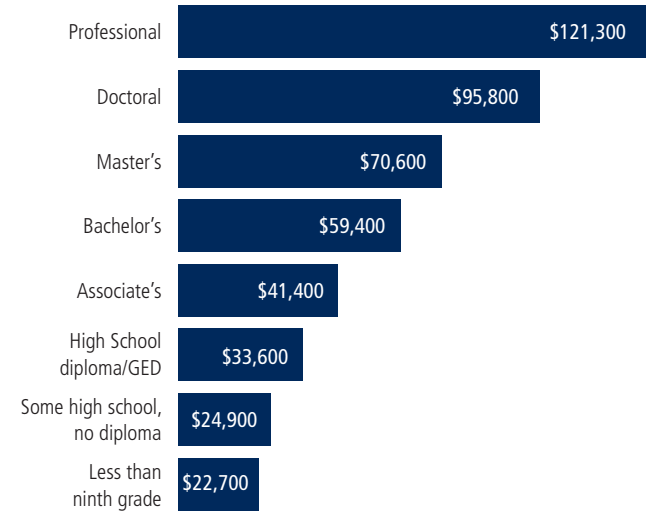
### Projected Increase in Job Openings by Education or Training United States, 2006 to 2016



Source: SREB Featured Facts, Alabama 2009

## Having an Advanced Degree means Higher Pay and Prosperity

### Average annual earnings of adults ages 25 or older United States, 2007



Source: SREB Factbook 2009, page 93

### Projected Earnings Differential for Alabama MS and Doctoral Graduates, 2007

Projected lifetime income differential for a master's degree vs. a bachelor's degree: 8,599 degree holders = **\$3.44 billion**

Projected lifetime income differential for a doctoral degree vs. a bachelor's degree: 767 degree holders = **\$0.77 billion**

Total = **\$4.21 billion**

If 62% of these 2008-09 graduates remain in Alabama after graduation:

**\$2.6 billion more earned in and spent in Alabama.**

Source: Data on Degree Completions 2008-09 taken from the Alabama Commission on Higher Education and includes graduates of public and private universities.