

# Student Initiatives for Agriculture & Natural Resources

### November 7, 2019



Dr. Mark Kistler, Dean

#### Overview

- Overview of the ABAC School of Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Preparing Students for Career Readiness
- Questions & Answers





### Vision Statement

► The ABAC School of Agriculture and Natural Resources aspires to be the premier destination for a high quality, comprehensive undergraduate education focused on applying principles in an experiential learning environment, where students are valued and prepared to make positive contributions to their communities and industries they serve.





### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources is to engage, teach, coach, mentor, and provide relevant experiences to students so as to prepare exceptional graduates for service to the professions in agriculture and natural resources.





### ABAC SANR Facts & Figures

- ► Fall 2019 Enrollment = 1,228 (31%; ABAC=3,923)
- Departments
  - ► Agriculture (763)
  - Education & Agricultural Communications (243)
  - Forest Resources (222)
- Bachelor of Science Degree Programs (6)
  - ► Agribusiness 22%
  - ► Agricultural Communication 3%
  - Agricultural Education (2 tracks) 16%
  - ► Agriculture (6 tracks) 33%
  - Environmental Horticulture (3 tracks) 6%
  - Natural Resource Management (3 tracks) 18%
- Industry Advisory Committees



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# Preparing Students for Career Readiness





## ABAC SANR Outdoor Learning Labs





- ► J.G. Woodroof Farm
  - ~400 acres (cultivated & pasture)
  - ~100 head commercial beef cow/calf herd
  - Turfgrass Teaching & Research Plots (1.12 acres, 5 species)
  - Greenhouse/Nursery Facilities





- Turfgrass Teaching Green
- Forest Lakes Golf Club (9-hole, 6 miles east of Tifton)
- Langdale Forest ~944 acres (10 miles north of Tifton)
- Nature Study Area (24 acres)
- Lake Baldwin
- Pitcher Plant Bog (8 acres in Turner County)





### Experiential Learning

### Engaged Learning Experiences

- Capstone Experiences
  - Internship
    - ► 4 of the 6 Degree Programs Require
    - ► ABAC Connect
    - Career Connections
    - Senior Series
  - Student Teaching (Agricultural Education)
  - Senior Project (Natural Resource Mgmt)
    - Management or Research Project
- Undergraduate Research
- Study Abroad



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### Student Professional Clubs (15)

- Ag Business Club (National Agri-Marketing Association)
- Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow)
- Agricultural Engineering Technology Club (American Society of Agricultural & Biological Engineers)
- Agronomy Club (American Society of Agronomy)
- Beekeeper's Association (new club no state or national affiliation yet)
- Cattlemen's Association (GA Cattlemen's Association, GA Junior Cattlemen's Association, & National Cattlemen's Beef Association)
- Collegiate 4-H (GA 4-H & National 4-H Council)
- Dairy Science Club (Georgia Youth Dairy Foundation)
- Forestry Club (Society of American Foresters)
- ► ABAC FFA Alumni Chapter (GA & National FFA Alumni)
- Horsemen's Association (American Collegiate Horsemen's Association)
- Horticulture Club (GA Green Industry Association)
- Turf Club (Golf Course Superintendents Association of America & Sports Turf Managers Association including regional associations)
- Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society (The Wildlife Society, including regional and state)
- ► Young Farmers & Ranchers (GA & National Farm Bureau)



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## Industry Seminars & Tours



### Industry Service Activities



#### Thank you! Questions & Discussion





