

DIRECTOR, SCOTT-RITCHEY RESEARCH CENTER  
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



# ABOUT SCOTT-RITCHEY RESEARCH CENTER

The Scott-Ritchey Research Center has a storied history and a bright future. The founding trio—a respected veterinarian with a vision and two philanthropic minded, avid dog enthusiasts—combined to create a fascinating story of how these unique individuals and their common commitment established this one-of-a-kind research center 50 years ago.

Scott-Ritchey began in the mid-1950s through the work of Dr. B.F. Hoerlein, professor and head of small animal surgery and medicine whose interest was in canine neurology. His unique contribution was pioneering innovative methods for surgical correction of dogs with paralyzing intervertebral disc disease. His dream of a companion animal research center was initially enabled by Kenneth Scott, a prosperous Great Lakes shipping company owner and hunting dog enthusiast. The center grew through a permanent financial gift because of a friendship between Florida veterinarian Dr. Ivan Frederickson and Eleanor Ritchey, a dog-loving, eccentric, wealthy heiress of the Quaker State Oil Company.

Today, the center is at the core of the College of Veterinary Medicine's research in cutting-edge basic and translationally important conditions involving companion animals, and with a focus on molecular medicine and mechanisms of disease.

The mission of Scott-Ritchey is congruent with the research mission of the College of Veterinary Medicine—to advance understanding and catalyze technological innovation in basic and clinical sciences in order to improve the health and well-being of animals and, through them, the health, stability and economic development of mankind.

Research by SRRC faculty is focused, mission-driven and competitive.



**"The Scott-Ritchey Research Center is the hub of companion animal research in the College of Veterinary Medicine, bringing innovation, basic biomedical research, and applied science into a powerful collaborative environment. Scott-Ritchey scientists and their teams are devoted to developing innovative solutions for some of the most complex problems affecting companion animals, including inherited metabolic brain disorders of cats, canine osteosarcoma, and overpopulation of feral species. The influence of the Scott-Ritchey Research Center extends across the Auburn University campus and throughout a worldwide collaborative network as a voice for the advancement of biomedical research grounded in the concept of One Health."**

*—Dean Calvin Johnson*



# CURRENT RESEARCH PROGRAMS AT SCOTT-RITCHEY RESEARCH CENTER

Current programs include the following:

## ■ Molecular Contraception

To control escalating populations of feral cats and free-roaming dogs and lessen the burden on animal shelters, non-surgical methods of sterilization are being developed. Cutting-edge methods to disrupt molecular mechanisms of reproduction are under investigation. Primary faculty involved are Drs. Tatiana Samoylova, Aime Johnson and Henry Baker.

## ■ Cancer

Novel gene and related therapies for treatment of commonly occurring canine cancers such as osteosarcoma, mammary tumors and lymphoma are being developed in the Center by a team led by Dr. Bruce Smith. These treatments are being translated to clinical trials in the Bailey Small Animal Teaching Hospital, in collaboration with the Department of Clinical Sciences and the Department of Pathobiology. Dr. Smith also directs the Auburn University Research Initiative in Cancer (AURIC), a campus-wide program.

## ■ Obesity/Diabetes

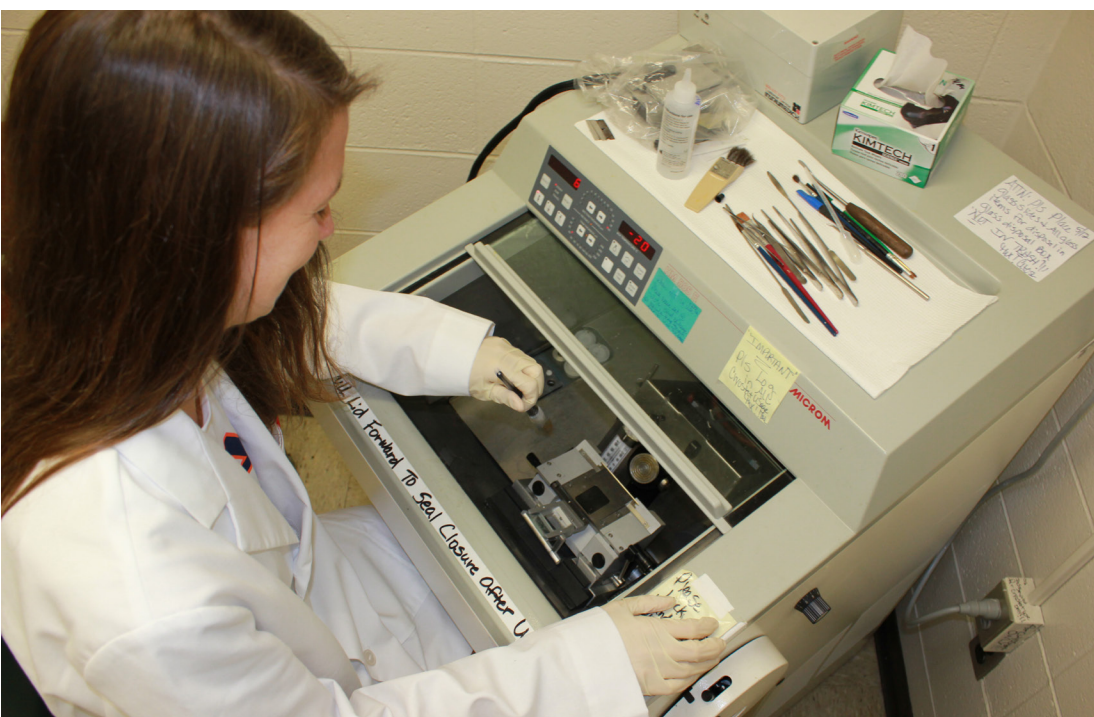
Obesity in cats often leads to diabetes, with similar conditions occurring frequently in humans. Feline obesity, its relationship to diabetes and potential treatments are being studied at the center by Dr. Emily Graff.

## ■ Muscular Dystrophy

The center studies several DNA mutations that cause canine muscular dystrophy and has tested treatment methods such as gene therapy. Dr. Bruce Smith and colleagues are pursuing treatments for this debilitating condition in dogs and people.

## ■ Neurologic Disease

Keeping with the center's longstanding interest in neuromuscular disease, both neurodevelopmental and inherited neurologic disorders are under investigation currently. Gene therapy studies of Dr. Doug Martin and colleagues in feline models of Tay-Sachs disease have contributed to upcoming human clinical trials.



# AUBURN'S RESEARCH VISION

Auburn University is on the move with a drive to **inspire, innovate** and **transform** in our community, the state of Alabama and throughout the nation and world. We are doing so by elevating research that offers real-world solutions, taking student leadership to new heights and expanding our role as a partnership university.

Auburn research is yielding innovations that protect people, keep populations healthy and make communities better places to live. As part of a distinctive group of land-, sea- and space-grant institutions, Auburn has provided instruction, research and outreach to benefit the state of Alabama and nation for more than 160 years. Moving forward under the leadership of President Steven Leath, Auburn is furthering that vision with a bold plan to inspire as a premier model of engagement and a leading provider of life-changing research in the pursuit of achieving Carnegie 1 research status.

At Auburn, our tradition of innovation serves as a launchpad for entrepreneurs, industry leaders, government officials and others as we improve quality of life and strengthen economic opportunity. Through a heightened focus on interdisciplinary research, a dramatic expansion planned for our research faculty and scholarship expertise in the next five years and an emboldened graduate student population, we aim to elevate our research and development programs to address some of society's most challenging issues. Such an ambitious drive includes an emphasis on advancing knowledge in health sciences, improved sustainable resources, advanced manufacturing, cyber security, military defense, agriculture and bioscience systems, robotics and radio frequency identification.

Indeed, it is an exciting time of collaboration and discovery at Auburn as we push forward with new innovations and opportunities toward a commitment to excellence and earning a national reputation for engaging, inspiring and leading.



"Our vision for Auburn is to become a world-class academic, research and service university in the true spirit of our land-grant heritage—and to be recognized as an undisputed go-to destination for that special caliber of student, faculty, staff and development partner driven to make a meaningful impact on the state of Alabama, the nation and the world."

—President Steven Leath



"We want others to know about Auburn's research and scholarship that deliver real-world benefits. And we want others to know about Auburn's outreach and engagement that serve the social good."

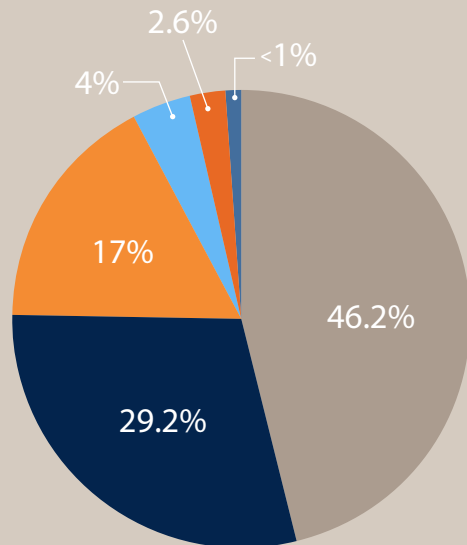
—President Steven Leath





## NSF HERD 2017 Survey

Auburn's Research and Development Expenditures  
**\$190 million**



- 46.2% from internal institutional investment into the research enterprise
- 29.2% from federal sources
- 17% from state and local government sources
- 4% from other various sources
- 2.6% from industry
- <1% from nonprofits

**25%** | Growth 2016 to 2017

**29%** | Growth over past 5 years (2013-17)

## Sponsored Awards

**23% increase**  
over the past 5 years  
(2013-17) from \$100 million  
to \$123 million

## TOTAL IACUC PROTOCOL ACTIONS UP

^^ **41%** ^^  
over last 5 years  
FY 2013-17

↑ **10%**  
**INCREASE**  
**F&A RECOVERY**  
VS. 2017  
YTD through May

PROPOSALS  
SUBMITTED YTD  
up 11% over prior  
3-year average

**35% average  
success rate**

IRB PROTOCOL  
SUBMISSIONS YTD  
**INCREASED**  
^^ **14%** ^^  
over prior 3-year average  
YTD through April

# A LEADING PROVIDER OF INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

- With a \$5.4 billion economic contribution to the state, Auburn has more than 300,000 graduates and provides 150-plus degree programs to nearly 30,000 graduate and undergraduate students.
- *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked Auburn among the top public universities in the U.S., and *Kiplinger's* named Auburn one of their 100 Best Values in Public Colleges.



- *Forbes* ranks Auburn as the top university in the state of Alabama for delivering a meaningful return on investment.
- Named one of *Money's* Best Colleges for Your Money, Auburn is also the top-ranked university in the state of Alabama.
- Auburn is the first university in the state to raise \$1 billion in a comprehensive fundraising campaign and recently achieved this more than a year earlier than projected.
- Auburn is listed with Distinction on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, honoring dedication to civic engagement, service learning and outreach.

- Auburn has been designated an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University by the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, and in 2015 received the organization's Place Award for excellence in community, social and cultural development work.
- The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education identifies Auburn as a Doctoral University with Higher Research Activity.
- The Auburn Research and Technology Foundation and the Auburn Research Park bring together the research and business communities to complement the research and economic development initiatives of the university. In addition to facilitating the commercialization of university technologies and the formation of industry-university partnerships, the research park offers employment opportunities for Auburn students and graduates. The Auburn Business Incubator is designed to help launch, nurture and accelerate the development of entrepreneurial companies by providing expertise, networks and services entrepreneurs need to succeed.
- According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, Auburn provides a supportive campus environment, and our students report higher satisfaction with their overall academic experience than students at peer institutions.
- In a survey of recent graduates, 97 percent feel their Auburn education has enhanced their opportunity for future advancement.
- Auburn alumni are satisfied with their college choice, with 94 percent of recent graduates indicating they would choose Auburn again.



# AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS 2018-19

## STUDENT BODY

**30,440** Students enrolled

**24,628** Undergraduates



Male



Female

APPROXIMATELY  
**40%** Undergraduates receive scholarships



Auburn students represent all 47 states and 98 countries

Graduate enrollment: **4,706**

Professional (pharmacy and veterinary medicine): **1,106**

Alabama residents **64%**

Out-of-state **36%**

**2,955** International undergraduate students

## FRESHMAN CLASS PROFILE

**4,783**  
New Students

APPROXIMATELY  
**60%** Receive scholarships

**3.89**  
Average GPA



**27.6**  
Average ACT

**1234**  
Average SAT

## FACULTY PROFILE\*



**1,330**

Number of full-time faculty

**19:1** Student-to-Faculty Ratio

**92%**  
are full-time instructional faculty

**90%**  
of full-time faculty with terminal degree

\*2017-18

## TUITION AND FEES



**\$11,726**  
Alabama residents

**\$30,524**  
Out-of-state

## RETENTION AND GRADUATION



**90%**  
First-year retention rate



**78%**  
6-year graduation rate



# OUR CAMPUS

With an initial master plan crafted by architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who also designed Central Park in New York City, our campus is beautiful. It's more than beauty that captures the hearts of Auburn students and faculty. A sense of belonging, community and a welcoming spirit makes Auburn home.

We have the resources of a large research university set on a collegial, open campus. The university has 80 major academic buildings, combining historic red-brick buildings, such as the iconic Samford Hall (constructed between 1888-90) with modern, active-learning classroom facilities, like the 69,000-square-foot Mell Classroom Building that opened in fall 2017.

Known as "The Loveliest Village on the Plains," Auburn has a true town-and-gown relationship with the City of Auburn, with the two meeting at the famed Toomer's Corner intersection.



## We're Growing

Auburn's campus growth is student-focused, whether it's new buildings to enhance the academic experience or upgrades to existing facilities. Current construction projects include:

### **Delta Air Lines Aviation Education Building**

*Projected completion: November 2018*

The two-story facility will house classrooms, a flight simulator lab and debriefing rooms.

### **Leach Science Center Addition**

*Projected completion: December 2018*

The addition will consolidate and relocate the Department of Physics and will consist of instructional laboratories, research laboratories, student success and collaborative study spaces.

### **Graduate Business Building**

*Projected completion: April 2019*

Supporting the growing graduate needs of the Harbert College of Business, the building will house flat-flexible and case study classrooms, a flexible studio lecture hall, an innovation lab and study pods and team areas.

### **Brown-Kopel Engineering Student Achievement Center**

*Projected completion: May 2019*

The three-story building will consist of classrooms, student study spaces, maker space, a wind-tunnel lab and space for advising, tutoring, professional development and industry relations.

Recently completed projects on campus include the Health Sciences Sector and a renovation to Broun Hall. Renovations are nearing completion on the Gavin Engineering Research Laboratory. The project will provide the necessary space to relocate and consolidate research labs for the Polymer Composites Center, Additive Manufacturing, Aerospace Engineering Wind Tunnels, Nuclear Power Generation Simulation, Pulp and Paper Pilot Machine and general research assets from the engineering shops and L-Building. Construction will soon begin on a renovation to the Student Activities Center, as well as an expansion of the recreation fields.



# OUR COMMUNITY

The Auburn-Opelika area is filled with scenic natural beauty and a wealth of possibility. It has much to offer in education, recreation, nature, history, culture and more.

Auburn is a small, friendly university town in the rolling hills of east-central Alabama, with a population of approximately 64,000. Conveniently located along Interstate 85, Auburn is less than 60 miles northeast of Alabama's capital city of Montgomery, about 30 miles west of Columbus, Georgia and 100 miles southwest of Atlanta. The pristine, sandy-white beaches of Alabama's Gulf Shores can be reached in less than four hours.

The university has a special relationship with the City of Auburn, including partnerships such as the Yarbrough Tennis Center and the Auburn Research Park. The famed Toomer's Corner marks the spot where the city and university intersect and is a destination for the city and university communities to gather in celebration.

Auburn residents overwhelmingly rate the city as a great place to live, work and raise children. *Forbes* has consistently ranked Auburn on its lists for Best Places to Retire and Best Small Places for Business and Careers. In 2018, Auburn was listed among the Top 100 Best Places to Live in the U.S. by *Livability*. Auburn's public schools are regularly ranked among the best in the state and nation.

Residents have access to a number of city parks and recreational programs, as well as Chewacla State Park's 696 scenic acres, including a 26-acre lake, waterfall and trails. Opening in fall 2019 across from the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, the Jay and Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center will be a cultural destination offering world-class performances. The Gogue Center and museum will create a vibrant arts district for the campus, community and region.

Opelika, Auburn's sister city, is full of small-town charm, rich in heritage and offers a high quality of life for its nearly 30,000 residents. Opelika is the county seat for Lee County, the eighth most populous county in Alabama and the home of Auburn University. The Auburn-Opelika metro area has approximately 162,000 residents.

Opelika is home to the Opelika SportsPlex and Aquatics Center, Opelika Performing Arts Center, East Alabama Medical Center, Southern Union State Community College, one of 27 institutions in the Alabama Community College System and the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Grand National.





# ABOUT AUBURN VETERINARY MEDICINE

The mission of the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine is to prepare individuals for careers of excellence in veterinary medicine, including private and public practice, industrial medicine, academics and research. The college will provide programs of instruction, research, outreach and service that are in the best interests of the citizens of the state of Alabama, the region, the nation and the world.

Over the course of its 126-year history, the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine has produced more than 6,650 veterinarians and more than 500 specialists and researchers. Auburn is the seventh oldest college of veterinary medicine in North America and was the first in the southeastern United States. Alumni live throughout all 50 states and many nations.

Auburn was a part of the first regional education program in the U.S., offering veterinary education programs to neighboring states, and is why Auburn veterinarians are prevalent throughout the Southeast. In 1949, Dr. Redding S. Sugg, the third dean of the college, helped found the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), and Auburn is proud of its ongoing 67-year partnership in veterinary education with the Commonwealth of Kentucky through the SREB agreement.

The mission of the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine is to prepare individuals for careers of excellence in veterinary medicine, including private and public practice, industrial medicine, academics and research. The college provides programs of instruction, research, outreach and service that are in the best interests of the citizens of the state of Alabama, the region, the nation and the world.

The college's [strategic plan](#) has three major goals: (1) enhance student success, (2) promote discovery and (3) practice the highest standards of veterinary medicine.

The Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine has a rich history of success and is dedicated to preparing individuals for careers of excellence in veterinary medicine.





# AUBURN UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Auburn University's mission is defined by its land-grant traditions of service and access. The university will serve the citizens of the state through its instructional, research and outreach programs and prepare Alabamians to respond successfully to the challenges of a global economy. The university will provide traditional and non-traditional students broad access to the institution's educational resources. In the delivery of educational programs on campus and beyond, the university will draw heavily upon the new instructional and outreach technologies available in the emerging information age.

As a comprehensive university, Auburn University is committed to offering high-quality undergraduate, graduate and professional education to its students. The university will give highest priority for resource allocation for the future development of those areas that represent the traditional strengths, quality, reputation and uniqueness of the institution and that continue to effectively respond to the needs of students and other constituents. Consistent with this commitment, the university will emphasize a broad and superior undergraduate education that imparts the knowledge, skills and values so essential to educated and responsible citizens. At the same time, the university will provide high-quality graduate and professional programs in areas of need and importance to the state and beyond. To accomplish these educational goals, Auburn University will continue to compete nationally to attract a faculty distinguished by its commitment to teaching and by its achievements in research, both pure and applied. The university will strive to attract a faculty that will bring distinction and stature to the undergraduate, graduate and professional programs offered by the university.

Because research is essential to the mission of a land-grant university, Auburn University will continue development of its research programs. The primary focus of this research will be directed to the solution of problems and the development of knowledge and technology important to the state and nation and to the quality of life of Alabama citizens. The university's research programs will make important contributions to instructional programs through the involvement of graduate and undergraduate students and the renewal of the faculty. Research will also provide the knowledge base for outreach programs. In carrying out its research mission, the university will emphasize established areas of strength and will focus available resources in those areas of research and doctoral study that are, or have the potential to, develop into nationally and internationally recognized centers of excellence. Extension and outreach programs are fundamental to the land-grant mission because these programs directly affect the lives of all citizens in the state. The university will maintain the strengths of its traditional outreach programs and will increasingly involve the broader university in outreach programs that respond to the changing needs of the society in which we live. The university will continue to seek new and innovative ways to reach out to the people it serves.



# DIRECTOR, SCOTT-RITCHEY RESEARCH CENTER

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



The [Scott-Ritchey Research Center \(SRRC\)](#) at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine (AUCVM) seeks a strategic, creative, collaborative leader and established scientist in biomedical research to serve as its director. The director will be responsible for all aspects of research development, infrastructure, internal and external funding, proposal development, contract and grant accounting, research compliance and ethics, and technology transfer resulting in the promotion of research excellence for the center. The SRRC mission is to conduct innovative and impactful basic and translational research to improve the health of companion animals and to facilitate the applications of new information to the clinical and scientific communities. The director reports to the Associate Dean for Research and will be located in Auburn, Alabama.

The AUCVM is located on the Auburn University campus in east-central Alabama. Collaborative research opportunities are readily available within the college, as well as with colleagues across the Auburn University campus. Opportunities exist for continued development of impactful interdisciplinary collaborations with the Harrison School of Pharmacy, the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering and MRI Research Center, as well as other colleges and schools. Strong partnerships also exist with the [HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology](#), a state-of-the-art genomics facility in Huntsville, Alabama, and with medical colleges at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, located on the Auburn campus. The SRRC is a state-of-the-art, interdepartmental and interdisciplinary research program in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Supported in part through an endowment, the SRRC relies on private funds, grants and contracts to support the majority of its research activities.

[Auburn University](#) is a nationally ranked land-grant institution recognized for its commitment to world-class scholarship, interdisciplinary research and an undergraduate education experience second to none. Auburn is home to more than 30,000 students. Its faculty and research partners collaborate to develop and deliver meaningful scholarship, science and technology-based advancements that meet pressing regional, national and global needs. Auburn's commitment to active student engagement, professional success and public/private partnership drives a growing reputation for outreach and extension that delivers broad economic, health and societal impact. Auburn's mission to educate, discover and collaborate drives its expanding impact on the world.

[Auburn](#) residents enjoy a thriving community, recognized as one of the "best small towns in America," with a moderate climate and easy access to major cities or to beach and mountain recreational facilities. Situated along the rapidly developing I-85 corridor between Atlanta, Georgia, and Montgomery, Alabama, the combined Auburn-Opelika, Alabama-Columbus, Georgia statistical area has a population of over 500,000, with excellent public school systems, outstanding recreation facilities and a regional medical center.



The selected candidate will be expected to:

- Advance the research mission of the SRRC in the investigation of diseases/conditions affecting dogs and cats, including those that serve as animal models for human disease
- Lead an internationally recognized, extramurally funded research program and support SRRC faculty in building research programs consistent with the center's mission
- Incorporate education into the center's research mission at graduate, professional and undergraduate levels
- Work in conjunction with the college's development officers to secure philanthropic support for the center

The successful candidate will be an established scientist in biomedical research with a strong record of scholarly achievement, peer recognition and sustained extramural funding as a principal investigator. The successful candidate must have a scholarly record that merits appointment at the rank of professor in an academic department of the college. The director will demonstrate a commitment to modern, visionary scientific approaches to the advancement of knowledge and improvement of health and a compelling vision for advancing the mission of the SRRC. Excellent interpersonal communication skills and demonstrated leadership and organizational abilities in support of biomedical research are required. A terminal degree in the biomedical sciences (PhD, DVM/VMD, MD, DMD or equivalents) is required. The candidate selected for this position must be able to meet eligibility requirements to work in the United States at the time the appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the proposed term of employment.

The SRRC is privately endowed, and endowment income is available to support infrastructure and general research needs. A generous startup package will be provided for the successful candidate, including potential for resources to enable recruitment of new faculty members and development of new programs.

[Review the full leadership profile for the Director, Scott-Ritchey Research Center.](#)

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with education and experience.

Electronic submissions of all nominations and applications are encouraged. Those with interest in this position should submit a curriculum vitae and a letter of application indicating experience as it relates to the position description to:

**Search Committee – Director, Scott-Ritchey Research Center**

**Attention: Managing Director**

**Breckenridge Partners**

**Email: [mek@breckenridgepartners.com](mailto:mek@breckenridgepartners.com)**

**Initial review of candidates will begin after February 15, 2019 and will continue until a qualified candidate is appointed.**



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UNIVERSITY

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