HARBERT
COLLEGE *of* BUSINESS

NEW FACULTY + LEADERSHIP

David Dobrzykowski
Yi-Jen (Ian) Ho
Ben Lazarine
Amy Mathews
Allison Smith
Stephanie Buffaloe
Greg Gagliano
Andrew Wren

FACULTY + LEADERSHIP

PREPARING *the next* GENERATION
of BUSINESS LEADERS

FROM

DEAN JENNIFER MUELLER-PHILLIPS

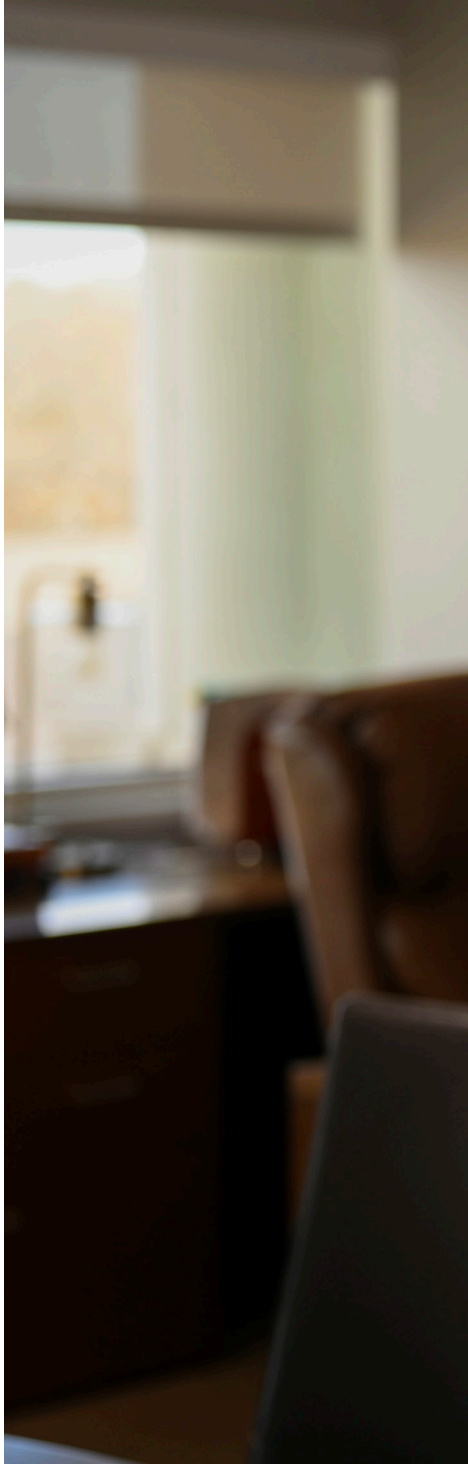
HARBERT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Dean and Wells Fargo Professor

With the start of the 2026–27 academic year, the Harbert College of Business welcomes eight new faculty and leaders, including Dr. Yi-Jen (Ian) Ho, the Broadway Distinguished Professor of Analytics, and Dr. David Dobrzykowski, who joins as Bickerstaff Endowed Chair and department chair of Supply Chain Management. We also welcome new colleagues in marketing, business analytics, accounting and management, along with new leadership guiding our New Venture Accelerator and our expanding Birmingham operations. Together, this group strengthens our ability to deliver an exceptional student experience, pursue high-impact research and build the meaningful partnerships that advance our mission.

As Auburn University's largest college, Harbert serves more than 7,500 business students — a scale that makes recruiting and retaining world-class faculty and leaders essential to our vision of becoming a premier business school, globally recognized for academic excellence and bold thinking.







HARBERT BUSINESS

#31 #51 OVERALL
U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS PROGRAMS AMONG PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

184
FACULTY

26
RECENT FT50 PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING 16 UTD24

7,600+
BUSINESS STUDENTS

90%
OF OUR STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH APPLIED EXPERIENCE



#15
SUPPLY CHAIN
U.S. News & World Report Public Rankings

#18
ACCOUNTING
U.S. News & World Report Public Rankings

#22
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Princeton Review Public Ranking



U.S. News & World Report,
Forbes and Wall Street Journal

ALL RANK

AUBURN UNIVERSITY

#1

IN ALABAMA

#7

ONLINE MBA

Poets & Quants
Overall Ranking

#15

EXECUTIVE MBA

U.S. News & World Report
Public Rankings

#17

ONLINE MBA

U.S. News & World Report
Public Rankings

1 IN 5
AUBURN
STUDENTS
ARE
HARBERT
STUDENTS



DAVID DOBRZYKOWSKI

BICKERSTAFF CHAIR
Harbert College of Business

CHAIR
Department of Supply Chain Management

David Dobrzykowski is the new department chair of Supply Chain Management in the Harbert College of Business, where he holds the Bickerstaff Chair.

A highly respected scholar, he is known for tackling industry-relevant problems in three broad areas — healthcare, humanitarian and the gig economy. His research, which he regularly publishes in top-tier journals, examines operations and supply chains that feature unique challenges to information processing and the coordination of work.

In a recent study published in the Journal of Operations Management that has implications for companies that contract with gig employees, Dobrzykowski and his colleagues discovered that last-mile delivery drivers are not solely motivated to accept orders based on pay, but rather they preferred orders that are deliverable during the day, organized in a limited geographic range and do not require the recipient to be home.

Dobrzykowski brought his experience as a former healthcare executive to bear on another research project, where he helped hospitals reduce medical supply costs by improving cost efficiencies in vendor contracts managed on their behalf by a group purchasing organization (GPO).

A project that he conducted with a then-doctoral student at the University of Arkansas won the 2023 Bernard J. LaLonde Best Paper Award for being the most valuable paper published in the Journal of Business Logistics. Their paper examined how companies repurposed their manufacturing efforts to produce health-related goods during the pandemic.

At Harbert, Dobrzykowski envisions growing the supply chain management's Ph.D. program; developing additional courses at the intersection of AI, supply chains and operations; and adding research programs in healthcare supply chains.

Prior to coming to Auburn, he spent seven years at the University of Arkansas Sam Walton College of Business, where he was director of Healthcare Business Initiatives, senior director of the supply chain management doctoral program and formerly the master's program director. He previously earned tenure at Rutgers University.

He received the prestigious Dennis Grawoig Distinguished Service Award in 2025 for serving in various leadership roles, including past-president, with the Decision Sciences Institute. He is the only academic member of the American Hospital Association Advisory Board for its AHRMM supply chain division. He also serves on the board of the Production and Operations Management Society, an international professional organization for scholars.

National media often seek his expertise, including outlets like NPR Marketplace, NBC News and Bloomberg Businessweek.

Dobrzykowski earned a bachelor's degree in marketing, an MBA and a Ph.D. in manufacturing and technology management.



YI-JEN (IAN) HO

BROADWAY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF ANALYTICS

Yi-Jen (Ian) Ho, a distinguished information systems scholar, joins the Harbert College of Business as the Broadway Distinguished Professor of Analytics and Director of the Information Systems Management doctoral program. Ho is known for his award-winning research on the effects that information technologies, like location-based services and AI, have on commerce, healthcare and the judicial system. His work has appeared in premier business journals such as Information Systems Research and Production and Operations Management.

Early in his career at Penn State, Ho examined geofencing, a marketing strategy that delivers advertisements to consumers' smartphones based on their location. His research demonstrated that geofencing was more effective than traditional advertising and proposed improvements that benefited both businesses and consumers.

He later conducted a large field experiment, showing that combining gamification techniques, such as badges and leaderboards, with location-based advertising significantly increased long-term customer engagement.

After joining Tulane University in 2023, Ho expanded his research beyond business to explore AI's impact on important societal issues. One notable study found that AI-based recommendations for non-violent offenders reduced sentencing disparities between men and women. However, the research also suggested that judges may have applied the recommendations unevenly across racial groups, granting probation more often to low-risk white offenders than similarly classified black offenders. This work earned prestigious best paper awards.

Some of Ho's more recent projects have examined the implications of disclosing AI-generated content and the ways that AI can help faculty become more creative in producing novel and disruptive research.

At Auburn, Ho is teaching graduate-level seminars on the responsible use of AI in research and ways to strengthen critical-thinking skills.

Ho received the prestigious Gordon Davis Young Scholar award, which recognizes young researchers who are poised to make outstanding intellectual contributions to the information systems discipline, and the highly competitive Nunamaker-Chen Dissertation award presented by the INFORMS Information Systems Society. He earned his Ph.D. in information systems from the University of California, Irvine.

BEN LAZARINE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Information Systems Management

PH.D., INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Ben Lazarine's research focuses on managing security vulnerabilities inherent in open-source AI software by addressing issues early in the app development cycle. In his doctoral research at Indiana University, he identified secure AI building blocks that developers can leverage in their app design, and he introduced a large language model approach to address persistent security concerns later in the development cycle. He co-authored a paper that was published in the Journal of Management Information Systems, a premier research publication, and his work contributed to securing National Science Foundation research grant funding. As a Ph.D. student fellow with the Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research, he researched the applicability of large language models to cybersecurity assessments for Indiana public sector organizations. At Auburn, he is teaching Business Applications with Open-Source Software.

FACULTY



AMY MATHEWS

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Accountancy

PH.D., THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Amy Mathews' research explores the early-career auditor experience, including job factors that motivate high-quality work, contribute to stress or lead to job turnover. During her doctoral studies, she earned a highly competitive National Association of State Board of Accountancy (NASBA) education research grant to support her work. A graduate of the Auburn Master of Accountancy program and certified public accountant, she began her career with PwC in Nashville performing audits for clients in the banking capital markets and asset wealth management industries. She earned her Ph.D. in accounting from The University of Alabama, where she taught corporate governance and financial accounting courses. At Auburn, she is teaching Intermediate Accounting.



ALLISON SMITH

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Marketing

PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Allison Smith's research focuses on salespeople's effectiveness and customer outcomes, salespeople's incentives and motivation and strategic salesforce management. She recently earned her Ph.D. in marketing from the University of South Florida (USF), where she won the American Marketing Association's Sales SIG Doctoral Dissertation Proposal award for her research investigation of how emotional language influences customer purchasing decisions. In 2023, she received the prestigious Hunt/Deitz/Hansen Best Doctoral Paper award, which recognizes the top Ph.D. student paper in professional selling. She taught professional selling courses at USF for three years, winning the 2025 Muma College of Business Ph.D. Student Excellence in Teaching award. At Auburn, she is teaching Personal Selling.



STEPHANIE BUFFALOE

LECTURER

Management and Entrepreneurship

D.B.A., LIBERTY UNIVERSITY
J.D., BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL OF LAW

Stephanie Buffaloe brings 20-plus years of industry experience to her role as lecturer in the Harbert College of Business. She founded and led successful startups in the medical billing and senior-care industries. That experience informs her instruction of the Strategic Management and Global Business Environment courses. She serves in executive leadership roles with the Alzheimer's Association at the state and national levels, raising awareness and funding to battle the disease that took the lives of two family members. Buffaloe holds a juris doctor degree from the Birmingham School of Law and a doctor of business administration degree from Liberty University.



GREG GAGLIANO

DIRECTOR OF BIRMINGHAM OPERATIONS

Harbert College of Business

Greg Gagliano has more than three decades of executive leadership experience across technology and operations in financial services and healthcare. During his 25-year career with Regions Bank, he served as chief information officer of Corporate Computing and led Enterprise Operations across 15 states, overseeing nearly 2,000 employees. His experience includes large-scale technology delivery, operational leadership and business transformation. As director of Harbert College of Business's Birmingham operations, he works with organizations on leadership development, professional education and strategic collaboration. An Auburn alumnus, Gagliano has served on the Harbert College Alumni Council and Advisory Council, providing insight on student experience, business engagement and operations.



ANDREW WREN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

New Venture Accelerator

Andrew Wren leads Auburn University's New Venture Accelerator, which provides students, faculty, alumni and community founders with mentorship, resources and capital pathways to take them from idea validation through company formation and early-stage growth. Previously, he spent more than 30 years building Wren Solutions from a small entrepreneurial start-up into an international provider of asset protection and security solutions for Fortune 500 companies. As CEO, he developed strong leadership teams, built and scaled operations and established a culture of continuous improvement — measures that positioned the company for a successful private equity transaction in 2023. He continues to leverage his industry experience as a board member for two companies. Wren earned his bachelor's degree in marketing from Auburn.





/// OUR VISION

To be a premier business school, globally recognized for academic excellence and bold thinking, driven by enduring Auburn values and ***a spirit that is not afraid.***



HARBERT CORE VALUES

Grounded in the Auburn Creed

INTEGRITY

Harbert upholds honesty, trust and accountability as guiding principles for effectively fulfilling our mission.

HARD WORK

Harbert inspires a tireless work ethic rooted in resilience and the pursuit of excellence, encouraging us to bring our best and meaningfully impact society.

INNOVATION

Harbert shapes the future of business through forward-thinking research, dynamic and engaged teaching and collaborative industry partnerships.

INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY

Harbert cultivates a spirit of inquiry, a commitment to lifelong learning and a drive for continuous improvement in the pursuit of knowledge and personal growth.

COMMUNITY

Harbert thrives as a community that promotes humility, mutual respect, helpfulness, collaboration and empowerment to strengthen our collective purpose.



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