



Case for Support

Our Mission

The mission of Saint Augustine's University is to sustain a learning community in which students can prepare academically, socially and spiritually for leadership in a complex, diverse and rapidly changing world.

Our Vision

Saint Augustine's University (SAU), founded in 1867, is an Episcopal church-affiliated, four-year liberal arts university, that sits on 105 acres in Raleigh, North Carolina. SAU is and has always been nationally recognized as a comprehensive institution with high-performing students, renowned faculty, focused community engagement, and a strong alumni base of change agents, built on a solid mission and vision.

Our Contribution

SAU's rich history and notable alumni legacy testify to an SAU education's transformative power. The Governor General of The Bahamas is a SAU graduate. The first black person to hold statewide elected office in North Carolina as State Auditor is a Falcon. The first African-American woman elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives is a graduate of SAU. A Falcon was the first African-American Tax Commissioner of New York and one of the first appointed African-American judges in New York City. The first African-American Episcopal Bishop is a SAU graduate. In addition, Dr. Anna Julia Cooper, a writer, educator, and one of the first African-American women to receive a Ph.D., graduated from SAU.

Our Growth

The SAU Board of Trustees, President, and Executive Leadership Team have led the way in stabilizing the fiscal resources of the University through increasing revenues, implementing cost containment strategies, stabilizing enrollment, and enhancing fiscal oversight.

Some of the significant achievement toward fiscal stabilization and sustainability include:

- \$11 million in grant funding in fiscal year 2023, an 85 percent jump from the previous fiscal year, thanks to an increased focus on research.
- FY2024 grant totals as of November 2023 being \$8,185,700.74 with grant projections for FY2025 total \$3.6 million.
- \$10 million in up-front cash and additional long-term residual income from a ground lease agreement with Carter, a leading national real estate investment and development firm to construct a 320-unit multi-family housing project on SAU property. The partnership is valued in excess of \$75 million.
- SAU executive leadership is finalizing the next phase of cost containment measures in accordance with its stated timeline, with plans for additional reductions in workforce, operational line items, travel, and departmental spending at the end of the fall 2023 semester in an effort to decrease the operational budgets for spring 2024 by \$1.5 to \$2.0 million.

- For the academic years 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23, SAU has seen stable enrollment and income from tuition.
- SAU showed its most significant increase in its retention rate, which has risen from 52% to over 77%, an increase of 25% since the 2021-2022 academic year.
- SAU's graduation rate, a school's percentage of first-time, first-year undergraduate students who complete within six years, improved by 3% to now stand at 22%.
- In 2022, SAU ranked 233 out of 1,414 institutions in Social Mobility Index (SMI), placing the university among the top 16% of universities in the nation.
- SAU's alumni giving percentage is 16%, almost double the national average of HBCU alumni giving.

Our Challenge

At its meeting on December 5, 2023, the SACSCOC Board of Trustees voted to remove the University from SACSCOC membership. Saint Augustine's University will appeal the decision of the SACSCOC Board of Trustees. **Saint Augustine's University remains an accredited institution on Probation until the Appeal process concludes.** The University's leadership team continues to address the issues cited by the SACSCOC's Board of Trustees and will work collaboratively with SACSCOC's staff to restore full compliance across all Principles of Accreditation. Our board of trustees, leadership team, faculty, staff, students and alumni look forward to collaborating with SACSCOC during the coming weeks to demonstrate that we have addressed the noncompliance issues to ensure the university's good standing in all accreditation principles.

Our Value

The legacy of Saint Augustine's University must continue. Students past, present and future depend upon it. SAU students, 90% of whom are on financial aid, many of whom are first-generation college students, place faith in SAU's history of providing opportunities for social mobility. According to a study conducted by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), "Saint Augustine's University generates \$72 million in total economic impact" and "684 jobs for its local and regional economies." SAU prepares students to be successful contributors in a global society and provides opportunities for advanced educational attainment to those who might otherwise be denied. Saint Augustine's University is dedicated to maintaining accreditation and demonstrating its commitment to academic excellence and student success.

To support our **#FalconPrideInitiative** fundraising campaign, please go to www.st-aug.edu/giving. For questions or additional information, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 919.516.4182 or amsanders@st-aug.edu.