Our vision

The Samuel Ginn College of Engineering is embracing a bold vision to become one of the top engineering programs in the nation. The construction of the new Transportation Technology Center (TTC) is the key component of the realization of this vision.

The creation of technologically advanced facilities is critical to moving the college into the ranks of elite engineering programs. The TTC is part of an overall strategic plan for facility enhancement that includes the recently completed renovation of Wilmore Labs and Ross Hall. The new TTC will serve as a state-of-the-art engineering facility, attracting top researchers and students from around the world.

“This technology center is the cornerstone of our strategic plan for the college to bring our programs to the next level. These buildings will provide the facilities necessary to expand our research efforts while ensuring that our instructional programs remain among the best in the nation.”

Dean Larry Benefield
Samuel Ginn College of Engineering
Advancing the vision

Designed to advance technology development in a variety of disciplines, the Transportation Technology Center will house research and instructional facilities and administrative offices for a number of engineering programs. To be constructed in two phases, the complex represents the largest single integrated construction program ever undertaken at Auburn. The complex will provide a stunning new gateway to the north side of campus and will serve as the new home to Auburn Engineering.

Technologically advanced classrooms and general and specialized laboratories will provide a progressive instructional environment and will foster innovative and growing research programs. This complex will enable the college to:

- Recruit nationally-known senior faculty who have established themselves as scholars in their field
- Recruit outstanding junior faculty who will become tomorrow’s leaders
- Attract graduate and undergraduate students who have demonstrated high academic achievement
- Increase interaction between students and faculty, providing greater opportunities for informal encounters and collaboration among professors and students
- Expand the college’s research activities and its reputation as a major research institution
- Provide a new home for the Departments of Computer Science and Software, Industrial and Systems, and Mechanical Engineering
- Construct facilities necessary to advance the instructional and research programs of all units within the college
The $108 million Transportation Technology Center will include a central pavilion with two L-shaped wings, as well as two stand-alone buildings. These buildings, wrapped around a central courtyard, will consist of a new Mechanical Engineering Building and an Advanced Research Laboratory Building.

The Central Pavilion
This facility will house the Office of Student Services and the BellSouth Minority Engineering Program, providing a focal point for student activities. An auditorium, four high-tech classrooms, wireless laboratories, Engineering administration and the Departments of Computer Science and Software Engineering and Industrial and Systems Engineering will reside in the L-shaped wings.

The Mechanical Engineering Building
This facility will provide the Department of Mechanical Engineering with state-of-the-art instructional classrooms, student study areas, as well as faculty offices and laboratories. It will enable the department to obtain increased research funding, thereby continuing its reputation for leading research in the areas of systems, transportation, fracture mechanics and non-linear optics. The building will include the following specialized laboratories:

- Acoustics Lab
- Mechanical Testing Lab
- Hybrid Propulsion Lab
- Vibration and Environmental Testing Lab
- Micro Scale Mechanics Test Lab
- Student Projects Lab
Leading engineering research

Auburn Engineering has long been committed to the discovery of new technologies and processes. The Advanced Research Laboratory Building will create much-needed space for ongoing research such as the Center for Advanced Vehicle Electronics which works to improve the reliability of automotive electronics and enhance the dependability and safety of automobiles. It will also accommodate the Alabama Microelectronics Science and Technology Center, an interdisciplinary research center designed to support the growth of the rapidly evolving and strategically important microelectronics industry.

Facilities will also include:
- Class 10 clean room
- Electronics packaging lab
- Incubator laboratories
- Wireless engineering labs
- Flexible laboratory space

The Advanced Research Laboratory Building is specifically designed to accommodate new research opportunities that arise through increased research funding or the recruitment of new faculty. Flexible laboratory space will enable the college to expand a wide range of innovative technologies and immediately meet research needs as they present themselves.
Securing the resources

Thanks to efforts by Alabama’s senior Senator Richard Shelby, $65 million in federal funds have been secured for the project. The total cost of the Transportation Technology Center will be approximately $108 million, with funding coming from the following sources:

- $65 million in federal funds
- $24 million in university revenue bonds
- $4 million in university infrastructure support
- $15 million in private support

“I was pleased to play a role in securing funding for this important educational facility. The modern classrooms coupled with the quality lab space will increase research funding and economic development efforts, and ultimately lead to job creation.”

Richard Shelby
U.S. Senator

Partnering for the future

As Auburn Engineering moves into an exciting future, it will take the combined efforts of all who believe in our potential. Private support will be critical to making this remarkable opportunity a reality. The successful completion of the new Transportation Technology Center will require $15 million in new investments from Auburn alumni, friends and the corporate community.

We invite you to invest in the future of Auburn Engineering with a gift to the new Transportation Technology Center or through a naming opportunity for a classroom, laboratory or meeting space within the complex.

For additional information, please contact the Engineering Office of Development at 334.844.1285 or visit our Web site at www.eng.auburn.edu/admin/development.