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WEEKEND WORKSHOPS AT UA, AU CAMPUSES GENERATE FIRST 700 STUDENT SIGNATURES OF SUPPORT FOR NEW SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT FUNDS

University of Alabama and Auburn University, January 4th – This weekend, student coordinators from the Coalition of Alabama Students for the Environment (CASE) conducted workshops at the UA and AU campuses as part of the new “Statewide Sustainable Investment Project”. Both workshops centered on providing CASE student organizations operating at both UA and AU campuses with the skills to mobilize their student populations to support new campus “Sustainable Investment Funds”. If successful, the funds together would equal over \$700,000 for new student-designed energy-efficiency and savings projects on campus.

Auburn University’s student “Environmental Awareness Organization” (EAO) participated in a four-hour workshop on Friday, January 1st, focusing on effective outreach and communications strategies to the Auburn student population.

On Saturday, January 2nd, over 500 student signatures of support were collected, representing over 2% of the AU population.

On Sunday, January 3rd, The University of Alabama’s student “Environmental Council” participated in an identical workshop.

UA students collected over 200 signatures of support, representing almost 1% of the campus population.

In the spirit of traditional UA/AU football rivalries, both student organizations are now competing to gather signatures of support representing 5% of their campus populations by March 1st. Workshops were supported by UA and AU alumni and the Sierra Club-Alabama Chapter.

Two other college campuses, UA at Birmingham and UA at Huntsville, are also participating in “Sustainable Investment Fund” projects through CASE. All funds would be initially student-supported, but would be financed by student fees lower than any currently in place at each campus.

CASE is an 8-campus coalition united to support Alabama’s economy and environment through sustainable policy change and infrastructure development.