Focus

- For this blog, I will be focussing on the ***College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM),*** where I just started a new position as a communications and marketing student employee. The department is currently going through a lot of changes, so the social media and online presence has been lacking, which is why they hired me. Despite this, COSAM aims to highlight student, faculty, and alumni achievements in hopes to deepen audience engagement.

3 Month Blog Strategy

- Week 1: ***Welcome to COSAM***. An overview of the departments within COSAM and highlighting the impact it has on Auburn University.
- Week 2: ***STEM Student Spotlight***. Featuring research products by hardworking STEM students who want to promote their work to the university.
- Week 3: ***Meet the Boss!*** Blog post introducing the head of Comms & Marketing for COSAM and discussing past achievements while setting goals for the future.
- Week 4: ***Women in Stem.*** Highlight a famous woman in the STEM field, talk about her accomplishments and how she has made an impact on Auburn COSAM.
- Week 5: ***Alumni success story.*** Highlight the success of a COSAM alumni, whether it be a project, a position, or just a life story.
- Week 6: ***Environmental Science***: share a story about what COSAM is doing to contribute to environmental efforts.
- Week 7: ***COSAM awards***: the academic award ceremony is coming up so we could write a blog highlighting students who have previously won awards.
- Week 8: ***Undergraduate opportunities***: this blog could suggest different opportunities offered on/off campus or by professors that COSAM students would enjoy
- Week 9: ***STEM study tips:*** write a blog showing students how to guide their study skills and adjust things they may be doing incorrectly or not well.
- Week 10: ***How COSAM is addressing climate change:*** climate change is a huge topic in today's world, so a blog addressing how COSAM feels about it could grab the attention of readers.
- Week 11: ***The future of science***: write a blog about scientific research within COSAM and how what they are doing is making a difference.
- Week 12: ***Graduate success:*** a blog going into detail about COSAM's graduate program and opportunities.

Celebrating Women in Science: The Legacy of Dr. Marie Curie

Dr. Marie Curie is one of the most famous names in science history. Not only did she break down barriers for women, Curie was the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize and the only person to win Nobel Prizes in two separate scientific domains. Her life's work continues to inspire women in STEM around the world, and her research on radioactivity served as a catalyst for advances in physics, chemistry, and medicine.

Breaking Barriers and Defining a Path in Science

In 1867, Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland. This was a time when women had very few educational opportunities. Curie was adamant about pursuing science in spite of these obstacles. She later relocated to Paris to attend the Sorbonne, where she earned degrees in mathematics and physics. During her time there, she frequently encountered societal criticism and financial difficulties.

Curie's perseverance paid off when she started working in a small Parisian laboratory with her future husband, Pierre Curie. After X-rays and uranium rays were discovered, they started studying radioactivity, a name Marie Curie came up with. Both of their research led to the discovery of new elements like polonium and radium, as well as ground-breaking investigations that would transform medicine and physics. Marie Curie became the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903. She then shared the honor with physicist Henri Becquerel and Pierre.

Pioneering Research and Success

Despite Pierre's death in 1906, Marie carried on with her work, channeling her deep dedication. As the first female professor at the Sorbonne, she succeeded Pierre in her role. Her efforts to isolate pure radium earned her her second Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911. Being the first person to get Nobel Prizes in two distinct scientific domains, this accomplishment made her one of the most renowned scientists of her era, and continues to be an unmatched accomplishment.

Curie's research was revolutionary for both her methods and her discoveries. Her work with radioactive materials established norms for future study and resulted in new scientific procedures and techniques. She laid the groundwork for radiation treatment in modern medicine by introducing the idea that radiation may be used to treat ailments. However, her efforts came at a high personal cost; she accepted the risk of long-term radiation exposure, which had a major negative impact on her health.

Inspiring Women in STEM

The impact of Marie Curie extends well beyond her contributions to science. Numerous women have been motivated to follow in her footsteps by her perseverance in the face of personal and

professional adversity and her ability to thrive in a male dominated area. Curie demonstrated that women might significantly advance science by shattering stereotypes. In keeping with her goal of encouraging women in STEM, her name is now attached to awards, research institutions, and scholarships.

The Influence of Marie Curie

Even now, more than a century after her original findings, Marie Curie continues to have a significant impact. Her life contributions have come to represent scientific brilliance and a lifelong dedication to learning. Her work helped solve the mysteries of atomic energy and radioactivity, and as a result, many modern technologies and medical procedures exist today.

Because of Curie's early work with radium, radiation therapy has become a routine treatment for a variety of cancers in the medical field. Beyond her contributions to science, Curie's life narrative remains inspirational, serving as a reminder to young women and future scientists of the value of hard work, curiosity, and perseverance.

Curie's Legacy at Auburn University

Though Marie Curie never set foot on Auburn's campus, Curie's legacy is strongly felt at Auburn's College of Sciences and Mathematics (COSAM). Her accomplishments serve as a reminder that women can and should strive for personal and professional greatness. Auburn's programs can help young women in STEM by providing chances for research, mentorships, and scholarships, all of which Marie Curie would have supported. COSAM at Auburn takes pride in helping students who share Curie's beliefs that science can improve the world.

In addition to celebrating Marie Curie's legacy, we also commemorate all young women at Auburn who have the courage to pursue their dreams, aim high, and emulate one of the greatest scientists in history.

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