For the faculty and staff of Auburn University

‘Hit the ground listening’
New president plans fast start

This week will be a busy one for Jay Gogue, who assumes office Monday as the 18th president in AU’s 151-year history.

The first day, he said during a late June visit, would be devoted to getting acquainted with leaders of major campus constituencies. The second day would be spent on learning the nuts and bolts of Auburn’s administrative structure.

Over the remainder of the first week and for much of the next six months, Gogue says, he plans to meet leaders and representatives from the full spectrum of AU constituencies, both on campus and off.

Following a pattern that he used successfully as president of New Mexico State University and president and chancellor of the University of Houston System, Gogue said he wants to “hit the ground listening.”

Gogue, who earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in horticulture from Auburn in 1969 and 1970, respectively, and a Ph.D. in horticulture from Michigan State University in 1973, explained that he learned early as an administrator to listen carefully for fresh insights from others.

“It is important to develop some degree of trust with one another before we can talk about objectives,” he said. “Many times others know more about a subject than I do, and I want to learn from them. I want to get to know the people and listen to what they have to say.”

In preparing for his first week on the job at Auburn, Gogue said he wanted his first meeting as president to be with AU students. The second

Campaign surpasses $500 million mark

AU has surpassed its $500 million “It Begins at Auburn” Campaign goal with a $5 million gift from Raymond and Kathryn Harbert of Birmingham. The gift brings the campaign total to $504,657,718, the largest fundraising effort of its type ever in Alabama.

Although this milestone has been reached, the campaign will continue until its previously announced conclusion date of March 31, 2008.

“We are accomplishing our goal through the help of the entire Auburn family,” AU President Ed Richardson said Thursday. “This campaign will help fund countless scholarships and bring more nationally recognized faculty to Auburn University. Its positive impact on Alabama is significant and will be felt for many years.”

The “It Begins at Auburn” Campaign provides funding for all AU colleges and schools as well as the AU libraries and museums, athletics and Auburn University Montgomery. Endowments for student scholarships, faculty and programs make up the remainder of the campaign’s goal.

“The continuing success of the campaign is due to
meeting would be with faculty leaders, followed by meetings with deans, staff representatives and vice presidents. The day’s activities also include a teleconference with representatives of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

Also in his plans for Monday, Gogue said he will visit Auburn Montgomery to meet a cross section of AUM’s campus leaders. And he is to return to Auburn late in the day for an informal social function with a small group of community leaders. After a day of meeting and listening with representatives of major campus constituencies at AU and AUM, he plans to tackle some of the administrative responsibilities of the presidency. Those include becoming familiar with the campus master plan, emergency procedures, admissions procedures and other operations.

Gogue said he will strive to visit every academic department on campus in the coming months and will spend an hour in each department. In those sessions, he will focus on the top two things in their department that faculty and staff are most excited about. “They may have a lot of things they are proud of, but when they name the list to those two things, that sets the tone for the discussion,” he said. “I am here to help people achieve success in their disciplines, so I look for those who champion ideas.” Also, Gogue said, he would like to meet with local religious leaders to let them know the importance of the role they play in the life of the university community.

In the weeks leading up to the start of his duties on campus, Gogue has been phoning and writing letters to alumni and visiting members of Alabama’s legislative delegation in Washington. Expanding on that start, he plans to visit all 67 counties in Alabama to meet with local and state elected officials and AU trustees on their home turf.

The university enjoys strong support across Alabama and the nation, Gogue noted. “It is important to reach out to these people, who care a great deal about Auburn, and let them know that they are appreciated. They are important.”

The Harberts’ gift is the largest single gift ever to Auburn University and may not be reproduced without written permission from AU Report. AU Report Editor Roy Summerrled. Contributing editors and writers: Mike Clardy and Charles Martin, AU Communications; and Mitch Emmons, ATAC. Photography: Jeff Etheridge and Melissa Humble, AU. Photographic Services; Executive Director of Communications & Marketing: Deedie Dowdle. The AU Report is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Auburn University. Issues appear each Monday during fall and spring semesters and every two weeks in summer term, except on the Monday of or the Monday after some major U.S. holidays. Copies are distributed free by campus mail to full-time faculty and staff at campus offices. Deadline for delivery of finished publication is 4 p.m. on Wednesday before publication date. Direct inquiries, suggestions and news items to AU Report, 25th Sandhill, Auburn University, AL 36849. Telephone: 334-444-9999. E-mail: report@auburn.edu.

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**Fast start**

**Upcoming Events**

**Thursday, July 19**

**Robby Camp** Computer Science and Software Engineering program for children, through July 21, see https://cs.auburn.edu/comp100/SummerRobbyCamp/index.html

**Saturday, July 21**

**Exceeding goal**

**Sign of success**

Sally Jones Hill, co-chair of the “It Begins at Auburn” Campaign joined President Ed Richardson in unveiling a sign Thursday showing that the campaign has exceeded its $500 million goal. The campaign will continue through next March.

**Exceeding the goal nine months ahead of schedule under the campaign and in future fundraising efforts.”**

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**the campaign and in future fundraising efforts.**

**Campaign Co-Chair Sally Jones Hill said exceed**

**campaign will continue through next March.**

**Thursday, July 26**

**FARNER’S MARKET** Locally grown farm produce available each Thursday through the summer, 3 p.m.-6 p.m., Ag Heritage Park, Samford Avenue

**Friday, July 27**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS** Auburn Alumni Association Board of Directors, 1 p.m.

**Monday, July 30**

**NEXT AU Report; final edition for summer term**

**Finals for summer term (full semester), through Aug. 2**

**Thursday, August 2**

**FARNER’S MARKET** Locally grown farm produce available each Thursday through the summer, 3 p.m.-6 p.m., Ag Heritage Park, Samford Avenue

**Saturday, August 4**

**GRADUATION 2 p.m., Coliseum**

**Art Exhibits**

**BEGIN GALLERY** “Love Isn’t Always Enough,” artworks by adjunct faculty members Jonathan Byler, Claus Frank Haisnats, Debona Myles and William Danloup, through July 27

**JULIE COLLINS SMITH MUSEUM** “Alabama Nature, Industry, Art,” artworks illustrating Alabama materials also “Printography,” prints by Wycross Press, both through Sept. 1

**Boyd, Dute win Leischuck Awards as Auburn’s top teachers for 2007**

Two veteran faculty members at AU have been named as the university’s top teachers for 2007. Pamela C. Boyd of the College of Education and Roland Dute of the Colleges of Sciences and Mathematics are this year’s recipients of the Gerald and Emily Leischuck Endowed Presidential Awards for Excellence in Teaching. The Leischucks joined President Ed Richardson and Provost John Heilman in honoring Dute and Boyd in a July 9 ceremony at the President’s Home.

“Education, at any level, is only as good as the quality of teaching,” said Heilman. “Dr. Boyd and Dute help elevate the quality of teaching to a very high level at Auburn. They consistently serve as an inspiration for their students and are role models for other faculty at Auburn and beyond.”

The award carries a $10,000 stipend for each recipient. Emeritus senior administrators Gerald and Emily Leischuck established the endowment in 2005 to recognize the university’s teachers, and AU presented the first Leischuck Endowed Presidential Awards in the same year. Both the Leischucks had taught in public schools in the 1960s, and both maintained close ties to the AU College of Education during lengthy careers as administrators at Auburn.

Boyd and Dute were nominated by other faculty and former students and were recommended for the award by a selection committee and the provost. Boyd, an associate professor of curriculum and teaching, is a teacher of teachers. A faculty member at AU for 14 years, she teaches undergraduate students in the College of Education and active teachers in public schools across the region through the college’s outreach programs and AU’s Graduate School. Among other activities, Boyd was coordinator of the college’s elementary education program from 2002-05, and she has been active in formal and informal partnerships with several Alabama schools, including Auburn City Schools.

Among letters supporting her nomination, several teachers in public schools said Boyd was a role model for their teaching styles and philosophy, which includes a commitment to preparation and collaboration. Also supporting the nomination, College of Education Dean Frances Kochan wrote: “She is among the most sincere, caring, compassionate and supportive teachers I have ever known.”

Dute, an AU faculty member for 25 years, is a professor of biological sciences in the College of Sciences and Mathematics, where he teaches freshman biology courses for majors and non-majors as well as advanced undergraduate and graduate courses. He also advises undergraduates in the zoology and pre-veterinary medicine curriculum, mentors graduate students and has served on 38 graduate student committees.

Robert Linkah, a 2006 Leischuck Award winner, said Dute stands apart from many other talented teachers because of his extra efforts to help students master complex subjects in terms that even non-majors can comprehend. Having witnessed Dute in the classroom, Linkah wrote: “Roland’s expository speaking style is punctuated with matter-of-fact presentations of complex subject matter and employs a teaching style that allows students in large classes to think he is having a one-to-one conversation with each of them.”

Honors for teaching

Gerald and Emily Leischuck, above at right, namseeks for the Leischuck Awards, joined President Ed Richardson, First Lady Nell Richardson, at left, and others last week in honoring faculty members Pamela Boyd and Roland Dute for excellence in teaching during 2007.

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New concept for housing
Aubie joined President Ed Richardson and members of the AU Board of Trustees in a groundbreaking ceremony June 29 celebrating the start of construction of The Village, a 1,700-bed student housing complex. Besides being the first major student housing project at AU in three decades, the residence halls will be the first on campus to utilize the “learning communities” concept, with classrooms and faculty offices in the residence halls.

Replace your ID card by Aug. 29
Students, faculty and staff at AU will need to replace their ID cards by Aug. 29 as part of the university’s phase-out of Social Security numbers as employee and student identifiers. The old ID cards will no longer work after Aug. 29, as AU completes the transition to Banner-generated employee and student numbers.

For employees, a new ID card will be required to access certain buildings or rooms, to check out library books or to use their TigerCard account.

For students, a new ID card will be required to get into football games and other sporting events, obtain a parking pass or use their TigerCard account. There will be no charge for ID cards made by Aug. 29, but after that date there will be a $25 charge for any new card made.

Information regarding dates, times and locations for having a new card made is available online at www.auburn.edu/tigercard.

AU completes switch to electronic payroll, ends paper pay statements
After a year of transition, AU will complete the move to paperless pay for faculty and staff in late July. At the end of their current pay period, faculty and staff will view their payroll information via computer instead of receiving a paper statement.

In 2006, the university began depositing the pay of all full-time, permanent employees directly into their bank or credit union accounts at the end of each pay period. Previously, direct deposit had been voluntary but most employees were already receiving their pay by direct deposit before the conversion date.

In the next step toward a paperless payroll, the Business Office issued the last batch of paper pay advices, also known as pay stubs, with the most recent pay period for each category of employees. The last paper pay advices went out July 13 to semi-monthly and bi-weekly employees. Faculty and staff on monthly pay schedules received their last printed pay stubs at the end of June.

Starting with the pay period that ends July 27 for bi-weekly employees and July 31 for those paid monthly or semi-monthly, individual pay information will only be available through the AU Access Web site, which has a link at the top of the AU Main Page.

Michael Miller, director of the Office of Information Systems Support, said the Facilities Division and other units are making arrangements to provide secure online access for employees who do not have computers.

“After the first time or two, most people find it easy to go to the Web site,” he added. “From that site, they can print their own copy if they want a paper document.”

For assistance in locating your pay information online, contact the Human Resources liaison for your unit. For other information, contact Information Systems Support at 844-5661.

ATAC, city win award for training program
The Auburn Technical Assistance Center and the City of Auburn recently received the 2007 Innovator Award from the Southern Growth Policies Board during the board’s Southern Workforce Summit conference in St. Louis, Mo.

Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt presented the award on behalf of the regional organization in recognition of the work of ATAC and the city for the joint establishment of the Auburn Training Connection.

ATAC, an outreach unit of the College of Business, serves as AU’s liaison in matters of workforce development. ATAC works with business and industry locally and throughout the state and region to implement strategies and programs for improving efficiency and competitiveness.

“We have worked with the City of Auburn and its Economic Development Department for a number of years supporting its efforts to ensure that a skilled and sufficient workforce is available in the area to meet the demands of incoming and existing industry,” said ATAC Director Henry Burdg.

Southern Growth Policies Board is a non-partisan public policy think tank based in Research Triangle Park, N.C.