It is my pleasure to introduce Auburn University's 19th president, Dr. Steven Leath. Since arriving at Auburn in June 2017, Dr. Leath has championed a number of bold initiatives that will strengthen Auburn's reputation as a trusted partner for groundbreaking research and expand its capacity for developing innovative, real-world solutions. Under his leadership, Auburn achieved Carnegie R1 classification, placing the university among the country's elite research institutions. Supporting Auburn's vision to inspire, innovate, and transform, Dr. Leath is focused on strengthening the institution's reputation for being a go-to partnership university and empowering students, faculty, and entrepreneurs to develop transformative ideas and inventions that improve lives. As leader of a university renowned for its exceptional student experience, Dr. Leath advocates programs that position Auburn students to become leaders in their professions and engage in their communities. A trained plant scientist, Dr. Leath was appointed by President Donald J. Trump to serve on the National Science Board. He has served at three universities prior to Auburn, playing a key role in advancing teaching, research, and economic development at each, most recently as president of lowa State University.

Please join me in welcoming President Steven Leath.