

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting March 22, 2018
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on March 22nd by President Neal Raber at 10:00am.

II. Others present included Bob Blankenship, Cathy Edwards, Bob Gandee, John Heminger, Loren Hoch, Rita Klein, Ed Lasher, Carl Lieberman, Dan Sheffer, Linda Sugarman, Martha Vye, and Mel Vye.

III. Excused: JoAnn Collier, Ali Hajjafar, Pam Rupert, Laura Moss-Spitler, Frank Thomas, Diane Vukovich, and Tom Vukovich.

IV. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the February 14th general meeting and the February 22nd board meeting were approved as mailed.

V. Treasurer's Report. Bob Blankenship reported a February 2018 balance of \$8,549.65 compared to a 2017 balance of \$7,131.89. The February luncheon had 54 attendees. \$635.00 was collected (including the 50/50 raffle proceeds) with \$529.96 the actual cost for the lunches. \$48 in dues was received as well in February. Expenses for the month included \$9.31 for postage and \$42.68 reimbursement for the gift umbrellas. The Treasurer's report was approved.

VI. Corresponding Secretary: Martha Vye reported that a note was sent to John Olive, congratulations were sent to Harvey Sterns and a note to Jo Ann Collier as well.

VII. Committee Reports.

A. Programs. Neal Raber presented the reports for Tom and Diane Vukovich in their absence. Fall luncheon speakers are coming together. See table below.

Neal reported that Bob Grau charges \$100 for his program on the Appalachian Trail. Bob Gandee moved that AUAR pay the \$100 speaker fee and Martha Vye seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Neal also reported that the St. Nicholas Balalaika Orchestra also charges \$100 for their performance. Cathy Edwards moved that AUAR pay the cost for the orchestra at the Holiday Party. Mel Vye seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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Luncheon Date	Member Handling	Confirmed	Speaker	Topic
September 12, 2018	Neal Raber	3-15-18 (cost \$100)	Bob Grau (Speaker will bring copies of his book for sale: \$15.)	Five Million Steps: Thru-Hiking the Appalachian Trail
October 10, 2018				
November 14, 2018	Rita Klein	3-20-18	Bill Considine	New book: Leadership
December 12, 2018 – Holiday Party	Tom Vukovich	3-16-18 (cost \$100)	St. Nicholas Balalaika Orchestra	

Special Events: Neal reported that the April 27th AUAR Road Trip had 33 members signed up as of March 16th.

The Scholarship Fundraiser scheduled on April 4th had 12 AUAR members and 10 guests attending. Neal suggested that we purchase a gift basket to raffle off during the wine tasting (in addition to our regular 50/50 Raffle). Carl Lieberman moved and Ed Lasher seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Also being considered is a change from our annual Soup and Chili Supper. A different menu will be discussed at the next meeting. Special Event dates for next year will be:

November 2, 2018	Evening Supper Event
April 26, 2019	Road Trip
May 17, 2019	Lobster and Suds

B. Membership. Frank Thomas sent in his report on membership. As of the board meeting we had 373 active members which includes 58 new members and 315 paid memberships. There was no March/April scholarship report.

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C. Political Action. Bob Gandee reported that the OCHER meeting will be next week in Columbus. Bob will be attending.

D. Benefits. No report.

E. Faculty Senate. Bob Gandee noted some highlights from the written report submitted by Ali Hajjafar (see written report below). Bob is serving on the University Council's Athletic Committee and they recently met with UA's Athletic Director (AD). The AD is concerned with the status of the university's relationship with the community. The university is bringing in a speaker to address issues surrounding athletics. Bob will see if the Athletic Director might be able to speak at our October luncheon.

February Senate Report:

Chair Rich in his remarks talked about the committees that have submitted reports for the month of February. He suggested that the administrators form a task force including members from senate for the implementation of 5-star Friday and asked members of the Senate to let him know if they are willing to serve on it. He also suggested that the University reinstate the PhD Program in History.

The President in his remarks mentioned that he has received positive reactions surrounding 5-star Fridays and e-sports and that there will be a task force to work on the 5-star Friday concept. He said he has asked the State for monies for campus infrastructures, campus artscape replacements, and funds for renovations to ASEC, Buckingham, and Whitby as well as remodeling Crouse and Ayer Hall. He said that work is needed to respond to mandates from Columbus on forming 10 institutions into a consortium. He said we are talking with other 4-year Universities in the area to form an alliance for brainstorming how we can work together and look at administrative overlaps. He said the University anticipates a 29 million dollar deficit next year and this should be worked on. He said probably the 12 million dollars set aside this year and much more from our bank account might have to be used. He again noted the outsourcing of the recruitment and making a contract again for this year. He said the Admissions Office has rejected 800 applicants so far and that these students are encouraged to apply for our branch campuses. He said the webpage for e-sports is now active and he is encouraged by the response. We are now putting together the program with the new coach, Michael Fahey. He talked about summer semester and how it is budgeted. Finally he said starting Feb 12 the search committee would look at applications for Chief Academic Officer. There were a lot of questions regarding his remarks.

The Provost in his remarks, talked about 5-star Friday, voluntary retirement, and RTP season that has begun. He said the textbook committee would meet in Columbus next week.

In committee reports, the course proposals brought by CRC were approved. APC submitted a motion regarding posthumous degrees. It was approved with some modification. The Honors College brought forward a proposal to change some requirements (including the change of credits of colloquiums from 2 to 3) in the program.

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The Senate approved the proposal. CCTC and Athletics committees submitted written reports, which did not require vote for approval.

- F. **University & Community Service/Website.** Dan Sheffer reported doing some routine tweaking of the website. The Special Events site has been redone.
- G. **Scholarship.** No report.
- H. **Newsletter.** No report.

VIII. Unfinished Business. The Nominating Committee presented the final slate of officers for 2018-2019 with no changes as no other nominations were received prior to the deadline.

Vice President:	Cathy Edwards
Treasurer:	Ted Oravec
Recording Secretary:	Rita Klein
Corresponding Secretary:	Linda Sugarman
Public Relations Officer:	Pam Rupert
Members at Large:	Jo Ann Collier
	Mel Vye
	John Heminger
Faculty Senate Representatives:	Robert Gandee
	Ali Hajjafar

Ed Lasher moved that the slate of officers be elected. Mel Vye seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IX. New Business. None.

X. Adjournment at 11:01 am.

Respectfully submitted:
Rita Klein, Recording Secretary

**Next Executive Board Meeting:
April 26, 2018.
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**