

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)  
Executive Board Meeting, May 24, 2018  
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

- I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on May 24th by President Neal Raber at 10:00am.**
  
- II. Others present included Bob Blankenship, JoAnn Collier, Cathy Edwards, Bob Gandee, Ali Hajjafar, Loren Hoch, Rita Klein, Ed Lasher, Carl Lieberman, Laura Moss-Spitler, Pam Rupert, Linda Sugarman, Frank Thomas, Diane Vukovich, Tom Vukovich, Martha Vye, and Mel Vye.**
  
- III. Excused: John Heminger, Dan Sheffer,**
  
- IV. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting were approved as mailed.**
  
- V. Treasure's Report. Bob Blankenship reported an April 2018 balance of \$8,665.96 compared to the April 2017 balance of \$6,681.03. The April deposit totaled \$713.50 which included \$51.50 from the 50/50 raffle. Our luncheon charge in April was \$574.79 for 47 buffet lunches. We had 55 in attendance at the April luncheon with 8 of those being program only. Bob reported that \$850 had been paid for the Road Trip bus. The Treasurer's report was approved subject to audit.**
  
- VI. Corresponding Secretary: Martha Vye reported that she sent a "thank you" note to Bert at Little City Grill for his generous donation to the AUAR Scholarship fund. She also sent similar cards to 4 others who also contributed.**
  
- VII. Committee Reports.**
  - A. Programs. Tom Vukovich reported that the luncheon cost for 2018-2019 will remain the same as it was this year. The speaker at the February luncheon will be our Athletic Director.**
  
  - B. Special Events: Tom Vukovich reported that 51 members and guests participated in the Road Trip this year which is our largest number ever. Everyone seemed to have a good time, enjoyed the shopping opportunities and the interesting sites. Tom presented a detailed Financial Report (see Appendix A) for the Road Trip which listed all expenses as well as income. The difference between the cost of the event and the money taken in was \$577 which will come out of our treasury.**

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Tom thanked everyone for all the help provided at the Lobster and Suds event. The site was satisfactory and food choices were good. Tom presented a detailed Financial Report (see Appendix B) for this event as well. We had \$139.82 in proceeds from the event. Tom and Diane have already contacted St. Sebastian Parish to rent Zwisler Hall for the event next year. The date will be May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Tom and Diane also requested ideas to be forwarded to them by August for perhaps a new fall Road Trip and the Pot Luck Supper which is being changed from "Soup and Chili" to something new.

**C. Membership.** Frank Thomas reported that we have taken in \$5,875 in scholarship income through the month of April. We have a total of 399 members which included our 58 free members who have just recently retired.

**D. Political Action.** Bob Gandee reported that the main theme of the most recent OCHER meeting was the surplus funds in the retirement system. There was some push back over the removal of COLA but STRS is holding firm on that point. It was also noted that Wright State is currently in a severe financial situation and is currently dropping some programs.

**E. Benefits.** Linda Sugarman reported that our retiree parking permits will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Parking Department said that the new permits have not yet arrived but that we could check back later in the month. We can either pick them up or request to have them mailed to us once they are ready.

According to Caremark, the new shingles vaccine (Shingrix) is covered under our pharmacy benefits if we get the shots at a pharmacy. It was not clear whether or not there would be a copayment. The CDC recommends that seniors get this vaccine even if they had previously gotten the Zostravak shingles vaccine previously.

STRS has announced the monthly 2019 premiums for health care and most of them will be the same in 2019 as they were in 2018. For example, an STRS retiree with 30 years who has Medicare will continue to pay \$127 per month for the Aetna plan. Premiums for spouses without Medicare are still astronomical.

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**F. Faculty Senate.** Bob Gandee presented a few highlights from the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Faculty Senate meeting. He noted that John Green will follow Wilson's plan and would like to have a strategic plan available for the next president. The Provost reported that there have been 13 "Visiting" hires and he hopes to determine soon the Full Time needs for Fall 2019. The rating system for program evaluations was also discussed.

**Ali Hajjafar presented the following written report:**

Bill Rich called the meeting to order. In his remarks, he briefly mentioned items that were to be presented for Senate approval. Among the items were: final approval of proposals previously debated from the Graduate Council to amend the definition of full-time graduate student in two University rules and to amend the bylaws of the graduate faculty to provide for an additional category of graduate faculty; curriculum change proposals from the Curriculum Review Committee; from the General Education Advisory Committee expedited approval of courses for credit toward satisfaction of the new general education requirement; from the Computing and Communications Technology Committee approval of the selection of a new automated curriculum proposal system; from the Accessibility Committee a proposal to develop an accessibility liaison program; and four items from the Academic Policies Committee: a proposal concerning reference to accessibility and other policies and information in course syllabi; approval of a new Urban STEM Education Center in the College of Education; a rule change concerning dismissal of students for academic deficiency; and Academic Program Review.

Secretary of the Executive Committee (EC) reported that on April 12 the EC met with the Board of Trustees Presidential Advisory and Screening Committee to answer questions and provide advice about the choice of a successor to Mathew Wilson. On April 19 they met with provost and discussed: enrollment, the future of Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences with John Green moving to president's office, the 4 day class schedule, Academic Program Review, strategic planning and university mission, the future of College of Education, budget, and admission. The EC brought the recommendation that the Senate create an ad hoc strategic planning committee to develop and propose a strategic plan for the accomplishment of the university's academic mission. The members of said committee are to be appointed by the Faculty Senate's Executive Committee. Finally EC presented Bill Rich with a certificate of appreciation together with a resolution thanking him for his services to the senate, university and community as a whole.

In his short remarks Interim President John Green promised working with all organizations of shared governance. He said he would make very few changes in the administrative structure of the University, only as required by events. He said he would forward with the initiatives that President Wilson put in place. Of course the Provost may analyze the data to see if any change is needed. He said as soon as the Academic Program Review is out of the Senate, his administration will begin to assess all the data and use it as the foundation for a strategic plan for the new president to have something to work with. There were no questions for the Interim President.

The Provost in his remarks mentioned a letter from HLC indicating that the transfer of Wayne College's accreditation to under the University of Akron's umbrella will be effective July 1 2018. He reported there will be 13 visiting faculty positions for Fall 18. He said soon his office would study the need for permanent hires for Fall 19. There were no questions for him.

The rest of the meeting was spent on the approval of the mentioned items brought forward by the different Committees.

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**G. University & Community Service/Website.** Neal reported for Dan Sheffer that all is up to date on the web.

**H. Scholarship.** Carl Lieberman reported that he has received scholarship applications and has sent them forward to his committee. There have been \$648 in gifts from January through March and we now have \$6,900 projected funds available to award for the coming year.

Ed Lasher moved that we award scholarships of \$2,500 each to two students for the 2018-2019 year. Ali Hajjafar seconded. The motion was unanimous.

**I. Newsletter.** Pam Rupert reported that she is gathering information for the next newsletter and has set a mid-August deadline. She hopes to have it out by the beginning of the Fall term. Frank Thomas will send her a listing of the nine new members who have joined since June. Perhaps one of them will be a good candidate for the “interview.”

**VIII. Unfinished Business.** None.

**IX. New Business.** Our recently elected Treasurer is now moving to Columbus. The Board will need to appoint someone to fill this office.

Neal reminded everyone that next month is when we take the new Board photo.

He also noted that over all, our 50/50 raffle has provided \$804.50 in extra funding.

Diane Vukovich requested permission to send out to the AUAR membership information about the Shaw Festival trip sponsored by the UA Women’s Club and a Night at the Opera sponsored by Akron Woman’s City Club. The Board approved.

**X. Adjournment at 11:01am.**

Respectfully submitted:  
Rita Klein, Recording Secretary

**Next Executive Board Meeting:  
June 21, 2018 (note date change!).  
9:30 AM (note different start time!)  
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

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Appendix A

2018 ROAD TRIP  
April 27, 2018  
FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME:

50 participants @ \$75.00 each	\$3,750.00	
50/50 Raffle	<u>77.00</u>	
Total Income		\$3,827.00

EXPENSES:

Golden Triangle Tours	\$3,479.00	
Tip for Bus Driver	75.00	
Candle Bus Company*	<u>850.00</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>\$4,404.00</u>

BALANCE (\$577.00)

\*Note - \$196.00 from participant fees of \$75.00 each and \$77.00 income from the 50/50 raffle was returned to AUAR to off-set the cost of the bus. The remainder of the bus cost (\$577.00) will be covered by AUAR.

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**Appendix B**

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**Financial Report  
 May 18, 2018 Lobster & Suds**

**INCOME**

36 lobster @ \$25.00 each	\$ 900.00	
16 chicken @ \$15.00 each	240.00	
8 lasagna @ \$14.00 each	112.00	
Misc. Income - extra pieces:		
3 lobster @ \$15.00 each	45.00	
2 chicken @ \$5.00 each	10.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$ 1,307.00</b>

**EXPENSES**

Euclid Fish Company	\$ 628.28	
Chicken Marsala (17 pieces)	85.15	
Lasagna (1/2 tray)	35.00	
VFW Hall Rental	300.00	
Bread	2.29	
Cups & Napkins	11.49	
Bottled Water	2.00	
Table Covers	25.00	
Soda	5.00	
Butter (2.5 lbs.)	6.00	
Wine	51.97	
Beer	7.00	
Hot Plate	<u>8.00</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b><u>\$ 1,167.18</u></b>

<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 139.82</b>
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