

**The Association of the University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)**  
**Executive Board Meeting, October 25, 2012**  
**Alumni Conference Room, Stitzlein Center**

1. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Bob Gandee. Others present were June Burton, Bob Blankenship, Ed Lasher, Neal Raber, Linda Sugarman, Velma Pomrenke, Frank Thomas, Pam Rupert, Newt Engle, Barbara Banks, James Fee, Diane and Tom Vukovich, Hans Zbinden. Absent with notice were Carl Lieberman, Hank Nettling and Marilyn Carrell. The minutes of the September 27 meeting were approved as written.
2. **Treasurer** Bob Blankenship reported an available balance of \$8,934.65 on September 30, 2012. This compares with a balance of \$7,879.13 on September, 2011. It was moved to accept the report, subject to audit. See attached financial summary.
3. **Committee reports.**
  - A. **Programs.** Speaker for the AUAR luncheon on November will be Dr. Stephen Brooks, Associate Director of the Bliss Institute, making an analysis of the 2012 election results: What Happened and Why. Bob Gandee will introduce him and write up an article for The AUAR Newsletter. Diane Vukovich reported on the November 2nd Pot Luck Soup and Chili Supper; there are 29 reservations as of October 25. Tom Vukovich reported that our speaker for the January 2013 luncheon will be Dr. David Baker connected with the University's Psychology Archives. Speaker on February 13 will be Daniel Hovatter, the University's International Student Ambassador who studied in Japan. Speakers for March and April are still to be decided.
  - B. **Membership.** Jim Fee reports that our membership stands at 285 as of October 25. Jim distributed the listing of renewed members, current as of October 23, 2012.
  - C. **Political Action / Affiliates.** No report.
  - D. **Benefits.** Linda Sugarman noted that Retiree Dependents will receive their enrollment forms on or about November 1. She called attention to ZIPTIX, the University's new program that has a limited number of free tickets for some events at E. J. Thomas Hall for faculty, staff and retirees.
  - E. **Faculty Senate.** Neal Raber reports on the meeting of October 4, 2012. The meeting began with the approval of three resolutions brought forth by the Executive Committee. The first one indicated that Faculty Senate would not approved any reorganization of academic units unless faculty had the opportunity to deliberate and vote on the changes. The second one stated that Faculty Senate has exclusive legislative jurisdiction at the University level over matters of academic policy, including academic advising and intervention with students to promote academic success.

These two resolutions were in response to the perceived encroachment of University Council and its committees on the jurisdiction of Faculty Senate over academic issues. The third resolution set forth the creation of an ad hoc committee to come forth with a recommendation to deal with vendors of classroom clicker technology.

President Proenza reported that the chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents at its recent meeting on the UA campus expressed his view that there is a need for a low cost community college in Summit County. Consideration is ongoing for Summit College to fulfill this need. He also reported that the governor has assigned President Gee to chair a committee of presidents to recommend a funding formula for state institutions to be applied in the next round of budgets. He went on to urge faculty to address the concern that online education has shifted from such schools as The University of Phoenix to

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**E. Faculty Senate(cont.)**

mainstream institutions such as Stanford. A faculty driven committee has been established at UA to come forth with recommendations for partnering with an outside vendor to work with faculty to set up online courses.

Provost Sherman reported that first year retention is down. He continued by pointing out that 881 evening sections and 144 weekend sections were currently being offered serving some 20,000 students.

Senator Jon Miller was elected Vice Chair of Faculty Senate. He is a faculty member in the English Department.

During committee reports, senators learned that part-time faculty are pursuing representation on University Council, making the Committee on Part Time issues a permanent standing committee of Faculty Senate, and requiring that part time salaries be reviewed annually.

Senator Lillie reported that there is a fundamental confusion on campus as to the function and future of University Council. The two main questions are whether its role is to be involved in the planning and recommending of policy to the Board of Trustees via its committees or is it administration driven, i.e., the vice presidents as co-chairs of the committees are responsible for deciding the agendas.

I am serving on two committees - The Athletics Committee of the Faculty Senate and the Communications Committee of University Council. The Communication Committee has had one meeting and as a result, I need to discuss the UA Email Digest with the AUAR Board. Do you receive it on Tuesdays and Thursdays? Do you want to receive it? How can I get a list of email addresses of retirees for Wayne Hill, Associate VP and Chief Marketing Officer?

**F. University and Community Service.** Newt Engle reported that he had met with Bob Beyer to learn about Bob's sources of information and his procedure for reporting a rather large amount of information. After discussion from the floor it was decided that Newt would send selected material to Frank Thomas for inclusion in the Website.

**G. Scholarship.** No report.

**H. Newsletter.** Pam Rupert asked how to deal with the substantial amount of information which the Symposium had generated. It was decided that several of our Board members will prepare very brief reports to summarize chief ideas. These reports will be directed to Pam for inclusion in the next AUAR Newsletter.

**4. Unfinished Business.** Bob Gandee expressed a Thank You to all speakers and the many others who helped in preparing the Symposium. To the question, "How can we get more to attend?", discussion from the floor indicated we should focus on active retirees as well as those retirees who have much free time.

**5. New Business.** At our October 10 General Meeting (following the luncheon), the change and updating of our bylaws (i.e., amending Article III, Section 1 of our AUAR Constitution) was accepted. It will be voted upon at the General Meeting of June, 2013.

Be sure you visit our web site . Key the following into your Search Window without the quotes "University Akron AUAR". Up will come the link to our web site and just click on the Link "About AUAR"

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Hans Zbinden, recording secretary.

**Next Executive Board Meeting is Thursday, November 29, 2012.**