

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting January 24, 2019
7th Floor, InfoCision Stadium**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on January 24th by President Neal Raber at 10:00am.

II. Others present included Bob Blankenship, JoAnn Collier, Cathy Edwards, Ali Hajjafar, John Heminger, Loren Hoch, Rita Klein, Ed Lasher, Carl Lieberman, Pam Rupert, Dan Sheffer, Linda Sugarman, and Tom Vukovich.

III. Excused: Bob Gandee, Laura Moss-Spitler, Frank Thomas, Diane Vukovich, Mel Vye.

IV. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the December 6, 2018 meeting were approved as mailed.

V. Treasure's Report. John Heminger reported on both November and December. Our end of November balance was \$10,348.65. Income in November totaled \$721 which included dues, luncheon and Soup and Chili Supper proceeds. The November expenses totaled \$643.72. Our 2017 November balance was \$10,447.01

Our end of December balance was \$10,271.74, compared to our December 2017 balance of \$10,528.02. We had income totaling \$658 in December which included dues and the December luncheon. Our December expenses totaled \$584.91.

VI. Corresponding Secretary: Linda Sugarman sent a sympathy card to the family of Minnie Prichard. She also noted that Phyllis Knepper sent us a thank you note for remembering them on the recent death of her husband, George.

VII. Committee Reports.

A. Programs. Tom Vukovich reported that the December luncheon entertainment was very well received and that the photos taken at that event nicely conveyed the enjoyment had by all.

Our spring luncheons will feature Larry Williams, our athletic director, on February 13th (fliers due to be sent out shortly); Barbara and Tim Osyk on March 13th speaking on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad; and Kathy Fernandez on April 10th speaking on the historic town of Zoar (Laura Moss-Spitler is in charge of this luncheon speaker).

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Tom also reported that next fall's calendar is filling up nicely with Mark Auburn on September 11th speaking about his new book on the Auburn family and Mel Vye sharing a travelogue on Bhutan. The only dates remaining to be filled are November 13th and December 11th.

Special Events: Tom reported that our April 26th Road Trip is taking shape with "All Things Akron." Confirmations from different sites are coming in. Our Lobster and Suds event this year will be on May 17th and will be returning to our normal site, St. Sebastian's.

Tom also listed the upcoming dates for our special events for 2019-2020:
November 1, 2019 --- Soup and Chili Supper
April 24, 2020 --- Road Trip
May 15, 2020 --- Lobster and Suds

B. Membership. Frank Thomas reported from Florida that we currently have 297 paid active members plus 131 new 2018-2019 retiree free memberships and 28 new 2019-2020 retiree free memberships. This brings our total membership to 456.

Our inactive count of 81 non-renewals includes 49 new members from 2017-2018 cohort and 31 non-renewals from previous years.

Franks reports that he has issued 7 mailings for this academic year which includes the first 2 mailings by email and the remainder by US mail.

Frank also noted that our Foundation donations as of November totaled \$4,199.

Frank also continues to provide the Florida weather report with each winter report he provides, however the Board prefers it be omitted from the minutes.

C. Political Action. Bob Gandee – No report.

D. Benefits. Linda Sugarman – No report.

E. Faculty Senate. Ali Hajjafar provided the following Faculty Senate report for the December 6th meeting:

Chair Saliga called the meeting to order. In her remarks, she asked the committees to submit their reports on time which should be at least one week prior to the senate meeting.

President Green did not attend the meeting that day. He was getting ready to go to California to support The University's Soccer team.

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Provost Ramsier in his remarks reported on a new and improved program review process. He said the plan for this process begins with meetings with Deans and Department Chairs. He said the number of applicants for Fall 2019 is good. We have received 1300 more application in comparison with the same date as last year. 144 students have confirmed. He invited Marnie Sanders and Joe Wilder to present an outline for the new program review. After their presentation there were a lot of questions and answers. One important change from previous the program review procedure was the inclusion of the opinion of the Senate Curriculum Review Committee (CRC). Another was to include external reviews from off campus.

In committee reports, CRC reported on a new curriculum proposal system. For this new system, they requested some changes in the process of reviewing the proposals (for example elimination of DLRC and URC from the process). The requests received approval of the Senate.

Senate approved a recommendation from APC that Faculty Senate vote to formally object to the procedures used in the recent academic program cuts on the grounds that the administration did not share governance in the final decision-making phase of the process. Specifically, administration did not:

- 1) Use appropriate and available mechanisms to ensure that information used to make decisions was factually correct,
- 2) Allow the University community the opportunity to respond before supposedly irreversible actions were taken,
- 3) Allow individual programs to address items unique to their programs that would have resulted in better-informed decisions, or
- 4) Act in accordance with its own numerous verbal assertions that no cuts would be made on the basis of the outcomes of this process.

Also the Senate approved the following admission policy changes for ELI and other international students

- 1) International students who wish to enroll at UA for an undergraduate degree will no longer be required to present an ACT/SAT score to be considered for admission, but will be recommended. Admission acceptance or denial would be based on high school performance (according to each country's equivalency of a high-school diploma) and other valid and predictive indicators of potential for academic success.
- 2) International students who need help with English proficiency would be permitted to enroll in UA's English Language Institute (ELI) regardless of nonimmigrant status (as long as their status does not prohibit study), and independent of whether or not they intend to pursue an undergraduate or graduate degree at UA.

F. University & Community Service/Website. Dan Sheffer reported that he will upload the corrected minutes from October and the December minutes shortly.

G. Scholarship. Carl Lieberman reported that current values of our endowment will not be available until March.

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H. Newsletter. Pam Rupert received the usual accolades for the Spring 2019 Newsletter. Pam noted the great support she gets from Tony in Printing Services and all the Board members in sending all information to her in a timely fashion.

VIII. Unfinished Business. None.

IX. New Business. Robert Blankenship, Jo Ann Collier, and Mel Vye will comprise the Nominating Committee this year. It is now time to provide nominations for President-Elect and 3 Board Members At Large. Terms ending this year are Ed Lasher, Loren Hoch, and Laura Moss-Spitler, all Members at Large.

X. Adjournment was at 10:58am with one of Neal's usual, hilarious jokes.

**Respectfully submitted:
Rita Klein, Recording Secretary**

**Next Executive Board Meeting:
February 28, 2019.
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**