

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting August 24, 2023 Minutes
Held in person and Zoom**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on August 24, 2023 by President Harvey Sterns at 10:01 am.

II. Welcome & Announcements:

Members attending: Harvey Sterns, Rita Klein, Cathy Edwards (Zoom), John Heminger, Mary Verstraete, Linda Sugarman, Martha Vye, Mary Schadle, Richard Steiner, Connie Heldenfels, Mel Vye, Robert Gandee, Mary Schadle, Dan Sheffer, Ali

Absent: Carl Lieberman, Richard Milford, Kathy DuBose, Tom Vukovich, Diane Vukovich, Tom Nichols

III. Approval of Minutes: In the Corresponding Secretary’s report “she June also had a pacemaker”. In the Scholarship report, the was \$2000 not \$200, Tom Vukovich was Absent. The “iii.” In Old Business was removed. Bob Gandee moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Dan Sheffer seconded the motion. Approved.

IV. Treasurer’s Report. John Heminger reported that communications with the University have improved a bit. He now receives a Journal Report that includes every transaction. Workday doesn’t generate smaller account reports. He also noted that deposit slips have changed.

June 2023

The usual Peoplesoft output was not available. Workday is the current software. A Trial Balance spreadsheet Consolidation Data gave a final UA Account balance of \$10,540.33.

UA Account income: report not available

UA Account expenses: report not available

Petty Cash income: \$0.00

Petty Cash expenses: \$0.00

	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial balance	NA	\$235.38	NA
Income	NA	\$0.00	NA
Expenses	NA	\$0.00	NA
Final balance	\$10,540.33*	\$235.38	\$10,775.71*
Final Balance			
June 2022	\$8,277.99	\$332.04	\$8,610.03

* These include dues payments of approximately \$4104 for future years.

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July 2023

A Trial Balance spreadsheet Consolidation Data for July indicated UA Account income \$2135.00, expenses \$0.00 and a final balance \$12720.33. A Transaction Journal indicated membership dues income \$2,135.00 and expenses \$0.00.

UA Account income: membership dues \$2135.00

UA Account expenses: \$0.00

Petty Cash income: \$0.00

Petty Cash expenses: \$0.00

	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial balance	NA	\$235.38	NA
Income	\$2,135.00	\$0.00	\$2,135.00
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Final balance	\$12,720.33*	\$235.38	\$12,955.71*
Final Balance			
July 2022	\$12,045.99	\$332.04	\$12,378.03

* These include dues payments for future years.

V. Corresponding Secretary. Linda Sugarman reported that she sent the following cards in June, July and August:

A "Get Well" to Leslie Bain for a broken tibia, to Tom Nichols who had open heart surgery and to Betty Miller who broke her wrist.

A "Thinking of You" to Neil Raber who had surgery in May

VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs: The Board was reminded that the Programs are all listed on the AUAR website (www.uakron.edu/AUAR) and they will still be held at Quaker Station. They were encouraged to submit ideas for spring speakers to Tom & Diane Vukovich. It was suggested that we have someone speak about the upcoming changes to the Polsky Building.

B. Membership. Chair Mel Vye reported that we have 94 paid members, 40 of them are Life Members. We are continuing the transition from HR to Development. Dan and Mel are working with Claudia on updating the membership spreadsheet.

On-line membership is now available.

Renewal letters for P22 members were sent out. Mel will look at the P23 members who have not renewed and will send them letters.

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A discussion ensued on how to allocate the Life Member dues to individual years and to continue to remind them about the need for scholarship donations.

New retirees will be sent a letter, including a brochure and a SASE via mail.

C. Political Action. Bob Gandee reported that the legislature has been changing the curriculums for High Schools & Colleges, not sure how it will all evolve. Academic freedom is under assault with a major assault on the Liberal Arts.

OCHER did not meet in the summer and will have their next meeting in September.

Issue 1 was defeated.

Marla Bump of STRS has a new podcast and Episode ! will be an interview with Bill Neville. It will be available on the STRS website, Spotify and Apple Podcasts. Dan Sheffer suggested we let the membership know about it.

D. Benefits. Linda Sugarman reported:

Originally the UA administration wanted to rescind the parking permits issued to retirees. Thanks to the brilliant lobbying on the part of Harvey Sterns, the existing parking permits issued to retirees will be valid until their expiration in June of 2027. After June 2027, these parking permits will be invalid and new ones will not be issued. New retirees and retirees who did not have parking permits will not get parking permits. Unfortunately, it looks like part time faculty and staff will have to pay the same price as full-time faculty and staff.

In January of 2010, retirees lost no cost retiree dependent insurance, but retained retiree dependent insurance with a premium payment.

After January 2021, Retirees lost:

- Retiree Dependent Health Insurance

- Life Insurance

- Email for non- emeritus retirees

- Free parking for new retirees and after June 2027 free parking on campus for retirees with parking permits

Remaining Retiree Benefits as listed in the Board of Trustee rules are:

- Identification card

- E-mail with .uakron.edu or 1870.uakron.edu

- Fee reductions for the retiree and dependent children and spouses

- Half price admissions to all University athletic events (rarely honored) and special rates for certain cultural events

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Use of recreational facilities including the natatorium, gymnasium and playing fields are open to retired faculty at the same time as to other faculty.

Discount at the bookstore

Full faculty privileges for the use of the libraries (if you don't use your card for a year, it goes inactive - can be reinstated) and use of emeritus study room in library (not sure the emeritus study room still exists)

Access to computer center and information services and privileges

Several other very limited items related to external funding, external grants, external funded research, limited travel expenses if funding is available.

STRS members prescription coverage in January 2024 will change from RX express to Caremark. The in-network pharmacies may be different from RX express in-network Pharmacies. Retirees will receive materials from STRS in October.

Dan and Linda will work together to update the website concerning these issues and will identify all revisions so people can see how things have changed.

E. Faculty Senate. No meeting was held to report on.

F. University & Community Service/Website. Dan will be ensuring that all updated meeting minutes are posted.

G. Scholarship. Mary Schadle reported that she received an email from Jennifer Harpam ensuring that the 3 \$2000 scholarships were awarded. We have received one Thank You from a student awardee.

H. Newsletter. Martha Vye reported that the newsletter has proceeded to the 1st proof stage and due to an "empty page", she added a page of pictures. She also will include the Podcast information Dan discussed earlier.

VII. Old Business.

Recruitment of a President-Elect – An Ad Hoc Reference Committee was formed to review the By-Laws to determine whether we should have a VP versus a President-Elect, currently a 6 year commitment. The Committee will consist of Harvey Sterns, Dan Sheffer, Rita Klein and Carl Leiberman.

Harvey will finalize the list of University members to receive a Thank You gift card.

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VIII. New Business.

Discussion of possible new activities, such as participation in Age Friendly Akron/Summit County and Age-Friendly University initiatives.

IX. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted: Mary Verstraete, Recording Secretary

The first next meeting of the 2023-2024 year is scheduled for October 26, 2023 at 10:00 am at the Infocision Board Room

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Faculty Senate Meeting May 4, 2023

Chair Budd call the meeting to order. In her remark, she welcomed senators to the last Senate meeting of the academic year. She thanked APC members who have revised the transfer credit evaluation proposal to address the concerns raised at the April meeting. She said during committee reports APC will bring a proposal to move the Math department to the College of Engineering and Polymer Sciences. She mentioned that faculty in both Math and Engineering have voted to approve the move. Finally, she thanked everyone for their work this year, especially those whose terms are ending. She thanked committee chairs who have worked hard to keep the business of the Senate running smoothly. On behalf of EC, she invited everyone to Thirsty Dog Taproom directly after the meeting for a drink. EC brought a resolution to endorse the faculty congress of Ohio resolution regarding Senate Bill 83. The motion passed without dissent.

Election of EC officers resulted Budd for Chair and Cole for Vice Chair.

President Miller in his remark mentioned of 5 commencement ceremonies and hoped Senators can attend at least one. He acknowledged some of the items related to the University's mission, including a spike of housing as well as student activities, putting right leadership in place to begin to stabilize enrollment and stop the decline. He said HLC accreditation came through with great response, especially complements on our work in improving shared governance. He mentioned of receiving number one ranking in Polymer and number two in Esports. He said we have reengaged with our alumni, increased our connection and offered more opportunities for students and for gifts. He said we have completed recruitment of deans for all 5 colleges. He talked about new partnership with community in art, new academic building coming online, state funded building and should open before the Fall. He said we have brought back U of A magazine, next issue in the fall will be all about students.

Provost Wiencek in his remark repeated the importance of credit transfer proposal and encouraged Senators' support. He then thanked the Academic Investment Committee and the deans as a leadership team for handling the budget process. He said enrollment is solid, won't know true numbers until students show up.

There is a rebound in international student population. He said scholarships are one area we are working on. He talked about new format of BOT meeting with the public and vigorous debate. Finally, he mentioned the work on strategic plan and the great job that Provost fellows have done in the areas.

In Committee reports, Graduate Council presented changes to Graduate bylaws and were approved without dissent. APC's proposal for Transfer Credit evaluation was approved. APC's motion for an addition to syllabi regarding use of ChatGPT was approved. APC brought some change to the Williams Homers College Curriculum and was approved. APC's motion for Math Department move to the College of Engineering and Polymer Sciences was approved. AIC representative reported that the report of final budget recommendation is sent to the Provost. CCTC presented a written report. CRC brought 15 program and 25 course proposals for

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approval and they all got approval. AAUP representative said they had good year working on MOU, second day in the life with trustee Meyer, and working with Ohio Conference in developing SB 83 testimony. GSG representative reported the election results. The new USG president introduced himself. UC submitted a written report.