

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
 Executive Board Meeting December 5 Minutes
 Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on December 5, 2019 by President Dan Sheffer at 10:00am

VII. Old Business. (moved from end of agenda) Planning for the future – Upcoming vacancy (ies) on the AUAR Board. (Moved from end of meeting)
 Mel Vye will chair the membership committee. Laura Moss Spitler will assist Mel. Martha Vye, with assistance, will take over the newsletter from Pam Rupert

II. Welcome & Announcements: .

Dan suggested reading the UA Digest to see what construction is going on on campus

Present.: Bob Blankenship, Jo Ann Collier, Cathy Edwards, Bob Grandee, Ali Hajjafar, John Heminger, , Ed Lasher, Carl Lieberman, Laura Moss Spitler, Tom Nichols, Neal Raber, Pam Rupert, Dan Sheffer, Linda Sugarman, , Mel Vye Diane Vukovich, and Tom Vukovich. **Excused:** Frank Thomas and Rita Klein

III. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the October 24, 2019 meeting were approved as written.

IV. Treasurer’s Report. The treasurer’s report was accepted as given by John Heminger who reported income was from dues and luncheon; expenses of postage and printing:

December 2019 AUAR Account		December 2019 Petty Cash		Total Funds
Initial Balance	10,196.53	222.84	Initial Balance	10,419.37
Income	709.00	60.00	Income	769.00
Expenses	197.02	45.35	Expenses	242.37
Final Balance	10,173.80	237.49	Final Balance	10,411.29
December 2018 Final Bal	10,271.37	83.00	December 2018	10,354.37

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V. Corresponding Secretary. Linda Sugarman reported:. Sent three get will/thinking of you cards.

VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs Tom and Diane reported:

- there was an issue with the room temperature at the last luncheon- will seek a room refund
- December lunch will be Dave Umana with music
- April 8 is still open for a presenter – Dan will contact the president and/or interim provost to see if either is available to speak.
- Soup and Chile had 43 in attendance. \$36.98 to the red.
- Annual road trip in April – suggestions were Ashtabula or Youngtown. Various museums and YSU campus
- February program William Brauning doing “Hurray for Hollywood” 1930’s to 1960s
- Frank Thomas and Glenn Atwood are possible future speakers

B. Membership. Frank Thomas reported:

Membership as of December 2019	
New (comp)	155
Active (paid)	284
Inactive (unpaid)	25
Total on Books	464

.C. Political Action

Dan reported: STRS’s report to OCHER indicated there was some discussion about protecting pensions at the federal level. They are using tools like Score Card to evaluate the health of the system. We went from -.4 to -.5 because of treasuries. Dan highlighted net pension liability information. Copy of the report was distributed to the board.

D. Benefits. Linda Sugarman reported retiree benefit of premiums for those on Medicare went down\$3.00 per month.

E. Faculty Senate. Ali Hajjafar reported:

Chair Saliga called the meeting to order. In her remark she welcomed the interim vice president Urgo and looked forward to working with him. She said she has met with him twice to explain how the senate works. She announced that he has requested to meet with the EC of the senate weekly rather than once a month. The president will attend the previously scheduled monthly meetings and some of the other meetings. She said in regard to workload, the president has agreed to discuss the matter with VP. In regard to administrators teaching, the president believes that 75% of all administrators have taught at least one course in the previous 18 month. He believes that given the demand of administrative duties,

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teaching is a significant commitment. She said there is some redundancy in the program review process and suggested that the Senate create a committee with the job of conducting the program review.

The Executive Committee reported that they met three times since the last meeting including the meeting with president, CAO, and chief of staff. Subjects discussed included: preferred methods of communication and governance, recent testimony on the Ohio house and senate related to higher education, the strategic plan and its process, UA financial situation, enrollment issues and workload policy.

President Miller in his remark recognized Board members attending the meeting and interim VP. He described his meetings with the colleges in campus and hoped to visit individual faculty over the next couple of month. He said he was pleased with the meetings with the Governor and his staff members. He expressed excitement about the strategic planning and its involvement with campus and community. He alluded to the exciting new rebranding that has been approved by the BOT and will be unveiled soon.

Interim Vice President in his remark summarized his background and his connection with Akron (his wife grew up in Akron). He believes that local culture should guide decision-making. He said his first goal is to restore the confidence and the pleasure of shared governance. That is why he asked to meet with EC every week. He said he would focus on the strategic plan with two main area of focus. He defined UA as a research university, which includes Arts. He also defined the UA as an urban university that has to pay more attention to students.

In committee reports:

APC brought a resolution regarding the move of the resilient child certificate and its only faculty to the school of social work. APC brought another resolution to change the board rules regarding appeals to admission requirements for special and talents and circumstances. Both resolutions passed.

The senate adopted courses brought by CRC. Also approved the CRC's report regarding the academic program review.

The senate approved the list of graduates for Fall of 2019 commencement.

CCTC submitted a written report.

University Council representative summarized the new initiative regarding first year students.

AAUP representative commented about the grievance regarding workload policy

F. University & Community Service/Website.

Dan will post the approved minutes and then the website will be up to date

G. Scholarship. Carl Lieberman reported no figures available for an update at this time. May be available in February 2020. In October 2019 there were \$238 in gifts and in November 2019 \$170.

H. Newsletter. Pam requested everyone send their information to her and she'll forward to Tony for the spring newsletter. The deadline is December 20th.

VII. Old Business. See beginning of report, additional old business. Neal Raber reported some interesting statistics on number of pictures in news letter, top raffle sales and top winners.

VIII. New Business.

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Ed Lasher requested someone to take pictures of December luncheon. Neal Raber agreed to take pictures.

IX. Adjournment at 11:20am

**Respectfully submitted:
Cathy Edwards, Recording Secretary**

**Next meeting will be January 23, 2020
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**