AUAR Website is on the web http://www.uakron.edu/hr/auar

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Our Motto
People say interns and new hires are the promise of the future. Let’s not forget that retirees are promises kept.

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Volunteer for your individual 2010-2011 AUAR membership card attached to the inside of this Newsletter.

From the President
Hello everyone, everywhere. I hope you all had a good summer. Some of us just returned from a river cruise in France so we have lots to talk about. In May, a number of our members also went on a trip to China. World travelers, we are.

While we have had good personal times, your Executive Board has also been carefully following articles about Ohio pension plans which appeared in eight of the largest newspapers in the state. The articles, aimed primarily at the “double dipping” issue (retire and return to work), also pointed out that STRS and the four other retirement systems in Ohio need to make dramatic changes in order to protect member benefits. All five systems have presented proposals to the Ohio Retirement Studies Commission (ORSC). This body will need to review and approve the plans before submission for legislative action. No action is expected before the November elections. However, we will keep you updated on this important project.

You no doubt have also heard the term “golden pension package” for public retirees. Those of us who are involved in the process like to use the term “deferred compensation” instead. Ours and our former employer’s contributions toward retirement are simply a savings account on our behalf. Keep that in mind as you discuss the issue with your friends and legislators.

Your Executive Board is in the process of developing what we hope will be exciting programs for the 2010-11 fiscal year. Speakers for the Robert Ferguson Luncheon Series are nearly all scheduled. Other activities are being finalized as we go to press.

At this time I have no new news about the university’s retiree dependent benefit plan for 2011. The university has requested proposals from carriers and it is our hope that we will receive word about the plan much earlier than last fall. That request has been officially made to Human Resources.

By now, you have all received membership applications for AUAR for the 2010-11 year and I hope you will decide to join us. As of this writing we have 196 members who have paid their dues. Contributions are also coming in for the AUAR endowed scholarship fund to which you have contributed nearly $40,000 over the last three years, and I thank you for that. Our annual scholarship is now at $1,000 and we have selected the 2010-11 recipient. She is Angellette Bokman who is pursuing a degree in accounting.

Members of your Executive Board continue to serve on the board of Ohio Conference of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER). This organization advocates for our Ohio benefits and provides excellent information that we pass on to you.

So, join us and become an advocate as well. Please keep in touch with your Board on any issues about which you have concerns.

President

PO WER IN N U M B ERS, A LW A Y S!
- Henry Beard & Roy Mickis, American authors

QUOTE OF THE DAY
"Garden: one of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants
Run by charity-minded amateurs in an effort to provide
Healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds, and animals."
-Henry Beard & Roy Mickis, American authors

Upcoming Events 2010-2011
AUAR Luncheon Speakers
September 8, 2010
Tim Matney
Archaeologist

October 13, 2010
John Sage
VIP Information Technology

November 10, 2010
David Carroll
FBI Agent

December 8, 2010
Holidays Luncheon

January 12, 2011
Tom Waterfill
Director, Advancement Services

February 8, 2011
Betsy King
Weather Person

March 8, 2011
China Travelogue

April 13, 2011
Tentative
Dr. Michael Sherman
St. VP, Provost, & Chief Operating Officer

Other Events
November 6, 2010
Soup and Chili Supper

February 13, 2011
Brunch & Theater Play

May 13, 2011
Lobsters & Sushi TBA

Scholarship Recipient
The 2010-2011 recipient of the AUAR Scholarship is Angellette Bokman, an accounting major with a 3.9 GPA. She works full-time while going to school full-time, so that she can provide for herself, her father (disabled & unemployed since October 2008), and her younger sister. She is also active in her church and community.
After a very subdued late spring and early summer, a degree of insight seems to be emerging from Columbus relative to the disclosure of pension system. Regrettably, the Ohio Post Retirement Study Council (ORSC) is the legislative pension oversight committee providing guidance to the state legislators and governor for the formulation of sound pension policy. In 2009, the ORSC requested and received from each of Ohio's five public systems its respective plan for maintaining its system's viability into the future. The ORSC's role now is to consolidate the components of the various plans into one unified bill before the legislature. It was hoped that a bill would have been submitted during the summer of 2010, but to date nothing has appeared.

The ORSC Director, Aristotle Hutras, speaking before a July 1, 2010 meeting of PERI, provided a glimpse of the anticipated contentious issues relative to the retirement systems in the coming months. Because approximately 70% of the public pension income was generated by the investment returns, the continued depression of the national economy is a major concern. (The STRS Fiscal 2011 Investment Plan is available at the STRS Ohio website www.strsoh.org). As the Great Recession of 2008 took hold in Ohio, the resulting job losses in the private sector and the associated pension and healthcare cuts combined with the hatchet job on defined benefits pension plans perpetrated by the major newspapers of Ohio has created much "pension envy." However, as the debate relative to changes in Ohio's pension systems begins to boil in late 2010, you must keep yourself apprised and ready to enter the discussion for you and your pension system are valuable contributors to the economy of Ohio. You should feel great pride in defending your "differed compensation plan" for it is a great moral and economic asset to Ohio. More specifically, your deferred compensation plan provided through the STRS Ohio Defined Benefit Plan:

1. Provides a stable source of revenue for local economies; STRS Ohio pays more than $3.6 billion in benefits to Ohio residents each year that they then spend mostly in Ohio.
2. Supports the services provided by state and federal governments through the taxes paid on these benefits.
3. Reduces the likelihood that STRS participants will have to turn to taxpayer-funded public assistance, Medicaid, or social services in retirement, in turn, relieving taxpayers of future obligations.

At the Senate

Robert Gandee

With Don Gerlach's resignation from the Senate effective September, 2010, the Senate will lose a long term and committed member who had great dedication to the enhancement and preservation of the faculty's role in the governance of the University. Don's departure creates a void in the Senate for the wisdom of his contentious orations will be most difficult to replace. After a thirty-two year (1962-1994) teaching career with the University including many years of service to the Senate, Don is leaving the comfort of his Akron home and his beloved University to return to his southeastern Nebraska, childhood hometown of Harvard. Who will step forward?

Chair Harvey Sterns during his May, 2010 meeting, he rose near the close of the meeting and said, "I would like to thank you and the Senate for this certificate. However, I feel a bit like Mark Twain in his reading the premature announcement of his death in the local newspaper, for you see, I am not leaving the Senate until September." The sedate Senate roared with laughter. With that, the Senate was adjourned.

During several years of observation, there is found a caring and loving soul beneath that curmudgeonly façade. With much admiration and respect, Don, thank you for being there; your wisdom gave the Senate a "Touch of Class."

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A Glimpse of Our Hope for the Tomorrow

Robert Gandee

AUAR President Elect, OHCHR Past President

Department of Fire Protection and Emergency Management

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Most events are free in Guzzetta Recital Hall (across from E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall) For events in other venues there may be a charge: $8 for seniors & faculty. Call for further information.

Parking is free in nearby decks and surface lots (with the exception of E.J. Thomas Hall parking deck if there is an event at E.J. Thomas Hall). If a parking attendant is on duty, please inform him/her that you will be attending a concert in Guzzetta Hall so that you will be permitted to park at no charge.

### OCTOBER

3 3 p.m. Symphonic Band

5 8 p.m. Faculty fluteist George Pope with pianist Eric Chamofsky and cellist Regina Mushaba

6 8 p.m. Concert Band

10 3 p.m. UA Symphony Orchestra and UA Concert Choir with faculty oboist Jack Cozen Harel and Singers Company

17 3 p.m. Percussion Ensemble

19 3 p.m. Opera Scenes

20 3 p.m. Men's Chorus

20 4 p.m. Vocal Chamber Ensemble

21 3 p.m. Verlezza Dance with pianist Laura Silverman and soprano Patricia LaNasa

21 7:30 p.m. Jazz Guitar Ensemble

23 8 p.m. Percussion Ensemble

29 8 p.m. Concert Choir/Chamber Choir

30 7 p.m. University Singers

30 8:30 p.m. Brass Choir

### DECEMBER

1 8 p.m. Concert Band/University Band

1 8 p.m. UA Symphony Orchestra with faculty hornist William Hoyt

3 Early Action Scholarship Auditions

3/4 38th Annual Ohio Band Directors Conference

12 3 p.m. Jingle Jazz Kulas Concert Series

Dec 2 7 p.m. Band Directors Conference

18 2 shows: Noon and 2:30 p.m.

18 Akron's 31st annual TubaChristmas

Want to be on our mailing list? 330-972-8301 or concerts@uakron.edu

### INTRODUCTION

Dr. W. Michael (Mike) Sherman
Senior Vice President, Provost, and Chief Operating Officer
The University of Akron

Dr. Sherman comes to The University of Akron from a rich and productive 25-year career at The Ohio State University and with a great depth of administrative experience in academic and research institutional growth. Before moving to the Vice Provost Office, he was actively involved in his third four-year appointment as Director of the School of Physical Activity and Educational Services. As the inaugural Director of this School, Dr. Sherman administered the integration of four previously separate programs into one school supervising approximately fifty-one faculty and administrative staff as well as 100 graduate associates with an approximate operating budget of $6M, plus $14M in contract and extramural funding.

While Director of the School Mike also, served as the Director of the Center on Education and Training for Employment, College of Education, The Ohio State University. The Center employed approximately 30 administrative and professional staff and supervised 12 Principal Investigators with $3-8M in grants and $160,000 in general funds. This Center generated $12M annually in grants.

As Vice Provost, 2005 to 2010, Dr. Sherman had two major assignments: Vice Provost for Academic Administration (2009-2009) and Provost for Academic Planning (2009-2010). These assignments involved monitoring various campus units with a total budget of $60M including Regional Campuses (Newark, Marion, Mansfield, and Lima), University Libraries, John Glenn School of Public Affairs, Battelle Endowment for Technology and Human Affairs grant program, and the Ohio Eminent Scholar Program, among others. Sherman also provided the leadership for the OSU Strategic Planning and the Academic Facilities Planning Initiative.

In addition to his wealth of administrative experience, Dr. Sherman also brings to The University of Akron an academic experience rich in research, particularly in carbohydrate metabolism relative to diabetes and exercise. Exemplary of his strong commitment to research, between 1993 and 2007 he served as Co-Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Sports Medicine. Before becoming an administrator, while actively engaged in full-time teaching and research Sherman often secured external funding to support his research endeavors permitting him to publish over 145 peer-reviewed articles and abstracts in such areas as, but not limited to, muscle metabolism, obesity, Creatine supplementation, and water ingestion and thermoregulation.

Sherman’s post-secondary, formal education and training was a premiere experience under the tutelage of some of the most notable scholars in the field during that era. Under the direction of Dr. Fredrick C. Hagerman, he received his 1978 Bachelor of Science, with a Major in Health Education and Minors in Botany and Zoology, from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. Sherman’s Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, 1969 Masters of Science in Biology, with specialization in Human Bioenergetics, was mentored by Dr. David L. Costill. Turning to the southwest to the flagship institution of the state, he earned his 1984 Doctor of Philosophy in Exercise Physiology under the scrutiny of Dr. John L. Ivy at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas.

The accolades commanded by his stellar career are many: 1988 and 1991 Visiting Research Scholar Awards at the College of Education, Finders University of South Australia, Adelaide, South Australia and College of Medicine, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, respectively. Others are: elected 1978 Member of Omicron Delta Kappa, national leadership honors, elected 1985 Fellow, American College of Sports Medicine, and selected 1988 Athletic Specialist to Chad and Cameron by “Sports America,” United States Department of State, United States Information Agency. However, of all of his accolades, the most memorable and complimentary was his home department’s nomination of him for the prestigious The Ohio State University Distinguished Scholar Award.

Moving to Akron, Mike remains in the state in which he grew up having been very involved in 4-H, and working with his grandfather on his cattle farm, as well as with his father in the meat department at local grocery stores. His mother also supported him in many ways often trekking to the local libraries for copies of articles not otherwise available. His wife Betty, whom he met at Texas A&M University, has a doctorate in educational psychology and has served as an elementary, middle, and high school administrator. His daughter Lindsay will be a freshman at the University of Akron this autumn. It is said, “She saw the light before he had the opportunity.” You have heard of “helicopter parents”; he is a “stealth” dad.

The Association of University of Akron Retirees wishes Dr. Sherman well with much success in his leadership of our University in the coming years.
Don: Yes, they gave me a certificate citing my beginning of the session, and I thanked them. But like Mark Twain, in that the news of my departure was a little premature, as I hadn’t turned in my at the end, I got the floor to say that I felt somewhat amusement.

Pam: Now let’s back up and look into your life before UA. Your bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees are from the University of Nebraska, and you were awarded a Fulbright Scholarship at the University of London in 1956-57. What impact did that have on you?

Don: Oh, it was a tremendous experience, one of the greater experiences in my life. I had told them in my application that I wanted to do “The Grand Tour of Europe” as was popular in the preceding century, and I got my chance! I kept a diary and listed everything I paid for, including even every donut! I had a record of what it cost to do anything. I still keep travel diaries. They afford me a lot of pleasure looking back at them. It’s funny what you remember and don’t remember! Things can be humorous. I have brought them out on a few occasions when I had company, and they provided some laughter.

Pam: I know you also had a tour of duty with the army which took you to another part of the world.

Don: Yes, the draft board finally got me and sent me to Korea with the 1st Cavalry. Although trained at Division Headquarters where someone noticed my military background, I had a record of what it cost to do anything. I still keep travel diaries. They afford me a lot of pleasure looking back at them. It’s funny what you remember and don’t remember! Things can be humorous. I have brought them out on a few occasions when I had company, and they provided some laughs.

Pam: You also got involved with the Anglican Church while there.

Don: Yes. I had started on the path toward the Anglican Way while in Nebraska where a University chaplain had influenced me. Then I became acquainted with the chaplain in Korea who knew the bishop in Seoul. We visited the cathedral and sometimes stayed overnight in the Bishop’s Lodge. I ended up being confirmed by that bishop in Seoul! He was a lovely man and I have seen him since in his visits to both Akron and England.
in 1888 and had long exceeded its usefulness. I like to think of the “House that Cochrane built.” I am, of course, referring to Athletics from 1948 to 1968, although I’m sure that University President Dr. Norman P. Auburn had a huge influence on this. Educate students but, to showcase its athletic teams in the AUA R Newsletter is published. Memorial Hall was the culmination of some 30 years of study and all the attendant publicity that would come with a university faculty. Crouse Gymnasium, which was demolished in 1965 to make room for Gardner Student Center, had been constructed in 1888 and had long exceeded its usefulness. I like to think of Memorial Hall, dedicated in 1954 at a cost of $1,400,000, as the “House that Cochrane built.” I am, of course, referring to the much revered Kenneth “Red” Cochrane, UA’s Director of Athletics from 1948 to 1966, although I’m sure that University President Dr. Norman P. Auburn had a huge influence on this multi-purpose building being constructed, as well. Nominated in honor of the 1,538 students who died during World War II, the Hall was not only used to educate students but also showcase its athletic teams in competition, for graduation ceremonies, for musical concerts, hosting U.S. presidential and other political candidates, for cultural events such as “Town and Gown” and trip to the other events too numerous to mention. In its day Memorial Hall was referred to as a “pit,” where opponents had difficulty winning. During those 29 seasons of basketball, the UA men compiled 338 wins and lost only 78 games for a remarkable winning percentage of 79 percent! The Zip cagers only suffered two losing home seasons and had winning streaks of 17, 29 and an all-time school mark of 52 games. The latter amazing streak occurred back in 1964 and 1965 and was ended due to the play of Winston-Salem’s Earl “The Pearl” Monroe, who scored a Hall record 49 points in an 88-80 victory over UA in the NCAA Regional Championship. My first introduction to Memorial Hall came during freshman orientation in the fall of 1958 but that was just a prelude to the thousands of hours I spent there as a student, athlete, and as an employee. For 16 of my 25 years as director of athletics and information director and guest in the Hall. It was where I met and dealt with such great coaches as Cochrane, Andy Malucke, Tom Evans, Russ Beichly, Tony Laterza, Wyatt Webb, Gordon Larson, Jim Dennisson and Jim Tressel. It is where I watched the performances of outstanding athletes such as Alex Adams, Bill Turner, Don Williams, Bob “Sumthin’” Smith, Len Paul, Joe Jakubick and hundreds more. However, it was not all about the coaches and players, it was also about the students, the support staff, the alumni, the fans and the memorable games. It was the assistant coaches, the secretaries, the managers and the athletic trainers, everyone involved in the experience of Memorial Hall! Now, a moment of silence for Memorial Hall—so many memories and so aptly named!

2010 Roadtrip: Historic Massillon, Ohio

The annual road trip once again proved that you never know what you will find in your own backyard. On April 23, 2010 twenty-eight AUAR group members traveled the short distance to Massillon and learned that there is more to this Stark County city than high school football and the legendary Paul Brown. Our first stop was the Five Oaks Mansion, which is now the home of the Massillon Woman’s Club. Five Oaks was built between 1892-94 for Mr. & Mrs. J. Walter Mc Clymonds at a cost of $205,000. It was designed by noted Cleveland architect and was built with elaborate and exhibits features of Gothic, Romanesque, Tudor and French Renaissance architecture. Five Oaks was given to the women of Massillon in 1924 by the Mc Clymonds’ daughters, Edna Mc Clymonds Wa les and Ruth Mc Clymonds Maitland. We then went outside for a walking tour of historic Fourth Street with local resident and guide, Mary Voyt. This street contains a variety of fascinating historic buildings covering over 170 years and includes a house once lived in by movie star Lillian Gish.

After lunch at Kozmo’s Grille, which features a large picture of Cosmo Kramer of Seinfeld fame, we visited the Ohio Society of Military History Museum. This small museum on Lincoln Way contains a Hall of Honor, which is dedicated to Ohio recipients of the Medal of Honor, contains displays and artifacts from each U.S. war period and houses a research library. Later in the afternoon our bus took us to Exploration Gateway and the Ralph Regula Canalway Center on Sippo Lake. Here we learned about life on the Ohio & Erie Canal via a guided tour and the use of many interactive exhibits. As usual, several of our attendees added to the educational process. Don Gerlach reminded us that the Massillon was the place where Cox’s Army began its longest march to Washington D.C. in January 1932. Ruth Clinefelter recalled a postcard from her collection that showed a town called “Lock 17,” which existed along a stretch of the canal in the 1830’s or ‘40’s. On the way back to Summit County, we made an unscheduled stop at the Riverbank General Store about 21 for ice cream and other interesting organic foods & snacks.

From our experiences we learned that, much like Akron, Massillon owes its existence and growth to the Ohio & Erie Canal. Its “movers and shakers” entitled such notables as President William McKinley. He and his wife were guests at the wedding of Edna Mc Clymonds and Arville Wales at Five Oaks on October 29, 1900. We also discovered that in the early twentieth century the city fathers were given the choice by Ohio politicians either to build a new college or a state hospital in Massillon. They chose the state hospital. The city of Kent gained a state college.

Farewell Luncheon

The AUAR Board attended a luncheon hosted by The Department of Development to honor Don Gerlach and thank him for his many years of service and contributions to the University. Don was given a UA tee shirt to help him remember us as he jogs around Harvard, Nebraska. He is a huge football fan and was also Albert Hendley’s birthday so that was celebrated as well with a lovely cake enjoyed by all.
AUAR Events

Dr. David Ayers January Luncheon Speaker

Our January 13th Luncheon took on a global atmosphere when Dr. David Ayers, Director of the Office of International Programs at The University of Akron, spoke to us about the University’s programs involving our exchange students studying abroad and students from other countries studying here. Dr. Ayers is responsible for all areas of international education including international student services, study abroad, undergraduate international student academic advising and the establishment of exchange programs for students and faculty. He serves as liaison between the university and the community, has led annual study/tour Asian trips for students and faculty members and has led study/tour delegations of students and faculty members in South Korea and China.

Dr. Ayers brought Dr. Young Lin, Director of the Confucius Institute. Dr. Ayers’ and Dr. Lin’s visual presentations gave us a good look at international education and, judging from the large number of questions asked by luncheon attendees, created much interest in both overseas travel and in visitors from other countries.

Valentine’s Day at Coach House Theatre

Valentine’s Day was on Sunday this year, and what better reason to enjoy a wonderful brunch at the Akron Woman’s City Club and a matinee at the Coach House Theatre. The 52 AUAR members and guests filled more than half of the sold out theatre for Agatha Christie’s “Witness for the Prosecution.”

Carl Lieberman and Ruth Clinefelter recalled the original movie version of the play starring Tyrone Power, Carlotta von Tiele, and John Howard. The original 1945 film won a Best Actress Oscar for Bette Davis. The original Broadway production won four Tony awards in 1946, including Best Play. There have been numerous subsequent film, television and theatre productions. The play has been a mainstay of theatres around the world. Our programme directors were Tom Vukovich, Velm a Pomrenke and long time U A  friends, Sam and Ragda Halasa.

March Speaker Outlines UA/Thailand Connection

Our luncheon speaker on March 10, 2010 was former UA Associate V.P. for Information Services, Dr. Frank Thomas. Frank outlined for us the program he and several UA library and computer center personnel developed at Ubon Ratchanthiana University in Thailand from 1986-1998.

The initial connection resulted from contacts made by Dr. John Hirschbuhl and approved by former UA Presidents Dr. William V. Muse and Dr. Peggy Gordon Elliott. These agreements brought several faculty and computer specialists from UA to Thailand to work on science and mathematics curricula and improvements in computer capabilities at Ubon Ratchithania University. In addition, UA gained numerous Thai graduate students, who earned masters and doctoral degrees from our institution.

Frank also gave us insight into Thai culture as he reviewed his travels throughout the country and trips into several surrounding countries.

Rev. Robert Denton April Luncheon Speaker

Our final luncheon speaker in the 2009-2010 series was Bob Denton, Executive Director and Co-founder of the Victim Assistance Program in Akron. Bob is well known to the community and his many colleagues and friends at The University of Akron.

Bob has been involved in the criminal justice and social work fields for over 30 years. He earned a Ph.D. in social welfare from Case Western Reserve University, is a 1970 graduate of the Akron Police Academy, and holds a commission with the police department. In addition, he is an ordained minister and a licensed independent social worker. Bob recognized the support he has received from UA retirees Leona Farris, Velma Pomrenke, and Dave Hoover in helping him establish a certificate program in victim studies at UA. The local Victim Assistance Program annually provides financial, emotional, and physical support to over 20,000 people in Summit County who are affected directly or indirectly by violent crime.

A very moving part of Bob’s presentation was a DVD interview with a husband and wife who were in need of assistance after the husband was the victim of a brutal beating. Their unscripted emotional comments captivated the audience. The work’s comments clearly brought home the value of the Victim Assistance Program and expressed the great need of victims and their families to find their “first form of justice” through the Program.

The 15 staff members of the Victim Assistance Program are a valuable asset to our community, and Bob Denton is the driving force behind this essential program that is recognized nationally for its services.

10 Years of Lobster & Suds

The 2010 version of the old University of Akron Faculty Club Lobster & Suds event was held at a new venue. Thanks to the efforts of John and Betty Miller, we were able to move the event from Heisman Lodge at the Rubber Bowl to the party room of the condos at Hampton Woods.

Seventy-three guests filled the space and appreciated the easy access and excellent parking. They were also happy not to have that hike up the steep hill to Heisman Lodge and not to face going up and down several flights of stairs to use the “facilities.”

The lobsters were again expertly prepared by the “crew” of Bud Marston, Bob Fritz, Ed Lasher, Don Rupert, and Tom Vukovich. AUAR’s president-elect, Bob Gandee, assisted as “the rookie” this year.

Attending direct from Florida were Hugo and Janet Lijeron. First time guests were Beverly Cinovec, a frequent traveler with the Vukovich group, Bill and Jane Landis, who were guests of Velma Pomrenke, and long time UA friends, Sam and Ragda Halasa. President Emeritus, Dr. Marion A. Ruebel and his wife Neoma joined the party again this year. Everyone enjoyed the many desserts and salads that were brought to accompany the main courses. Now we are all looking forward to Lobster & Suds 2011.

Luncheon Speaker: Rev. Bob Denton