

# Allstar RECORD

Reunion 2008  
June 19-22

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## ExCil in a Nonstop Nutshell



by Kristen Muir

Nonstop is both the movement to keep Antioch College open, and the actual school that is progressing whether or not Antioch College continues under the same name and on the campus grounds.

The Executive Collective, a group of three faculty

members chosen by ExCil and the faculty in April 2008, are coordinating efforts for the continuation of the Antioch education with the newly named Nonstop Liberal Arts Institute. They are Susan Eklund-Leen, Administrative Coordinator; Hassan Rahmanian, Educational Offerings Coordinator; and Chris Hill, External Relations Coordinator.

ExCil is the advisory body to the Executive Collective in much the same way AdCil has been an advisory group to the College President. ExCil is devoted to the uninterrupted continuation of Antioch College / Nonstop Liberal Arts Institute, either on-campus or off. To this end, ExCil has committees focusing on technology, facilities, curriculum, outreach, diversity, ExCil bylaws, and budget.

According to ExCil member Anne Bohlen, ExCil has developed a mission statement draft and a budget for Nonstop. They have investigated locations for classes, events, and living spaces, and are preparing outreach to current and prospective students. ExCil and the Executive Collective have also developed a curriculum.

Bohlen also indicates that in the next few weeks the Executive Collective and the CRF will present to ExCil a joint proposal for shared governance. ExCil is planning for both short-term Nonstop efforts as well as long-term revitalization of Antioch College. *cont. on page 7*

## Faculty Present Academic Program

by Ed M. Koziarski

The faculty of Antioch College will begin holding classes for Nonstop Antioch's academic program in September, regardless of developments in the latest round of negotiations for the college's independence from Antioch University.

The University Board of Trustees' June 7 resolution, calling on the Alumni Board to develop a plan for independence, "doesn't change the Nonstop planning," said art professor Nevin Mercede, who serves on the faculty's Curriculum Committee. "We still plan to make the Nonstop educational programming available come what may."

As of mid-June, 19 Antioch College faculty had signed on to teach

for the program, whose name was to be chosen at Reunion, running June 19-21.

An estimated 30-40 continuing Antioch College students were expected to enroll in the Nonstop program, with the hopes that many more prospective students will enroll. Admission to the program is open to traditional-age and non-traditional students, with a particular emphasis on attracting students from within the Yellow Springs community.

The biggest stumbling blocks remain accreditation and certification. The Nonstop program has not been certified by the Ohio Board of Regents to confer degrees, and exists outside of any accredited institution, and thus cannot offer federal financial aid, formally recruits students, or refer to itself as a "college," among other limitations.

Management professor

Hassan Rahmanian, Educational Offerings Coordinator for the Executive Committee that governs the Nonstop program, is leading efforts to get the program accredited, possibly under the umbrella of another school. But until those efforts are successful, Nonstop will operate as an unaccredited educational community, offering a curriculum rooted in Antioch's model of experiential, experimental, community-based learning.

As in the past, professors will provide students with narrative



*photo by Scott Sanders*

evaluations and the option of letter-grade equivalents, in the hopes that, pending retroactive accreditation, other institutions will credit Nonstop courses. "At minimum, [students] will portfolio their learning efforts and

*cont. on page 6*

# The All-Stars

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Antioch College Record

Mission Statement

1. To serve the information needs of the community in a continuous fashion;
2. To provide all members of the community with access to their newspaper;
3. To serve as a reliable instrument for recording the College's history;
4. To serve as an instrument for education in civic and journalistic responsibility

## All-Star Record Statement

The All-Star Record is a joint venture of a collective of former editors and staff of The Record and The Blaze. The project was initiated by the Community Managers of Summer '08, in order to inform those outside of Yellow Springs about the planning going on for Nonstop Antioch.

June 1, 2008

Dear Trustees,

In closing Antioch College, you have closed the only Antioch University campus with a tenured faculty. The reputation of a University derives largely from that of its tenured faculty, since tenure protects the academic freedom required as a condition of undertaking relevant scholarship. In abandoning your only tenured faculty, you have diminished the academic credibility of Antioch University as a whole. I am not impugning the reputation of the faculty of other Antioch University programs, but am speaking about the reputation of the institution. Even Community Colleges have tenured faculty. In abolishing tenure, you have traded the status of a prestigious liberal arts college (a peer of Oberlin, Earlham, and other GLCA schools) for an institution that has the status of the University of Phoenix or a business college – a storefront operation. You have therefore diminished the value of the institution as a whole, which would seem to be a breach of your fiduciary responsibilities. Also, if Antioch University ceases to provide a quality liberal arts education, you have probably also diminished the value of my degree. Thanks a lot.

In closing Antioch College, the University has turned its back on the distinctive model of liberal arts education that has enabled Antioch College to produce so many MacArthur

“genius grant” recipients and Nobel Prize winners (along with other distinguished alumni). The reputation of a University derives largely from its educational outcomes. In abandoning the College's hallmark education, you are putting an end to a successful and productive revolution in American higher learning. Congratulations on that. Again, in abandoning a successful educational model, you have diminished the reputation and value of Antioch University, which would seem to be a breach of your fiduciary responsibilities. I would argue that you have also failed to uphold your moral and ethical obligations to the faculty, staff, and students of Antioch College, the village of Yellow Springs, and the historic legacy of the College. May the shades of Horace Mann, Arthur Morgan, and Coretta Scott King haunt your dreams forever.

In closing Antioch College, you have alienated the alumni of that venerable institution. The success of a University derives partly from the number and percentage of alumni who contribute to it. The University has not been able to benefit from this because of alumni distrust of the University's governance of the College, even before last year's announcement of closure. In the last year, alumni stepped forward with millions of dollars for both the College and the University, in what would amount to a win/win for both institutions. You trustees apparently voted in favor of this plan, and then reversed yourselves. In so doing, you

have again breached your fiduciary duty to the University (since you refuse to release the College from the University, the welfare of the College remains part of your responsibility).

In choosing the other University programs over the College, you have chosen an inferior product. An Antioch without tenure, and without the three pillars of an Antioch education, will not be supported by College alumni. Even if you are somehow able to raise funds for the fanciful Antioch 2012 described in last year's “Summary of Recommendations by University Leadership for the Suspension and Reopening of Antioch College” document (according to which, by the way, you should have already raised at least 15 million dollars from amongst yourselves), that plan does not re-establish either tenure or Antioch's distinctive educational model. Therefore, whatever new institution you create will always be an inferior Antioch, with an inferior profile on the landscape of higher education.

It is not too late to correct your mistakes. As I understand the situation, the final offer from the ACCC is still on the table. When you meet in Keene, you could still set things right. Do you really think things have gone so well under the leadership of Art and Toni?

Sincerely,

Dan C. Shoemaker, Ph.D.  
Antioch College '92

## “Antioch Every Day”

Dear Antiochians,

I'm not here.

I have a legitimate reason for not being here. I'm at the wedding of Adrian Mulvaney, who I met at Antioch in 1995, and Kristen Loomis, who I met at the wedding of another Antiochian (Tyson Knowles, '97) in 2006.

Even if I were here, you wouldn't see much of me. I'd probably spend most of the weekend in the Glen. I have social issues. You're an Antiochian; you know what I mean.

If I were here, I'd emerge from the woods eventually: to tell Laura Fathauer how amazing her research and articles and efforts on behalf of the College are, to tell Gerry Bello I believe him when he says we're winning, to tell Marjorie Jensen how much I admire her ability to focus on continuous creation while our enemies circle overhead, intent on destruction. I'd tell everyone who has toiled on behalf of our beloved school that they are fighting the good fight, for a just cause, with history and righteousness on their side.

But you already know that.

I wear Antioch like a conch shell. That's not rhetoric. Antioch pervades my life: I would not have this life with-

out you. I live with Jeff Woods '96 and Pasha Donnelly '98. I work for clients referred to me by Jonah Stein '87. Every night I communicate with my writing partner, KJ Kabza '04. Whenever I see my parents in Chicago, I visit with Megan Rosado '97 and Karen Kotiw '98. Whenever I blog about my triumphs and my embarrassments, I get feedback from Becka Robbins '98 and Yojo Shaw '96. And every so often, the phone rings, and it's another Antiochian, an old friend who just wants to say hi.

So you see, the last 12 years have been one long, unending Antioch reunion.

I wish I could be with you today, to share the elation and anger, nostalgia and sorrow. But in my absence, I know that Antioch continues. I am an Antiochian, and no lawsuit, no hostile corporate takeover, no development plan, and no mercenary opposition can erase that from my soul. I believe in Nonstop Antioch the same way I believe in Love and Freedom. I believe in victories for humanity. I know we have nothing to be ashamed of.

Love always,

Monica Friedman '96



To the alumni of our beloved Antioch College:

As you have no doubt heard by now, this past weekend, in Keene, New Hampshire, the University Board of Trustees unanimously passed a resolution calling for the Alumni Association to create the process, plans and resources to secure Antioch College's independence from Antioch University, with its own board of trustees. The resolution also calls for the alumni to craft a business plan for the transfer of assets from the University and a timetable for implementing that plan.

The full text of the resolution follows this letter for your review. Before I talk about what this resolution means and what we need to go forward, I must pause to thank the alumni and staff who came out to Keene to voice their love and support of the College. Not only were their questions and statements well articulated and strong, but their personal support to me as I went forward to represent the alumni at the Board of Trustees was much appreciated. I can't thank you enough, and it means the world to me.

Now, what does this resolution mean? In essence, it embodies and endorses the principles of the resolution crafted and passed unanimously at Reunion 2007. That resolution calls for an independent Antioch College in Yellow Springs, with its own board of trustees, offering a liberal arts education based in the values of community governance, cooperative education, challenging academic course work, mutual respect, intellectual freedom, free and open inquiry and celebration of diversity.

Alumni have asked: How is this resolution different from other actions of the Board of Trustees? It is startlingly different, because the University Trustees have now agreed to full independence and separation from the University. This isn't the same agreement that held sway briefly back in November, under which the College

would have its own board that reported to a university board of governors. This isn't members of the alumni association taking seats on the board for the entire university. This is complete independence from Antioch University.

You might be asking: How do we know that this isn't just more of the same, where we get achingly close and then the Board of Trustees votes down our plans?

This is a tough question for a number of reasons. We have to acknowledge that the past year has been harrowing--to say the least--for alumni, staff, faculty, donors, and the Yellow Springs community who love Antioch College and want it to continue. All of us are justifiably anxious. Tempers have been frayed; lives have been derailed. We must come together as a community to restore the trust that has been lost and repair the damage that has been done.

Going forward, this is the first time the alumni have been asked to control the process for making a thriving independent Antioch College happen. In the past, we have worked within prescribed and restrictive processes. Now, we set the agenda; we come up with the timeline, we name the trustees of the new Antioch College Board of Trustees who will oversee the revival of Antioch College and take responsibility for its continuing health.

The most compelling reason for climbing back up on this horse, though, is something that did not happen in Keene. During the Keene meeting, Chancellor Toni Murdock presented her plan for Antioch College 2012--or, as she dubbed it, the Revival. (That has a rather familiar ring to it.). She outlined the appointment of a commission for going forward to bring the College back as part of the University. The Board of Trustees could easily have supported this plan. Instead, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Resolution below. That, to me, is the greatest indication of a sea-change on the Board of Trustees.

This resolution was a long time in coming and many of us are exhausted.



Naturally, the goal is for Antioch College to be up and running as soon as humanly possible. However, there are issues of accreditation; the need for robust academic and co-op programs, physical facilities desperately in need of repair; admissions and recruiting; and many, many more. Nonstop Antioch continues to support the faculty financially, and academic planning continues as a part of that effort. Again, our goal is to be able to swing the doors wide open to new Antiochians as soon as we can. As we embark on this process, it's important to be realistic and to understand what may be workable and consistent with our core Antioch values.

So what process are we putting together? Since last Saturday's announcement, members of the Alumni Board have met with members of the Antioch College Continuation Corporation, known to its friends as AC3. The AC3 has put in months of hard work already into crafting a business and fundraising plan, and we want to build upon that solid platform.

We will waste no time in presenting a plan to the Board of Trustees. We have a lot of work to do before we come together next week at Reunion 2008.

We are also going to need to hear from you. Obviously we wouldn't have made it this far without the strength, passion and tenacity of the alumni, the Antioch College community and the Village of Yellow Springs. We need your expertise, your passion and yes, your donations ([antiochians.org/donate](http://antiochians.org/donate)), as we lay the foundation for restoring Antioch College's premier status as the place to prepare for a life of meaning and purpose. To learn more and to take on this new challenge, make plans to come to Reunion 2008. Online registration can be found here: <http://reunion-antiochians.org/>.

We are still ashamed to let it die!

Nancy Crow, '70  
President, Antioch College Alumni Board

# Revival

**June 9, 2007** – Antioch University Board of Trustees resolves to declare financial exigency and suspend operations of Antioch College effective June 30, 2008. The surprise decision is announced to students, staff, faculty, alumni and the world in a June 11 press release.

**June 15, 2007** – A shell-shocked College community looks on as a Homeland Security SWAT team stages a simulated terrorist bombing in the library.

**June 19, 2007** – Faculty issues statement citing the Board's 2004 Renewal Plan as the main culprit in the recent decline in enrollments and urges the Board to consider alternatives to the suspension.

**June 21-24, 2007** – Galvanized by the trustees' decision, hundreds of alumni from across the country drop everything and book last-minute flights, swamping the College's annual reunion. Several hundred are expected. Twice that many show up, some pitching tents on campus grounds, and begin organizing to reverse the planned suspension. Chancellor Toni Murdock advises alumni that the University is talking to developers about uses for the campus. Alumni establish an independent College Revival Fund, with the goal of keeping the College open and gaining its autonomy from the University.

**July 20, 2007** – Former trustees Dan Kaplan, Laura Markham and Barbara Winslow write current trustees urging negotiations towards an independent College. In an August reply to Board Chairman Art Zucker, they are joined by 21 more former trustees, including five former chairs and two former vice chairs. Collectively, the group has contributed more than 200 years of service on the board. University hires SimpsonScarborough, a Washington, DC boutique

PR firm headed by a former Washington Times editor and Strom Thurmond aide, for communications counsel.

**August 11, 2007** – In commencement speech, University Chancellor Toni Murdock skewers “a distrust by a small group of alumni and former trustees, who are very vocal, in the ability of the Board and the University to reinvent a College that reflects the values and traditions of the original College.” Quoting from Thomas Friedman's “The World Is Flat,” Murdock says: “The hallmark of a truly successful organization is the willingness to abandon what made it successful and start fresh,” adding that “upon the College's return, it must embrace the University concept, not operate in isolation, and become an active participant in the University system.”

**August 14, 2007** – College faculty file lawsuit in Greene County Common Pleas Court asking the court to enjoin Antioch University from suspending College operations, terminating College faculty and disposing of any College assets. University cancels planned webinar on College finances in response.

**August 17-19, 2007** – Alumni chapters nationwide hold a series of “Save Antioch Weekend” events, raising \$5.3 million for the College Revival Fund.

**August 23, 2007** – More than 70 new students arrive at the College for the fall semester, despite the impending suspension.

**August 25, 2007** – Board of Trustees resolves to “work with” the Alumni Board, requests that they present business plan by October 28 meeting of trustees.

**August 31, 2007** – College President Steven Lawry's resignation announced. Lawry

had been expected to stay through the end of the year. Inside Higher Education reports: “While several press accounts and statements from Antioch officials over the weekend implied that the decision was Lawry's, multiple knowledgeable sources said that Murdock forced Lawry to leave because she was angry over his public calls for reform of the college's governance.” Dean of Faculty Andrzej Bloch is named chief operating officer, replacing Lawry as the College's chief executive. College alumni relations and development office is sent home early, locks are changed and email accounts are blocked.

**September 4, 2007** – College faculty votes no confidence in University chancellor, calls for reformation of College as an independent and self-governing institution. College community, including students, staff and faculty, follows suit Oct. 8.

**September 22, 2007** – Antioch University McGregor opens a new \$14.6 million, 94,000-square-foot campus across town from the College. McGregor was previously housed on the College campus.

**October 3, 2007** – Alumni Board members meet with University trustees and administrators in Denver to discuss draft business plan for continued operations of the College. Over the next several weeks, Alumni Board releases drafts of fundraising, governance and administrative plans in answer to the Board of Trustees' requests.

**October 25-28, 2007** – College hosts Homecoming series of events around Alumni Board-Board of Trustees negotiations taking place in Yellow Springs. Alumni Board presents plan to raise \$25 million in 2008 and \$100 million over the following five years while making College

largely autonomous. Trustees postpone planned vote on lifting suspension Oct. 27, citing “very complex, long-standing matters of critical importance.” Alumni Board has raised \$18 million in cash and pledges already.

**November 3, 2007** – Board of Trustees reverses suspension, conditional upon Alumni Board meeting tough fundraising benchmarks. Trustees agree to pursue plans for a separate College Board of Trustees under Agreement in Principle document. Declaration of financial exigency remains in effect. Under the agreement, the Alumni Board must make a series of fundraising deadlines, transferring \$2 million to the University within 10 days, an additional \$4.6 million by Dec. 15, \$12 million by May 31 2008, \$26 million by June 2009 and \$19 million by June 2010. Faculty withdraw lawsuit against University ten days later.

**November 9, 2007** – College COO Bloch writes a provocative letter to faculty advising that “it is important to understand that the Declaration of Financial Exigency made by the Board of Trustees in June still stands. The notices of termination issued by President Lawry to tenured and non-tenured faculty in June 2007 remain in force and effect.”

**November 12, 2007** – Alumni Board meets first fundraising benchmark with transfer of \$2 million to the University.

**November 13, 2007** – Chancellor Murdock advises College Administrative Council that the College cannot recruit new students until alumni meet fundraising benchmarks and the College's financial situation. Murdock and COO Bloch later add that they “and are convinced that current and potential donors will grow in confidence and support our effort to resume the recruitment of first year students

as soon as it is academically and fiscally feasible, and in accordance with the established standards of the accrediting agencies,” suggesting that accrediting agency guidelines prohibit recruitment, which they do not.

**November 22, 2007** – The Yellow Springs News reports that “many major donors are balking” over concerns about a continued lack of autonomy for the College and its inability to recruit new students. Over the next several weeks, major donors meet with trustees in New York and Dallas directly.

**December 11, 2007** – Board of Trustees announces that it has instructed the chancellor “to begin exploring the possibility of transferring the ownership of Antioch College to a separate, free-standing liberal arts institution with its own board of trustees” in negotiations with the Antioch College Continuation Corporation (ACCC), a non-profit corporation comprised of alumni, major donors, former trustees and emeritus faculty. Chancellor is to present a letter of intent to the trustees by their February 21-23 meeting, and a transfer would take place July 1, 2008. Negotiations with the ACCC void and supersede the Agreement in Principle with the Alumni Board. ACCC members visit campus to talk to students, staff and faculty in December and January.

**January 28, 2008** – ACCC delivers Letter of Intent to operate the College to Antioch University.

**February 22, 2008** – Antioch University issues press release announcing reinstatement of planned suspension of operations, says trustees “ran out of time to reach an agreement on the transfer of the college to the independent corporation,” despite



# Timeline

Compiled by Matthew Arnold

ongoing negotiations with the ACCC, which was disallowed from presenting their business plan to the trustees at their meeting. ACCC chair Eric Bates characterizes the University release as “unhelpful.” College COO Bloch later says there was no vote on the matter by trustees “because there was nothing to vote on. The college has always been under suspension.”

**March 2, 2008** – Alumni Association and College Revival Fund announce plan, dubbed “Nonstop Antioch,” to carry on operations of the College in Yellow Springs past suspension by the University, should negotiations between the ACCC and trustees fail. College Revival Fund commits \$1 million toward the effort. Alumni Association/ College Revival Fund VP Ellen Borgersen says: “it’s time to stop pretending that the University is negotiating in good faith with the ACCC. The University is clearly trying to force people to abandon hope and leave, knowing that it will be impossible to bring the College back once that happens.”

**March 11, 2008** – College faculty announce that they have refiled their lawsuit against the University, which they withdrew without prejudice following the University’s November Agreement in Principle with the Alumni Board, saying “It’s clear that the University Board of Trustees is not negotiating in good faith.”

**March 15, 2008** – College alumni, students, staff and faculty picket Antioch University McGregor, saying negotiations between the trustees and the ACCC “have been undermined by a few members of the University Board of Trustees and its Chancellor, Toni Murdock.”

**March 18, 2008** – Inside Higher Education publishes open letter by Cary Nelson, president of the American Association of University Professors and husband of trustee Paula Treichler, urging trustees to accept ACCC’s \$10 million offer to take over the College. Chancellor Murdock calls letter “uninformed, naïve.” Antioch University and ACCC announce they have had a “productive meeting.”

**March 28, 2008** – Negotiations break down as trustees reject a \$12.2 million offer for the College from the ACCC, saying the ACCC “failed to provide adequate security for \$6.2M of the purchase price.” The ACCC offers half up front and half over five years. Trustees want it all up front. In addition, the University refuses to include WYSO, a University-owned Yellow Springs NPR affiliated radio station housed on the College campus, in the deal. ACCC’s David Goodman says “We were fully prepared to provide the University with not one, but two forms of security: a mortgage on the campus, and a provision that the College and its assets would revert to the University if the ACCC were unable to continue operations. The ACCC’s offer was both financially reasonable and legally enforceable, but the University made clear that they would not accept the offer – even if their creditors were satisfied with the agreement.”

**March 29, 2008** – University issues cryptic press release saying it “welcomes the Antioch College Continuation Corporation (ACCC), other alumni, and any other parties to come forward in an effort to bridge the remaining differences.” AP reports: “An Antioch University spokesman says the school is offering its flagship Antioch College for sale to any buyer that can provide the full payment up front,” though University later clarifies that it

will only deal with the ACCC. The Dayton Daily News notes: “Chancellor Toni Murdock said the university has significant bond debt on the new Antioch University McGregor building in Yellow Springs, and buildings in Seattle and in Keane, N.H.” Board Vice Chair Dan Fallon tells an alum in an email that: “The \$12.2 million is the minimum cash required to stabilize the bonds held by the University.”

**March 30, 2008** – ACCC says its “10-10” plan, which would give the University \$10 million in exchange for 10 seats on the 19-member board, represents “one final option” to save the College. “This way the college can stay open because the same entity owns the college, but allows us more time to work on independence,” says ACCC co-chair Eric Bates. ACCC’s Dr. Laura Markham says the group’s \$10 million offer “stands in stark contrast to the \$25,000 reportedly given by the current trustees in this fiscal year.”

**March 31, 2008** – Alumni Association calls for full Board of Trustees to meet with ACCC, concerned that the University negotiating team has been thwarting progress. Board of Trustees chair Art Zucker tells Inside Higher Education that the University will sue Nonstop Antioch if it uses the Antioch name, says despite bitterness, alumni major donors will come around and contribute to University relaunch of College after a few years.

**April 2, 2008** – University issues Notice of Termination and Campus Closing, advising most employees that they will be laid off – starting with alumni relations and development staff, who are terminated that day. Also on the list: the director of the Coretta Scott King Center, which the University had decreed would be closed. She receives the news

on the day before the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination.

**April 10, 2008** – Nonstop Antioch announces new staff and offices directly across the street from the College. Former College Director of Institutional Advancement Risa Grimes named executive director, and entire College alumni relations and development staff is brought on board.

**April 16, 2008** – ACCC and trustees hold face to face meeting in Columbus, Ohio. University issues release vowing decision by College commencement.

**April 20, 2008** – Board of Trustees Vice Chair Dan Fallon tells The New York Times: “We are all witless victims of a structure that was not capable of or agile enough to manage a residential undergraduate liberal arts college.”

**April 26, 2008** – April 26, 2008 – College hosts 156th commencement ceremony, graduating 119 students. Still no decision from trustees. In her graduation speech, Alumni Board President Nancy Crow says: “Every era of alumni, it seems, goes through cataclysmic events on this beloved campus, on this revered mound. We have all weathered controversy and struggles; yours have been unprecedented and epic. I stand before you to let you know that your fellow alumni honor and respect everything that you’ve gone through in your Antioch career. Your brave hearts, activism, and community organizing and participation have been shining examples in these uncertain times. You remind us what it is to be an Antiochian.”

**April 28, 2008** – Board of Trustees agrees to accept ACCC offer, but vote falls short of required margin and resolution is

postponed for ten days.

**May 8, 2008** – Board of Trustees rejects ACCC offer of \$9.5 million to the College up front, plus another \$6 million for the other campuses, in exchange for 8 board seats, with an additional four to be jointly designated by the ACCC and existing board members. Says ACCC director Lee Morgan: “Under this agreement, the University would have gained a number of experienced trustees who bring tremendous resources - not just finances, but expertise and energy - on behalf of the entire University.” Key board members were unable to make the vote and one trustee known to favor a deal resigned under pressure that day for allegedly breaching board confidentiality in conversation with alumni.

**June 5-8, 2008** – Trustees meeting in Keene, NH are greeted by a delegation of alumni. After hearing University plans for a “revival” of the College, the trustees unanimously resolve to “request the [Alumni] Association create the necessary process, plans, and resources for the development of an independent four-year, residential, liberal arts college in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and a business plan for the transfer of assets from the University.”

# Faculty Present Academic Program

*cont. from page 1*

submit this to another institution for crediting,” Mercede said. According to a draft Nonstop curriculum document, “responses to our inquiries indicate that many highly respected liberal arts colleges would consider crediting well-documented course work accomplished under the guidance of experienced teachers.”

The Antioch College campus remains scheduled to go fully offline after June 30, so courses are by necessity being held in alternate venues throughout Yellow Springs, in “bookstores, coffee shops, libraries, churches, schools, homes, art galleries, government buildings, parks and the Glen,” according to the document.

In fact, the village is being fully integrated into the program. As the curriculum document states, “Significant aspects of our curriculum are inspired by the interests and needs of the immediate Yellow Springs community and its environment. We operate with the support of Village businesses, schools, churches, government, and arts organizations, and are developing community partnerships and projects that benefit our students as well as the Village of Yellow Springs.”

Faculty plan to retain this integration with Yellow Springs even once the campus is again available. “When the college is in our hands again, Nonstop programming will continue there and then grow into Antioch programming,” Mercede said. “Some of what we do will be on campus, but we also want to keep the connections we have made in the Village, even once we are Antioch College once again.”

A semester of “15-plus” weeks will begin in September, with a Learning Festival Week followed by a weeklong break in the middle of the semester. Spring semester will follow a similar schedule.

Co-op is operating on a temporary system centered on jobs which are based in Yellow Springs, keeping students in town to juggle a half-time course load with their co-op job (and thus keep course enrollment up).

Tuition will be “much less, but enough to represent a commitment by student to the project,” Mercede said. “We expect the tuition level to mitigate need for financial aid.”

“The cost of Nonstop has been discussed as \$1500/term, not including room and board,” according to Community Manager Foster Neill. With no dorms, students will live in private housing. “Room and board will be assisted but we are not, at least at this time, able to offer a housing or food package. The issue of affordability has been raised. There is ongoing discussion about a scholarship fund, though as of yet, there is neither money allocated to that nor is there anyone in charge of distributing it.”

The College Revival Fund has committed \$1 million thus far to support the Nonstop academic program, which has a projected budget of \$3.5 million for 2008-09. The CRF is raising funds to cover a larger share of the budget, but is reserving many of its resources for possible legal efforts to regain control of the college.

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## Call for the Immediate Resignation of Art Zucker and Toni Murdock

by the Antioch College Action Network

We, the undersigned, call for the immediate resignation of Antioch University Chancellor Toni Murdock and Board of Trustees Chair Art Zucker.

For the past year, we have watched the negotiations between Antioch University and alumni groups who are dedicated to the future of Antioch College. It is now apparent that Antioch University never had any intent of negotiating in good faith an agreement that met the criteria which united these groups:

- \* sufficient self-governance of Antioch College, and

- \* the continuation of all necessary operations at Antioch College (including student recruitment).

Recent comments from Chancellor Murdock have clarified the University’s intent in these negotiations- the University needed the assets of the college to support the other university campuses, and the university desired to emerge with enough capital to continue immediately the expansion of Antioch University.

Prior to the Board’s decision to close Antioch College, there was no warning,

communication, nor consultation with the campus community and its alumni. This is a violation of the college’s cherished tradition of shared governance, vital to its reputation and thus to its very life.

In the years since the decision, Antioch University administrators and the Chair of the Board of Trustees have continued to malign the college’s shared governance, academic programs, faculty and students, and have misled and misinformed the public and the news media. The actions and statements of the Chancellor, Board Chairman, and other university administrators have damaged the reputation of the Antioch College program and the education received by its students and alumni. These statements have also damaged the reputation of the faculty and staff of the college.

Under the leadership of Chancellor Murdock and Chairman Zucker, Antioch University has continually and intentionally disregarded alumni support in planning the future of Antioch and the college. The Chancellor treated the alumni with the same disdain that she has given the on-campus community. This treatment of the alumni has damaged (if not destroyed) the ability of Antioch University to raise future funds

from the college alumni and its official Alumni Association.

Under the leadership of Chancellor Murdock, Antioch University has abandoned its commitment to the Coretta Scott King Center for Cultural & Intellectual Freedom, contrary to statements that it would not do so. In their cavalier and disrespectful treatment of the CSK Center, Chancellor Murdock and Chair Zucker have demonstrated their disdain for Antioch’s values and legacies, and have shown their lack of integrity and honesty.

Chancellor Murdock’s leadership has been questioned at each of her appointments in Antioch University; twice receiving votes of “No Confidence” from two separate faculties of the university, Antioch University Seattle (2000), and Antioch College (2008).

We the undersigned believe that Chancellor Murdock and Chair Zucker have failed in their stewardship and fiduciary obligations to safeguard the future of the College. We are calling for their immediate resignation from their positions, either voluntarily or by action by board members who recognize the failures of the past and the need for change in leadership.





# ExCil

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The Executive Collective and ExCil have no formal, structural relationship to the Alumni Board and College Revival Fund, or CRF. However, according to ExCil member Eric Miller, some ExCil committees work with AB and CRF committees and members or personnel. A continuing ComCil is also working within Nonstop on matters relating to Community Government.

In light of the June 2008 AUBOT resolution that directs the Alumni Association to develop the process, plans, and resources to establish an Antioch College independent of Antioch University and its board of trustees, Bohlen expresses that ExCil hopes to bring the tradition of shared governance to the a new college administration.

## ExCil Membership

### Executive Collective (*ex officio non-voting*)

Hassan Rahmanian  
Chris Hill  
Susan Eklund-Leen

### Faculty (*six voting seats*)

Anne Bohlen (*co-chair*)  
Scott Warren  
Nevin Mercede  
Eric Miller  
*Currently unfilled*  
*Currently unfilled*

### Students (*three voting seats*)

Kim-Jenna Jurrians  
Eva Erickson  
Jeanne Kay

### Community Managers (*ex officio non-voting, co-chairs*)

Foster Neill  
Rowan Kaiser

### Alumni (*one voting seat*)

Chelsea Martens

### Non-Union Staff (*one voting seat*)

### Union Staff (*one voting seat*)

# History of ExCil

by Kristen Muir

In June 2007 the Antioch University Board of Trustees announced the suspension of operations of Antioch College starting June 30, 2008. After then-College President Steve Lawry announced his immediate resignation at the request of Chancellor Toni Murdock in early September 2007 (in July Lawry had announced his pending resignation in December 2007), Dean of Faculty Andrzej Bloch became Interim President.

AdCil's role within shared governance has been to advise the President on personnel, business and curricular matters. Though college presidents have had different interpretations of this role, the charge has not changed since the 1926 inception of an "Executive Council" under Arthur Morgan.

AdCil continued its role as advisory body to the president even after the June 2007 announcement and Lawry's abrupt departure from the school. After the Agreements in Principle, passed November 2, 2007, in which the Board of Trustees and Alumni Board agreed on "a series of action steps to move forward collaboratively" toward the continuation of Antioch College, part of AdCil's work was to prepare for the '08-09 school year. To that end, according to Assistant Professor of Co-Op and AdCil member Eric Miller, AdCil



formed several committees to work on issues of budget, facilities and curriculum. The group also initiated work toward admissions.

In mid-December 2007, the Antioch College Continuation Corporations, or ACCC, a group of alumni, major donors, and former trustees, was formed in collaboration between the University Board of Trustees and the Alumni Board. The ACCC was empowered to pursue negotiations with the BOT for the transfer of ownership of Antioch College to an independent board, superseding the Agreements in Principle.

After negotiations failed between the BOT and the ACCC at the board's February 2008 meeting, AdCil's work, led by Bloch, focused solely on closing the college. Frustrated by what they saw as Bloch's unwillingness to advocate for the college to the board, some AdCil members decided to meet 'in exile.'

According to several faculty ExCil members, this AdCil-in-Exile would assume the duties of a college governance body functioning under the assumption of a college continuing to operate.

The name, 'ExCil,' started as 'AdCil-in-Exile,' but because of what might be perceived as a negative attitude toward AdCil, according to one ExCil member, the name was changed to ExCil, which invokes both 'Exile Cil' and Arthur Morgan's original 'Executive Council.'

Negotiations between the ACCC and the AUBOT continued until May 9, 2008 when the Board of Trustees rejected the ACCC's final offer. In June 2008, at their meeting in Keene, New Hampshire, the BOT unexpectedly passed a resolution calling on the Alumni Association to develop a plan and resources to establish an Antioch College independent of the university.

## Keene UBoT Resolution

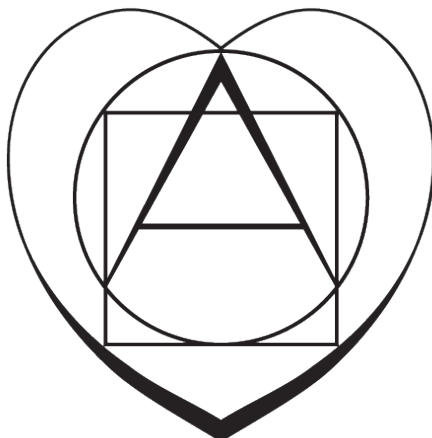
WHEREAS, the Antioch University Board of Trustees ("Trustees") was forced by financial exigency to suspend operations at Antioch College; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees are committed to resumption of operations at Antioch College at an early time; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees have determined that Antioch College can best be brought to health, vigor, vitality, and long-term sustainability through governance by an independent board of trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Trustees stand ready to collaborate with the Antioch College Alumni Association ("ASSOCIATION") to achieve these objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Trustees request the Association create the necessary process, plans, and resources for the development of an independent four-year, residential, liberal arts college in Yellow Springs, OH and a business plan for the transfer of assets from the and approval and that the Association present its timetable for implementing this request to the Trustees.



# **"The Story of Nonstop"**

## **Presented at the State of the College Address, June 20, 2008**

I'm Rowan Kaiser, class of 2005, and co-CM for the summer of '08. It's kind of amazing to be standing here after being out there last time. I hope I can be half as interesting as last year's State of the College. I'm here putting my history degree to good use, trying to tell the story of Nonstop Antioch, both the name and the idea.

Our movement to Save Antioch starts around Reunion 2007, where hundreds of alumni, including many of you, gather and declare that they are "ashamed to let it die." I personally – and I doubt I'm alone here – most strongly come to believe that we can, and have to, save the college when emerita faculty Dimi Reber reads a statement from the faculty that they are going to continue to fight. At the heart of the alumni movement is respect for the faculty as the core of what we're fighting for, and the Reunion 2007 Resolution demonstrates the alumni commitment to rebuilding the institution around its teachers.

The Village of Yellow Springs is also instrumental in our effort, and as faculty member Chris Hill has said, if there's a silver lining in the events of the past year, it is the strengthening of the bonds between the college and village communities. That connection is so strong that, over the last year, many Antiochians state that if we cannot convince the Antioch University Board of Trustees to *allow* the college to remain open, we should take our education and our faculty, staff, and students into "exile" – into the local community.

The first mention of this comes in June, shortly after the suspension is announced, even before Reunion. Alum (and Horace Mann relative) Art Dole '46 suggests on the alumni-chat email list that we form a "Horace Mann College" with the faculty, staff and students.

For the next several months, the idea of taking the community and going into exile is floated consistently by community members and alumni. Professor Hassan Rahmanian speaks to this while discussing "Plan B" when the ACCC visit AdCil to discuss their plans for a Letter of Intent which is supposed to lead to independence.

In August, Beth Gutelius '00 coins the phrase "I heart Nonstop Antioch" to make t-shirts

in advance of the emergency Trustee meeting in Cincinnati. Reaction from certain alumni is lukewarm. Fortunately, she doesn't listen to me.

Beth conveys her phrase to a number of students and the Community Managers, and "Nonstop Antioch" becomes the primary slogan of resilience and celebration during such public actions as the Founders' Day Parade, the community procession to meet the trustees at the October Homecoming, and the demonstration at the McGregor building in March.

The initial deadline for the ACCC/university negotiations is set for the Board of Trustees' meeting in February in Los Angeles. In advance of this, the independent, anonymous community publication, *The Blaze*, puts out a call for the community's ideas for Antioch-in-Exile, just in case things do not go well.

Things do not go particularly well. During the Trustees' meeting, the university administration decides to trumpet their "reaffirmation" of the suspension of the college. As the Antioch Confidential film says – the community continues the struggle.

The week after that BOT meeting, the Alumni Board/College Revival Fund directors hold their regular meeting on campus. The Alumni Board and faculty work together to solve the problem of how to encourage faculty to stay during this uncertain period. Academics from the Alumni Association work intensely with college faculty to develop a significant enough plan that, by the end of the weekend, the CRF commits significant financial support to what they decide to call – after several meetings of deliberation about the best name – Nonstop Antioch.

There are three major components of the Nonstop Antioch movement. First, the educational component: the Nonstop Liberal Arts Institute, which you will hear much more about soon. Second, the friendly acquisition, that the Keene Resolution makes possible. Finally, the legal component. Shortly after the university's "reaffirmation," the college faculty refile their lawsuit to keep the college open. Money is needed for all arms of the movement to succeed, so therefore the third

major component is the fundraising.

The "Nonstop Antioch" phrase gains extra currency when the staff of the Institutional Advancement office – the fundraisers! – are "set free" by the university and college administration. They are rehired by the College Revival Fund, who also rent out an office on Xenia Avenue so that fundraising may continue. A sign in front of office declares the building to be the "Nonstop Antioch Campus" or Headquarters.

Meanwhile, in response to the poor leadership shown by university administrators, some elected members of AdCil found AdCil-in-Exile, which becomes Madcil, which becomes Nonstop AdCil, and finally ends up as the Executive Council–ExCil. The main frustration which creates ExCil is the feeling that normal college governance channels are not being allowed to function for the planning of the future of the institution. ExCil fills that need, and is now the primary governance structure of Nonstop Antioch.

The faculty have their own curricular planning continuing. They hold two retreats, in March and May. Community members working on Nonstop Antioch determine the need for coordination of the necessary functions, and develop an "Executive Collective" of coordinators: Educational Offerings,

Administration, and External Relations. The Executive Collective, ExCil, the CRF, the faculty, Community Government, and as many alumni, students, staff, and villagers as we can get are working – nonstop – on Nonstop.

That is the quick version where we're at. But I'd also like to say a few words about why we are where we're at.

Many people have spoken about how they "hope" that Antioch can be saved. "Hope," in my mind, means that you desire something to happen which is outside of your control, and that someone else will accomplish this desire. Throughout the last year, the vast majority of us have had "hope" that "the negotiations" would succeed. We can still hope for that. However, our consistent response to setbacks at the board level has been not depression, but resolution. Resolution to organize so we could do whatever **we could** do, whoever we happened to be.

By that reasoning, I do not have "hope" that Nonstop will succeed. I have optimism. I have the optimism that we have the talent, money, energy, and determination to make the right things happen. It's in our hands, nobody else's. I have optimism that you all will join us.

