Black Alumni Reunion 2016 • Sept. 15-18
Frequently Asked Questions

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS

o Who can I contact for information on the BAR?
Please feel encouraged to call your OHIO Alumni Association (OAA) at 740-593-4300 or send an email to alumni@ohio.edu with any event or registration questions.

o When will the list of BAR events be made available?
A basic weekend schedule is available NOW at https://www.ohio.edu/alumni/involve/Black-Alumni-Reunion-2016.cfm. As other events are suggested to the BAR Planning Committee, once approved the schedule will be updated. Check back often!

o Will I have to register to attend official BAR events?
Yes. The official registration page will be live the first week of June. You can find it here at: https://www.ohio.edu/alumni/involve/Black-Alumni-Reunion-2016.cfm.

o Is there a fee to register for BAR 2016 Weekend?
No. While there is no fee to register for the weekend, some events have fees associated with them. Please check out the registration page for details.

o Why should I register for BAR 2016?
Registration is FREE. And, if you do register for the weekend, you’ll get to pick up an official BAR2016 t-shirt when you arrive in Athens. Please check out the registration page for details.

o What is the registration deadline?
The registration deadline for BAR is Friday, Sept. 9.

o What are the costs to attend official BAR events?
Event prices range from complimentary to $60. All admission fees will be listed on the registration page during the first week of June.

o Will any of my event fees be applied to a scholarship fund?
No. You have the chance to make a gift to a scholarship fund, of your choosing, directly from the registration page.

o Can I pay at the door for official BAR events?
Same-day registration is available at all official BAR events except for the BAR GALA. You must register for the BAR Gala by Friday, September 9.

o What if my plans change and I need to cancel my registration?
No problem. Give us a call, and we’ll take care of you (740-593-4300).
Black Alumni Reunion 2016 • Sept. 15-18
Frequently Asked Questions

EVENT and ACTIVITY QUESTIONS

○ What is the process for planning a non-sponsored OAA event in conjunction with BAR?
Please contact David Bambrey at bambrey@ohio.edu or at 740-593-4308, to discuss your event idea. Non-sponsored events will be supported on a first-come, first-served basis, as approved by the BAR Planning Committee.

○ Why do additional BAR events posted on social media not appear on the official BAR registration website?
Only those events that are approved by the 2016 BAR Planning Committee are posted on the official BAR registration website.

○ Will there be any BAR events for alumni to network and interact with the students?
Yes. The BAR Planning Committee has approved a Student and Alumni Networking Luncheon for Friday, September 16. Please check the official BAR registration page for more details.

○ Will Dr. McDavis be recognized at an official BAR event for his service and contributions to Ohio University?
Yes. Dr. McDavis will be formally recognized at the BAR Gala on Friday, September 16.

○ Will Black Alumni and staff/faculty (deceased or alive) be honored and recognized during BAR?
Yes. The official BAR Planning Committee is currently working on a memorial exhibit to be displayed in Baker University Center throughout the weekend. More details to come soon.

○ Will I be permitted to sell my products or services during BAR?
If you're interested in selling products or services during BAR, we ask that you work through the same vendor process that all alumni must work through when interested in selling goods on campus. You may reserve tables outside of Baker Center as external partners for a cost of $100 a day. To do so, please visit https://www.ohio.edu/eventservices/reservation/ for more information or to reserve space. Please note that this is a change in policy since the last BAR.

○ I heard that I might see some enhanced security measures at events on campus. Is that true? Why?
Yes. OHIO is a public university with public spaces and large venues that host events with lots of guests. The Ohio University Police Department (OUPD) does its best to ensure those events are safe by implementing measures that are consistent with best practices and Homeland Security guidance. That means you can expect things like a more visible police presence, controlled entrances, and bag checks.

As the OAA plans BAR, we’ll work with OUPD to make sure that it’s a safe and enjoyable weekend. At this point in our nation’s history we are seeing increased concern about acts of terrorism at public events, while also seeing increasingly strained relations between the police service and their communities. OUPD is aware of these contradictory considerations and is sensitive to the need to make sure people feel safe, while not causing undue concern. Maintaining as safe an environment as possible, while also being sensitive to the anxiety that an increased police presence might create, will be our primary goal.
LOGISTICS QUESTIONS

**o Will shuttles be available to transport people between the hotels and official BAR events?**
Yes. Complimentary shuttle services will be provided throughout the weekend for official BAR events. More information will be posted closer to the event date.

**o Will designated parking be available on campus for official BAR events?**
No. Because parking on campus is limited, there will not be designated parking for official BAR events. However, FREE shuttle service will be provided throughout the weekend (see above). Please visit the parking website at [https://www.ohio.edu/parking/](https://www.ohio.edu/parking/) for more information.

**o Why are hotel rooms booked and not available during BAR?**
Athens proper has only 500 hotel rooms. As soon as the dates for BAR were released, the hotels experienced an immediate surge in reservation requests. When calling area hotels, you may request to be placed on a waiting list. Check back with the hotels often as rooms may become available daily as individuals’ plans change. There are lodging options in surrounding communities. Those may be found by connecting to the website for the Athens Visitors Bureau ([http://athensohio.com/](http://athensohio.com/)) or the Athens Chamber of Commerce ([http://athenschamber.com/custom-slug/accommodations/](http://athenschamber.com/custom-slug/accommodations/)).

**o Will the OAA provide discount codes for hotels?**
The OHIO Alumni Association did not book blocks for hotels therefore all prices are set by the hotels themselves. There are no discount codes available.
Black Alumni Reunion 2016 • Sept. 15-18
Frequently Asked Questions

OTHER QUESTIONS

o Why isn’t the BAR being held in the Spring?
BAR must be held when there is space available at Baker University Center. Given that Baker is, first and foremost, a facility for students – and funded with student fees – student activities are slated first, then, are followed by those for faculty, staff, and alumni based on availability. In any given spring, there can be upwards of 4,500 individual events taking place across the Athens campus. Therefore, BAR must take place when there is availability both at Baker and within the Athens community.

o Will BAR ever happen more often?
There are no plans to change the every-three-year BAR tradition. There are other opportunities to come back campus, including the annual spring “On The Green Weekend,” which has incorporated a number of special reunions including for alumni of Gospel Voices of Faith, the Russ College’s Department of Aviation, the LGBT community, and Student Senate. The OAA welcomes alumni to come home anytime!

o How much money has been donated in recognition of BAR?
BAR has a rich philanthropic tradition. In 1989, reunion organizers worked with The Ohio University Foundation to establish the National Black Alumni Scholarship Fund. Over 27 years, 1,260 alumni and friends have committed more $450,000 to that endowment. During BAR 1998, Patricia Ackerman (BA ’66) proposed an African American Alumni Heritage Wall, now located in the East Portico of Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium. Project donors support a scholarship and may have a name inscribed onto the wall. To date, 293 donors have contributed more than $43,500 to the project. The Ebony Bobcat Network began raising funds in earnest in 2011 to support the Ebony Bobcat Network Urban Scholarship endowment. In just five years, 381 donors have committed more than $105,000 to that endowment. Total giving tied directly to BAR: $598,500.

o I heard that there is a long-term strategy to eliminate BAR. Is this true?
Absolutely not! BAR is an OHIO tradition and there are no plans to discontinue the reunion. In the future, as long-term strategies are discussed, all OHIO reunion and alumni programming will continue to develop and evolve. We are confident that celebrating OHIO’s Black Alumni – and other diverse populations – will continue to be priority for OHIO and the OAA.