

Alumna Valerie Koch joins AU Board of Trustees

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Valerie Eiss Koch, a 1957 alumna of Alfred University with a BFA degree from the School of Art & Design, is the newest member of the University's Board of Trustees. "I am delighted Mrs. Koch accepted an appointment to our Board of Trustees," said Peter Cuneo, chairman of the Board. "She brings a strong background in business, and an understanding of the University as an alumna to the Board." Koch, a resident of Derby, spent more than 30 years working for New Era, a family-owned business with locations in Buffalo and Derby, NY, as well as in Canada and Europe. She began in 1972 as secretary-treasurer for the company founded by Ehrhardt Koch. An integral member of the management team, she worked in numerous capacities including marketing and design, catalog copywriting, and managing the design and embroidery of all logos. Today, New Era is the exclusive maker of caps for Major League Baseball and makes headgear under license for colleges, the National Hockey League, and the National Basketball Association. The company is 100-percent owned by the Koch family. Koch's late husband, David C. Koch was chief executive officer; he was succeeded by their oldest son, Christopher, who continues in the role of president. The company received the Galanis Award for Excellence in Family Business from Alfred University's College of Business in 2006. Koch begins her three-year term on the Alfred University Board of Trustees at its meeting in May. She will serve on the Enrollment Management, Facilities and Grounds, Strategic Planning and Student Affairs committees.