

STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION
UIUC Chapter Executive Committee
Clark-Lindsey, Simon Dining Room
<http://www.suaa-ui.org>
Minutes for December 9, 2015

Attending: Pam Cler, Barbara Hartman, Athalia Hunt, Jane Loeb, Bob Rich, Steve Rugg, Helen Satterthwaite, Rick Schoell, Terri Palumbo, Ginny Waaler, Ron Webbink, Bill Williamson

I. President's Report

A. Call to Order was issued by President Barbara Hartman at 1:35 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes for November 11, 2015 was moved, seconded (Rich, Schoell) and passed.

III. Review of schedule of meetings:

A. Exec Committee Meetings for 2016: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 9.

IV. President's Report

Hartman reported that she and others had represented the chapter at the Directors' Meeting. She also plans to attend monthly lunches with staff that Linda Brookhart is starting. She reported the suggestion that chapters sponsor new members for a year to help build membership.

V. Treasurer's Report Treasurer Webbink pointed out that the checking account had gained this year, so we are in good financial shape. He noted that the chapter had received the University's reimbursement for the Annuitant costs they were to pick up. This payment is not yet reflected in the report, however. Acceptance of the report was moved, seconded (Rich, Schoell), and passed.

NOTE: When purchasing anything where an invoice is sent to the UIUC-SUAA Chapter, please have it sent to Ron Webbink's on-campus address (103 Astronomy, 1002 W. Green, MC221, Urbana, IL. 61801), so the bill can be paid promptly. E-mail: rwebbink@illinois.edu.

VI. Action Item

- A. Debriefings: 1. Fall Directors' Meeting. The chapter was represented by 5 members. Those in attendance noted that there now seemed to be a general understanding of the need for a full financial report. Also, there is a plan to pursue a strategic plan, now that the bylaws have been revised. However, it seemed unclear to some in attendance the extent to which there is general recognition that "pension reform" is not a dead issue—there will be more need for action on this front. Rugg noted that the cost of the last round of advocacy was the cause of the deficit spending to begin with.
2. Retirement Planning Conference. We contributed \$1200 last year to cosponsor this event, and Terri Palumbo recommended continuation. She noted that HR had tried to make SUAA more visible by placing our talk earlier in the program. Bill Williamson noted that we were not geared up to follow up on names of attendees, lessening the importance of HR's inability to provide them. General support was expressed for continued support, and it was moved and seconded (Rugg, Williamson) that support at the \$1200 level continue this year.

VII. Reporting Items

A. Membership: Terri Palumbo provided a two-month report for October and November, since details had not been available previously for October. Membership was essentially constant

from the beginning of October to the end of November, from 2056 to 2049. The changes consisted of 12 members who died, 16 new members, 22 non-renewals, and 11 rejoiners.

- B. Legislative Committee/Political Action: 1. Schoell reported that the Senate had met the day before and passed almost the entire appropriations bill, absent funds for higher education, and the Governor would sign this bill. The next scheduled session starts January 13th. He further noted the Kacich News Gazette report that Cullerton had approached McMillan with questions including how the University was managing to pay everyone, etc., with no state funds. In discussion, several members expressed concern that this and other questions were directed to the Board of Trustees rather than the President. It was also noted that Eastern Illinois University had announced it expected it could make it through the spring term, though earlier there had been concern about whether EIU would have a spring term. Concern was expressed about some of the other state schools, however. 2. It was noted that “pension reform” would again be taken up in the spring session, with most effects falling on current employees. Another attempt to revise the COLA (AAI) would not be surprising, however. The issue of SUAA support for candidates in primary races was discussed, with general consensus that the organization would be better off not doing so.
- C. Communications committee: nothing to report.
- D. Newsletter: The final production schedule for the spring newsletter awaits the decision on which of the two dates offered the speaker will be selected.
- E. Benefits: Bill Williamson indicated that there was not much to add to his report on this week’s meeting of the Senate Benefits Committee. He noted that he will find out whether or not SUAA can have a table at the seminar to be held for those who are 2 to 3 years from retirement.

VIII. New Business: Barbara Hartman appointed Rich, Waaler, and Rugg as the nominating committee, and they agreed to serve. It was noted that talents needed include development and organizing interesting meetings, and website skills (since Gary Engelgau wants to be relieved of the website). Candidates must be agreed to before the Newsletter goes to print. The desirability of having current employees on the EC was noted.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m. Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 13, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.