



www.suaa-ui.org

The Annuitant

A publication of the UIUC Chapter
State Universities Annuitants Association

Fall 2018

Pam Cler, Editor

SUAA-UIUC Ad-Hoc Committee on Pensions will Report at the Fall Meeting - October 28, 2018

Kathleen Holden

The SUAA-UIUC Fall meeting will be held on Sunday, October 28 in the Technology Room at the I-Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign. The afternoon begins with a **social time at 1:30 p.m. and the formal session will start at 2:00 p.m.**

Our chapter is fortunate to have an experienced group of chapter members who are working on pension subjects of importance to our retirees. Specifically, they are pro-actively developing strategies to address actual or anticipated issues that relate to or concern our members' pensions or benefits, with the preferred objective of coordinating our chapter's advocacy activities with the University of Illinois and SUAA.

Please join members of the Ad-Hoc group, Bill Adams, Bob Rich, Steve Rugg and Rick Schoell as they discuss proposed changes to our pension system and how we can learn about and participate in the discussions. Rick Winkel, also a member of the group and President of our chapter, will moderate the panel, which will explore the following questions:

- What is the role of our chapter in the legislative process?
- How important is it for our chapter to be proactive as advocates, or should we wait and see what happens in the legislative process and react?

(Cont on page 2)

President's Message

Richard Winkel

The UIUC Chapter of the SUAA remains focused on advocating for the protection of our pensions and benefits. We continue to face a chorus of prolonged and repetitive attacks in the public square pushing for changes to our pension system.

For these reasons, we believe that the Ad Hoc Pension Working Group (PWG) should continue its work. PWG is pro-actively developing strategies, subject to approval of the Executive Committee, to address actual or anticipated legislative issues that relate to or concern our members' pensions or benefits with the preferred objective of coordinating our chapter's advocacy activities with the University of Illinois and SUAA.

SUAA has been successful in the past and we are grateful. Several lawsuits have been decided in favor of our annuitants by holding that legislative attempts to impair our pensions or benefits violated the non-impairment clause of the state constitution and by ensuring the provision of health care benefits for annuitants. While this is impressive, this is not the time to rest on past victories.

The gubernatorial and legislative races that will be decided in the November 6, 2018 general election will almost certainly result in significant changes to the political landscape in state government. There could be a new governor and 40-50 new state legislators.

With the changes in Springfield that will rapidly emerge after November, our failing to prepare to take action now - deciding to "wait and see" - could jeopardize gains from our recent victories.

(Cont on page 2)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SUAA-UIUC CHAPTER
2018-19**

** designates elected positions*

~ OFFICERS ~

President

Richard Winkel, Jr. * - *Legislative*

Vice President

William Adams * - *Legislative*

Secretary

Penny Nigh * - *Secretary/Membership*

Treasurer

Ron Webbink *

~ OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ~

Jennifer Creasey * - *Legislative*

Tanya M. Gallagher * - *Legislative*

Kathleen Holden * - *Program*

Wynne Sandra Korr * - *Legislative*

Carol Livingstone * - *Communications &
Webmaster*

Robert Rich* - *Legislative*

Steve Rugg * - *Legislative &
Big 10 Retirees Conference*

Deb Stone * - *Benefits*

Susan Trippiedi * - *Program/Arrangements*

~ OTHER COMMITTEES ~

Mary Beastall - *Benefits*

Pam Cler - *Newsletter*

Barbara Hartman - *Membership*

Katharine Kral - *Big 10 Retirees Conference*

Helen Satterthwaite - *Legislative*

Rick Schoell - *Legislative*

H. F. (Bill) Williamson - *Benefits/Membership*

~ LIAISONS ~

Athalia Hunt - *Campus*

Helen Satterthwaite - *Clark-Lindsey*

~ STATE SUAA LEADERSHIP ~

H. F. (Bill) Williamson - *Foundation*

(Fall Meeting - cont from page 1)

- What is the bond-financed buyouts of pension benefits that passed in the spring session (in the BIMP bill), and are there concerns about how it might be implemented?
- What advice is there about reported efforts to change the Illinois Constitution?

Following these reports, members will be encouraged to provide feedback. We hope you can attend; these are critical issues and we need to have broad input from current and future retirees.

(President's Message - cont from page 1)

Rather than wait-and-see what happens after the election, we need to pro-actively develop our goals and objectives now and be prepared to meet head-on any proposed post-election changes that impair our pensions or benefits, especially for current and future employees.

Accordingly, we must remain vigilant and pro-active to ensure our pensions and benefits are protected and remain whole.

**The Campus Charitable Fund Drive
Retiree Booklet
can be found between
pages 6 and 7 in this newsletter.**

**Classic Original i-card Becoming Invalid
on February 1, 2019**

If you still use your i-card for identification or card-based service, and it is the classic version (white background with i-card logo in the upper left corner), it will be permanently deactivated on February 1, 2019. For more information on how to replace your old i-card, point your web browser to www.icardnet.uillinois.edu/public/goodbye.cfm or call the ID center at 217-244-0135.

Proposed 2018-19 Legislative Principles, Successes, and Activities

Robert Rich & Richard Winkel

*(Committee: William Adams, Jennifer Creasey, Tanya Gallagher,
Wynne Sandra Korr, Steve Rugg, Helen Satterthwaite, Rick Schoell)*

The Legislative Committee of the Urbana Chapter of the SUAA operates according to a set of legislative principles:

Legislative Principles

- Achieving fiscal stability as soon as possible is the most critical step for Illinois state government. Our state continues to face enormous structural deficit and budget problems. No effective long-term planning or progress is possible without stability.
- No single mechanism is sufficient to achieve fiscal stability. A combination of budget cuts, budget reform and new revenue measures is required.
- Higher Education is critically important to economic growth for Illinois, both in terms of delivering a technologically sophisticated work force and in generating new business growth via commercialization of university-based research and development.
- Competitive benefit programs are essential to attract and retain faculty and staff to sustain higher education's role in economic development.
- University leaders, current employees and annuitants must work together to address benefit and state budget issues.
- Current retirement programs for higher education and other public employees in Illinois are not overly generous. Indeed, most institutions with which the University of Illinois competes for talented faculty and staff invest substantially more in retirement programs for their employees. Unlike Illinois, virtually all such programs combine Social Security and supplemental institutional benefits.

SUAA's Legislative Successes

Several lawsuits have been resolved recently which protected benefits to our annuitants by reaffirming that the retirement provisions enacted in PA 98-599 violated the non-impairment clause of the state constitution as well as ensuring the provision of health care benefits to annuitants. SUAA established a legal fund to retain counsel to represent SUAA members in these court cases and is prepared to retain counsel in the future if needed.

Illinois' 2012 general election ballot included a Constitutional Amendment proposed by the General Assembly that would have changed benefit processes. The language of the proposed Amendment was confusing and its purposes obscure and unclear. A leading expert on the Illinois Constitution characterized the proposal as "catastrophic." SUAA established a ballot initiative group, separate from SUAA, and successfully worked to defeat the Amendment.

Given the state's current deficit and worst-in-the-nation pension funding (attributable to the state's failure to pay the employer's share for the program) it is certain that new pension reform legislation and possibly constitutional amendments will be forth coming.

Accordingly, we must remain vigilant and active to ensure our benefits are protected and remain whole. Employees have paid every penny required of them, and SURS investment earnings have exceeded benchmarks.

Our legislative committee is active in:

- Assessing and analyzing proposed legislative bills
 - Monitoring the work of the General Assembly on pensions and benefits.
 - Monitoring legislative actions on possible revenue measures (a so-called "fair tax"), funding of higher education, the structure of higher education and other reforms as they relate to P to 12 education and criminal justice reforms.
 - Publishing a statement outlining what is required to pass a constitutional amendment in Illinois.
- Meeting with legislators who represent districts that include the U of I to assess how we can work together.
- Meeting with University administrators to determine how we can work together with them to advance the University's positions.

It is important to point out that the focus of this work is relevant for the interests of annuitants as well as current employees.

Benefits Report

Mary Beastall, Deb Stone, and H. F. (Bill) Williamson

Since we are in a changing environment with regard to benefits issues, it is important that members keep informed through the SUAA Chapter and State websites. The State Universities Retirement System (SURS) and Central Management Services (CMS) websites are also good resources. The contact information for these websites appears on page 6 in this newsletter.

Claim Payment Delay:

Funding availability for the Quality Care Health Plan, HealthLink OAP, Aetna OAP and Quality Care Dental Plan is based on State revenue which fluctuates from month to month. Claim payments are released according to available funding. This is a reminder that updated information regarding such delays appears on the CMS website under State Employee benefits (Claim Payment Delays). A late payment will include an interest payment on claims that take longer than 30 days.

Benefits Choice Periods:

The CMS Benefits Choice period for Medicare-eligible annuitants and their Medicare-eligible dependents is in the fall. An annuitant who is Medicare-eligible will not qualify for this period if that annuitant has a dependent who is not eligible for Medicare on the annuitant's health insurance through the State. During the Benefits Choice period, an annuitant may choose to opt out of health insurance. When opting out, an annuitant may lose other benefits. Be sure to read the CMS information carefully before making a decision. Thus far any annuitant and dependent must be Medicare-eligible before the beginning of the Benefits Choice period, the date being determined by CMS.

The Benefits Choice period for annuitants and dependents who are not Medicare-eligible is in the spring. Again, be sure to read the opting out information carefully.

CMS has hired an online vendor to assist with the administration of the State's insurance programs. Members will view and make changes to their coverage through the MyBenefits Marketplace website. According to the SURS website, SURS will no longer assist with processing health insurance coverage for its members, but members have the option to call a State group insurance customer service representative (1-844-251-1777) or TTY 1-844-251-1778). Detailed information will be included in the Benefits Choice materials.

Flu Shots:

Free flu shots have been available in the fall at McKinley Health Center for employees and retirees in the State insurance plan. Be sure to monitor the McKinley website (mckinley.illinois.edu) or the CMS website for updated information and dates. Flu shots for seniors are available at some pharmacies and other entities, and these are usually covered by insurance.

Did You Know?

The members of the Chapter Benefits Committee will continue to review and update the information on benefits available to retirees and other annuitants in issues of *The Annuitant* and on the Chapter website (<http://suua-ui.org>). Most of these will be of interest wherever these individuals are living. Some benefits will be principally for those living in the Champaign-Urbana area. These include (a) benefits associated with I-Cards; (b) access to Faculty/Staff Assistance Services; (c) clinics in departments on the UIUC campus providing various services and (d) programs and facilities available to promote fitness and improved health.

Access through I-Cards. Retirees with I-Cards have access to many benefits on campus and in the community. If a retiree does not have an I-Card, that retiree should go to the Illini Union Bookstore ID Center on the first floor. Retiree status will be verified and an I-Card issued. In addition to benefits on campus, the I-Card serves as a free pass on any Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (MTD) bus.

Faculty/Staff Assistance Services. The services of this office are available free of charge for employees, retirees and family members or significant others living in their households. Services include assessments, short-term counseling, crisis services, and referrals to appropriate resources. The offices are located at 1101 West Springfield, Urbana. (URL <http://humanresources.illinois.edu/fsas>; phone - 217-244-5312).

Audiology Clinic and Speech-Language Pathology Clinic. These are both in the Department of Speech and Hearing Science. The Audiology Clinic (217-333-2230) provides services to individuals of all ages who may be experiencing hearing difficulties, with such services including hearing assessment. The Speech-Language Pathology Clinic (217-333-2205) serves individuals of all ages who have communicative impairments. Further information is available on the departmental website <http://shs.illinois.edu/clinics>.

Fitness/Exercise Programs & Facilities

SilverSneakers Programs. All SilverSneakers members have access to facilities and wellness programs throughout the country. For a listing of facilities and more information, visit SilverSneakers at: <https://www.silversneakers.com>.

The Lifetime Fitness Program. This program is sponsored by the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health and is designed for residents of the Champaign-Urbana area who are age 55 or older. The program has also teamed up with Silver Sneakers, thus giving access to facilities and some classes at no cost and providing a discount for other classes. Activities include group fitness, individual training and aquatics. Members of OLLI receive a 20% discount on fees. Further information can be found at:

<http://lifetimefitnessprogram.kch.illinois.edu>.

Campus Recreation. Retirees may continue (or start!) using Campus Recreation facilities such as CRCE and the ARC for an annual fee of \$480 which can be paid by having a monthly fee of \$40 deducted from their SURS annuity. Your spouse/partner can be added for an annual fee of \$276. More information about membership is available at the Campus Recreation website: <http://www.campusrec.illinois.edu/>.

Walking in UI Armory. Those who are interested in walking for fitness at the UI Armory may not be aware that seniors 55 and over may purchase a lifetime registration for \$25 rather than pay the \$3 daily. Visit the website at the following URL: www.uiarmory.com or call 217-333-8333 for further information.

Stay Informed About Your Benefits

Within SUAA, you can visit the state web site at www.suaa.org and the UIUC chapter website at www.suaa-ui.org. We recommend that you contact Central Management Systems concerning questions about health care benefits and the State Universities Retirement System about your annuity. Contact information for those offices and further information about what is available on those sites is shown on the next page.

IMPORTANT

TRAIL OPEN ENROLLMENT!!

The TRAIL Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MAPD) Open Enrollment Period for the 2019 plan year will be October 15 - November 15, 2018. Informational seminars will be held statewide to give eligible retirees and survivors an opportunity to learn about the Total Retiree Advantage Illinois (TRAIL) Program. A list of seminar dates and locations will be mailed to you if you are eligible this year for TRAIL. Topics included eligibility criteria and an explanation of the benefits provided through the Program. More information at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/cms/benefits/trail/Pages/default>

State Universities Retirement System (SURS)

URL: <http://surs.com/>

Phone: 800-ASK-SURS (800-275-7877) or 217.378-8800. Fax: 217.378-9800

Mailing Address: SURS, P.O. Box 2710, Champaign, IL 61825-2710

Street Address: 1901 Fox Drive, Champaign, Illinois 61820

The SURS website provides access to a wide variety of topics and events of interest to its members.

Retirees can register at the “Member Website Login” link at the top of the home page. Once registered, you will have a personal homepage with information about your annuity and payment history. You can also change your address, beneficiaries, phone number/email address and federal tax withholding status. SURS also has a kiosk computer station in their lobby for its members.

MyBenefits Marketplace

URL: <https://mybenefits.illinois.gov/>

Phone: 844-251-1777 or 844-251-1778 (TTY)

MyBenefits is an online vendor that administers the State’s insurance programs. Any changes to members’ insurance coverage is now done through the MyBenefits Marketplace website. SURS will no longer assist with processing health insurance coverage for its members. However, members have the option to call a State group insurance customer service representative at the number above.

Central Management Services (CMS)

Employees Benefits pages for State Employees:

URL: <http://www.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/benefits/StateEmployee/Pages/default.aspx>

Phone: 800-442-1300 or 217-524-4784
TTY: 866-277-5669

CMS uses your information on file with SURS.
Remember to keep your personal information up to date with SURS

State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA)

SUAA advocates on behalf of State Universities Retirement System retirees, current employees, and their dependents and survivors to preserve retirement and healthcare benefits.

URL: www.suaa.org

Phone: 217-523-4040

Address: 217 East Monroe Street, Ste 100
Springfield, IL 62701

Email: suaa@suaa.org

Your SUAA-UIUC chapter now has a presence on Facebook!

Find us on 

Search for SUAA UIUC

CCEFD 2018

AGENCY BROCHURE
& PLEDGE FORMS



GIVING
SPARKS
HOPE

CAMPUS CHARITABLE
FUND DRIVE

GOALS

\$1.5 MILLION

25% EMPLOYEE
PARTICIPATION

September 1, 2018

Dear University of Illinois Retiree,

Thank you for your continued support of the **Campus Charitable Fund Drive**. Last year, our campaign generated more than \$1.35 million from retirees and employees to support local area and national social service, advocacy, and community organizations.

The 2018 CCFD Campaign will kick off on Monday, September 17, 2018 and conclude on Friday, November 9, 2018. This critical campaign benefits the surrounding community in immeasurable ways. The nonprofit organizations to which you can contribute through the CCFD are dedicated to improving lives locally and nationally. From American Heart Association and United Way of Champaign County to Community Shares of Illinois and the United Negro College Fund, the amazing and hard-working people of these organizations make sure that your money helps those who need it most. Please remember that 100% of your donation through the CCFD will go directly to the charity or charities you select. Your contributions make real differences in our community.

Take a moment to select the charity that inspires you, complete the CCFD Pledge Form and send it in along with your check or money order. Contributions are tax deductible. You may also make your pledge on the CCFD website: ccfd.illinois.edu

We thank you for your past generosity and appreciate your contributions to the 2018 CCFD Campaign. Give us a call at 217-265-6398 or email us at ccfd@illinois.edu, if you have questions or visit the CCFD website at ccfd.illinois.edu

Warmest Regards,



Jeff Brown, Dean – Gies College of Business
Co-Chair, 2018 Campus Charitable Fund Drive



Alma Sealine, Director of Housing
Co-Chair, 2018 Campus Charitable Fund Drive

2018 Campus Charitable Fund Drive Retiree Pledge Form - (please print)

Name (First and Last)	Email (for CCFD use only)		
Phone	UIN (if available)	Retirement Year	
Address	City	State	ZIP
Department Unit University of Illinois Department/Unit to whom you wish this contribution to be credited. You may select the department from which you retired or a department of your choice.	Release information <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT wish to be contacted by the Agency <input type="checkbox"/> I DO wish to receive acknowledgement from the Agency for my contribution		
Select from the 12 Umbrella Agencies: Your check should be payable to one of the 12 Umbrella Agency listed below. If you wish, you may also pay the charity or charities directly and provide CCFD a copy of the receipt with this form. Receipt must reflect that your charitable contribution was made within the dates of CC Fund Drive.			
American Cancer Society	American Heart Association	America's Best Charities	
Amerca's Charities	Black United Fund	Community Health Charities of Illinois	
Community Shares of Illinois	EarthShare of Illinois	Global Impact	
Special Olympics Illinois	United Negro College Fund	United Way of Champaign County	
Many of the 12 Umbrella Agencies allow you to select specific DESIGNATIONS and you may contribute to one or more designations. Complete the form with the name of the Umbrella Agency and then specify the designation and the amount to each designation.			
Umbrella Agency Name			
Designation		Amount	\$
Designation		Amount	\$
Designation		Amount	\$
Designation		Amount	\$
Total amount for this Umbrella Agency and associated designations			\$
Umbrella Agency Name			
Designation		Amount	\$
Designation		Amount	\$
Total amount for this Umbrella Agency and associated designations			\$
Send Pledge Form to: Campus Charitable Fund Drive Office of the Chancellor Swanlund Administration Building, MC-304 601 E. John St., Champaign, IL 61820			

Participating Agencies



American Cancer Society

When you support the American Cancer Society, you are joining a worldwide movement to help people stay well, help people get well, find cures, and fight back against cancer. (800) 319-2345
www.cancer.org | 27.9%

American Heart Association

The American Heart Association is the nation's oldest, largest voluntary organization devoted to fighting cardiovascular diseases and stroke. (217) 698-3838
www.heart.org | 20.9%

America's Best Charities

Feeding the hungry. Sheltering the homeless. Protecting the children. And healing the sick. America's finest independent charities. Working with you to share - the American way. (800) 477-0733
www.independentcharities.org | 5.9%

America's Charities

Working to build strong communities. Addressing needs of children, families, communities through member programs by helping employers and employees support our member charities' programs. (800) 458-9505
www.charities.org | 4.3%

Black United Fund of Illinois

A self-help organization that provides financial and technical support to projects that improve the quality of life in African-American communities throughout Illinois. (773) 324-0494
www.bufi.org | 4.1%

Community Health Charities of Illinois

Partnering with Illinois' most trusted health Charities to deliver community focused volunteer activities and credible health information and efficient charitable giving to employees in the workplace. (312) 332-0198
www.illinois.healthcharities.org | 5.6%

Community Shares of Illinois

Community Shares of Illinois represents a diverse group of charities with a common mission - to make our world a better place. (217) 352-6533
www.communitysharesillinois.org | 7.8%

EarthShare Illinois

An alliance of leading nonprofit environmental and conservation charities, working across Illinois and the nation to protect human health and the environment. (312) 795-3740
www.earthshare-illinois.org | 8.4%

Global Impact

Supports respected and effective international charities to address critical humanitarian issues throughout the world, such as disaster response, human trafficking, education, malaria, water and hunger. (800) 836-4620
www.charity.org | 10.99%

Special Olympics Illinois

Part of an international program, Special Olympics Illinois provides year-round sports training, competition and a variety of skill-building opportunities for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. (309) 888-2551
www.soill.org | 22.6%

United Negro College Fund

Helping young people go to and graduate from college has been UNCF's number one priority since 1944. Your donation will send the next generation of leaders to college and provide the support and tools they need to succeed in their studies. (312) 845-2200
www.uncf.org | 10%

United Way of Champaign County

Our community impact fund is being invested toward our three community goals of Education; Health and Financial Stability. There are 39 funded programs that address impact in those areas. (217) 352-5151
www.uwayhelps.org | 14.6%

Just For Retirees

Frequently Asked Questions about the Campus Charitable Fund Drive

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Q. What are the dates of the 2018 CCFD Campaign?

A. The 2018 CCFD Campaign runs from September 17 – November 9, 2018. We will accept contributions from retirees for the 2018 CCFD Campaign up until the end of the year.

Q. How do I donate?

A. Complete the Pledge Form and return it with your check or money order. You may also make your pledge online at ccfd.illinois.edu. If your UIN is available, please have that number when you make an online contribution.

Q. What non-profits can I donate to?

A. You may donate to one of the twelve CCFD Agencies directly. You may also donate to any of the designated nonprofits listed under each agency. The complete list of CCFD Agencies and their designations can be found at www.ccfid.illinois.edu/agencies

Q. Does my gift count towards the goal for the University Department/Unit from which I retired?

A. You may select which department/unit gets credit for your donation. The Retiree Pledge Form has a box to complete regarding whom you would like to receive credit for your contribution.

Q. How is Release of Information handled?

A. You may specify how or if you wish to be contacted. On the Pledge Form,

Select one of two boxes:

I **DO NOT** wish to be contacted by the Agency

I **DO** wish to receive acknowledgement from the Agency for my contribution

Q. I have given directly to the United Way in the past and plan to continue to do that this year. Can I receive CCFD credit for my direct contribution to United Way?

A. If your contribution to United Way occurs during the 2018 CCFD Campaign, it may be counted. CCFD works closely with the United Way of Champaign County to ensure both campaigns give the donor credit for your generous contribution. When giving to United Way, let them know you are a University of Illinois retiree (including department) and would like to receive CCFD credit for your donation. If you give to United Way through the 2018 CCFD Campaign, United Way will be informed of your gift.

Q. What if I want to give to a charity that is not listed as part of the 12 umbrella agencies (for list of charities under CCFD go to ccfd.illinois.edu/agencies)?

A. Other United Way or Local Charitable Organization. If you wish to donate to a (501)c3 that is not part of the CCFD Campaign, choose this designation, then submit your check or receipt as usual. Include the name, address and phone number of the (501)c3. CCFD will provide the specific name of the (501)c3 to United Way and United Way will route the money accordingly after imposing a 6% designation fee not to exceed \$60.00 for one year.

Q. What is I want to give a stock donation?

A. Please call the CCFD office for instructions.

Q. Where do I mail or drop off my 2018 CCFD Pledge Form?

A. 517 Swanlund Admin Bldg.
601 E. John St. M/C 304
Champaign, IL 61820-571

Q. What if I need more information or have questions?

A. Visit ccfd.illinois.edu, send us an email at ccfd@illinois.edu or call us at 217-265-6398



DONATE NOW!

CCFD is an annual campaign and right now is the best time to help us help someone less fortunate.

You can give on-line and make your pledge.

CCFD comes around just once a year, so don't put off until tomorrow what you can contribute today.



CCFD.ILLINOIS.EDU

217-265-6398

Why You Should Join SUAA . . .

The State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA) represents those of us who are current employees, retired individuals, our spouses and our survivors who will or are receiving benefits from the State Universities Retirement System (SURS).

SUAA is your voice at the Capitol in Springfield and that voice works very hard to make sure state legislators hear ***loud and clear*** what it has to say. SUAA also provides its members with a communication network of emails, legislative bulletins, websites, workshops/meetings so you can stay updated on both local and state issues relative to and focused on pension and healthcare benefits.

Through Voice, Action, Mission and Visibility SUAA . . .

Represented all SURS participants and beneficiaries by suing the State of Illinois for Public Act 98-0599 – Pension Reform; the law that was ruled ***unconstitutional*** by the Illinois Supreme Court, thereby saving the average pensioner hundreds of thousands of dollars during their pension’s lifetime.

Prevented a bill from becoming law that would have created a slippery slope towards abolishing tuition waivers for university personnel – community colleges could be next.

Led the charge to defeat the addition of Section 5.1 to Article XIII of the State Constitution – SUAA CA 49 Ballot Initiative – an initiative that would have been an attack on SURS employees and retirees.

Actively lobbies the legislature to prevent legislation from becoming law that would harm active and retired SURS members, such as attempts to change the “pension clause” in the Illinois Constitution.

Continues support for legislation that strengthens healthcare and pension benefits for SURS members – SUAA acts as your voice in Springfield.

Provides legislative updates through SUAA Mini-Briefings which cover topics of interest that affect everyone in the SURS system.

Works to make sure higher education continues to be a quality commodity in the State of Illinois.

Advocates for an ensured future for the College Insurance Program (CIP health benefits).

Protected faculty who were forced to take furloughs due to revenue shortages caused by the lack of a state budget between fiscal years 2015 to 2016.

Please consider becoming a member of SUAA now and be informed of actions affecting your pension in Springfield. An application form can be found inside the back cover of this publication.

SUAA State & Chapter News

SUAA-UIUC Spring Chapter Meeting, April 22, 2018

H. F. (Bill) Williamson

The 2018 spring meeting of the SUAA-UIUC Chapter was held on Sunday afternoon, April 22. The featured speaker was Applied Health Sciences Professor Wendy A. Rogers who discussed her research on “How Technologies can be Used to Support Successful Aging, Autonomy, and Independence for Older Adults.” Her presentation was well received by those in attendance who look forward to being able to take advantage of the results of this research.

Chapter President Rick Winkel then led a panel discussion by members of the Chapter’s Ad Hoc Committee on Pensions. Rick Schoell discussed legislative issues and noted the key role SUAA members can play our own efforts and through SAAAction. Bill Adams pointed out the problems that could be created by the proposed Tier III Hybrid pension plan particularly with regard to its effect on those in Tier I and Tier II. Steve Rugg discussed the \$107 billion proposed state bond issue to bring the pension systems close to fully funded. The panel also discussed the report prepared for the meeting by Robert Rich about the problems that could arise if a Constitutional Convention were called to address such proposals as a progressive income tax.

In addition, four new candidates for the Executive Committee were elected. Jennifer Creasey, Tanya Gallagher, Wynn Sandra Korr, and Deb Stone. Effective July 1, these four replaced the outgoing members who have completed the maximum of two three-year terms: Pam Cler, Barbara Hartman, Ron Webbink, and H. F. Williamson who were thanked for their dedicated service.

SUAA Foundation

H. F. (Bill) Williamson

I represent the UIUC SUAA Chapter on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the SUAA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that is a separate arm of SUAA. Each chapter of SUAA appoints a Director to the SUAA Foundation Board, and the Board elects the Foundation Executive Committee. The SUAA Foundation has three major purposes:

- (1) To provide for education and dissemination of information regarding issues affecting the welfare of members of SUAA. In this regard, the Foundation provided almost the entire funding for the statewide SUAA Education Campaign. It also funded the luncheon at last June’s Annual Meeting in Springfield at which a representative from Central Management Services discussed how their part of the state benefits system works.
- (2) To support those Chapters establishing Survivor Assistance Programs. For this purpose, the staff at the State Office helped the Foundation Directors to design and disseminate a Survivor Assistance brochure to all Chapters.
- (3) To provide emergency assistance to SUAA members who are in need of financial support.

To meet this purpose, the Foundation Board has approved an **Emergency Assistance Program** to provide support for SUAA members who are facing a sudden need for funds to cope with a crisis situation. Chapter leaders may request assistance of up to \$1500 on behalf of individuals who have been SUAA members for at least five years. If you or someone you know is such an individual, please contact our Chapter President or another member of our Chapter Executive Committee so that the application process can begin.

(Cont on next page)

(SUAA Foundation - cont)

We hope that you will consider providing support to the Foundation so that we can continue these programs. Contributions can be made by mailing a check payable to "SUAA Foundation" to: SUAA Foundation; 217 E. Monroe Street, Suite 100; Springfield, IL 62701. Contributions can also be made by using a credit card through the link available on the state web site.

**Visit our chapter website at
www.suaa-ui.org for news, events
and other resource information
about our pensions.**

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!

The UIUC Chapter of SUAA is looking for a Newsletter Editor

Do you have computer skills to publish a newsletter?

Or....maybe you know someone who has these skills?

This newsletter is published two times each year - in the spring and fall. The project entails assigning articles, generating a layout of submitted articles into a newsletter format, providing camera-ready final copy to local print service, and ordering postal processing through the UIUC campus mailing services. Production timeline is generally 6-8 weeks from the time articles are assigned through delivery by post office to recipients' mail boxes.

Please contact Rick Winkel (rwinkeljr@live.com) to discuss your interest.



IN MEMORIAM

Pam Cler

As a service to readers, below is a listing of deceased employees and annuitants taken from information provided by the Illinois News Bureau at UIUC. The list includes the name, age at death (when known), and the date of death (when known) for those whose death notices appeared between March 1, 2018 and June 21, 2018. *NOTE: While we make an effort to provide a complete list, we apologize for any omissions there may be.*

Anderson, Jennifer Kee, 36, 4/2/18
Baym, Nina, 82, 6/15/18
Beckman, Daniel Lee, 75, 5/5/18
Berns, Thomas B. "Tom", 72, 2/19/18
Blaney, Richard "Dick", 77, 2/24/18
Boehmer, Ray, 71, 4/19/18
Bowden, Lawrence "Larry" Mervin, 83, 4/23/18
Broom, Etha Jereen, 97, 3/12/18
Brown, Charles M., 90, 6/1/18
Brown, Constance "Connie" Ellen, 67, 3/6/18
Cheek, Robert J., 93, 1/25/18
Clennon, Leo J., 96, 4/28/18
Connelly, Susan Kathleen, 69, 5/8/18
Couch, Carole, 80, 3/9/18
Crang, Richard Francis Earl, 81, 4/13/18
Day, Tom Wyles, 89, 5/21/18
Dexter, Joel M., 61, 3/30/18
Dudas, Karen M., 71, 2/23/18
Eichelberger, Dale F. "Marty", 85, 4/29/18
Fink, Clinton Frederick, 85, 3/2/18
Green, Joseph Frederick, 91, 4/15/18
Hayes, Joanne Daugherty, 88, 3/21/18
Henderson, Richard E., 60, 5/7/18
Hiner, Donald Earl, 92, 4/15/18
Hornaday, Kathleen L., 90, 3/23/18
Jean, Thomas E., 75, 4/11/18
Jones, Sue, 70, 3/11/18
Krabbe, Paul, 87, 5/23/18
Landreth, Mildred Alene Maddock, 91, 3/20/18
Larson, Vivian Phyllis, 82, 3/15/18
Maske, Norman C., 76, 6/1/18
Mecum, Maurice "Doc", 90, 3/11/18
Miller, Michele Henriette, 93, 3/19/18
Mink (Shaw), Carolyn G., 59, 5/15/18
Moff, Robert "Bob" Allan, 74, 4/24/18
Moore, Terry D., 77, 3/17/18
Newman, Mary Katherine, 67, 3/20/18
Osterbur, Elmer, 87, 4/20/18
Overmyer, Lois Evelyn, 95, 4/24/18
Percival, Tom, 3/2/18
Pirkle, William H. "Doc", 83, 4/6/18
Ponsler, Eris E., 94, 5/26/18
Rutledge, Rosemary, 78, 3/14/18
Schlesinger, Michael Earl, 75, 4/11/18
Scott, John T., 91, 4/1/18
Seward, Leonard "Lennie" Dean Sr., 80, 4/10/18
Shull, Ruth E., 93, 6/2/18
Slichter, Charles P., 94, 2/19/18
Smith, Helen T., 92, 3/20/18
Sozen, Mete A., 87, 4/5/18
Stark, Nancy Jean, 82, 3/18/18
Stasi, Al Ricco John, 57, 3/30/18
Temperley, Mary Sleator, 93, 4/11/18
Triandis, Pola Fotitch, 87, 3/20/18
Tucker, Christie, 67, 4/29/18
Upah-Bant, Marilyn, 64, 5/2/18
Watkins-Zdrojewski, Penny A., 60, 3/4/18
Watts, Emily Ann Stipes, 81, 3/12/18
Weisman, Dan, 62, 4/27/18
White, Scott R., 55, 5/28/18
Williams, Cora L., 64, 4/7/18



State Universities
Annuitants Association

Please Mail Signed Form To:
217 East Monroe, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62701
217-523-4040

SUAA Membership Application

University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign Chapter
RETIRES ONLY

Select Payment Option:

1. Automatic Dues Deduction (SURS)
2. Annual Payment (Check or Money Order)

Membership Type: _____ Year Retired

- Retiree
- Retiree and Spouse/Partner
- Spouse/Partner
- Surviving Spouse/Partner
- Supporter

Name: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter Dues Amount:

- \$ 3.42 member monthly deduction
- \$ 6.83 member & spouse monthly deduction
- \$ 41.00 single member annual payment
- \$ 82.00 member & spouse annual payment
- \$ _____ SUAA Foundation - Requires separate check
- \$ _____ SUAA Legal Fund – Requires separate check
- \$ _____ SUAAAction – Requires separate check

Signature Required for SURS Dues Deduction:

I hereby authorize the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) to deduct monthly the amount as certified by the UIUC Chapter as the current rate of dues. The deduction will start once the SURS process is complete and will continue until termination is requested in writing.

Signature: _____



State Universities
Annuitants Association

Please Mail Signed Form To:
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Springfield, IL 62701
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SUAA Membership Application

University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign Chapter
EMPLOYEES ONLY

Select Action to Take:

1. Activate Payroll Deduction
2. Terminate Payroll Deduction

Select Employee Pay Schedule:

1. Monthly
2. Bi-weekly

Membership Type:

_____ Active Employee

Employee UIN: _____

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter Dues Amount:

- \$ 3.42 employee's monthly deduction (annual deduction total of \$41.00)
- \$ 1.71 employee's bi-weekly deduction (annual deduction total of \$41.00)

Signature Required for Payroll Deduction:

I hereby authorize the University of Illinois to deduct, each month, the amount as certified by SUAA as the current rate of dues. The initial deduction will begin within 30 days of receipt of this dues deduction authorization by the University of Illinois. The dues deduction will continue until termination is requested in writing.

Signature: _____



State Universities
Annuitants Association

Please Mail Signed Form To:
217 East Monroe, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62701
217-523-4040

SUAA Membership Application

University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign Chapter

CURRENT EMPLOYEES ONLY

ANNUAL CHECK/MONEY ORDER PAYMENT

Membership Type:

- _____ Active Employee (including allied agencies)
- _____ Active Employee and Spouse/Partner
- _____ Spouse/Partner
- _____ Supporter

Name: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
SUAA-UIUC Chapter
364 Henry Administration Building, MC-346
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