



www.suaa-ui.org

The Annuitant

A publication of the UIUC Chapter
State Universities Annuitants Association

Spring 2022

Melinda Carr and Carol Livingstone, Co-Editors

SURS Executive Director Suzanne Mayer to Address Annual Meeting

Debbie Kemphues

The SUAA-UIUC Chapter Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 24, 2022, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held via Zoom (connection details are on page 2 and the SUAA-UIUC website). Starting at 1:30 p.m., participants are welcome to join the Zoom session and chat informally. At 2:00 p.m., Suzanne Mayer, Executive Director of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) will be our speaker. She will be discussing current initiatives and challenges of the organization and how they may impact SURS members.

Following her presentation, she will be joined by Kristen Houch, Director of Legislative and Stakeholder Relations to take questions. These may include providing information and updates about pending budgetary and legislative proposals that could impact our pensions and benefits.

Director Mayer was appointed to this position by the SURS Board of Trustees last December after serving as Interim Executive Director. She is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University with a bachelor's degree in business management and she holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Illinois Springfield. She has been with SURS since 2002 serving most recently as Chief Benefits Officer and Interim Executive Director. She is the first woman to lead SURS since Ruth Ellen Kunkel, the System's original senior administrator who served from 1941 to 1952.

A short business meeting will follow featuring the election of officers (see page 4). Mark your calendars now and plan to join us!

President's Report

John Marlin, President, SUAA-UIUC

As my first term on the Executive Committee nears completion, I am thankful that SURS retirees have not been faced with a major pension issue during the past few years. It is enough to have dealt with COVID-19 and the numerous local, national, and global social and political challenges. It was not that long ago that there was a serious political attempt to greatly reduce benefits. A SUAA-supported lawsuit was needed to resolve that matter.

On the positive side, Governor Pritzker's proposed budget calls for making full required payments to the pension funds along with an additional total of \$500 million toward the backlog during fiscal years 2022 and 2023. The Governor's office estimates this extra amount will reduce the unfunded liabilities by \$1.8 billion.

The SUAA Springfield office staff monitors pension legislation and maintains contact with legislators on our behalf. Issues such as the cost-of-living provisions become more critical as inflation makes a comeback. It is important that we encourage other retirees and employees to join SUAA so that we have a strong voice the next time a threat arises. Personal contact with friends is an effective way of increasing membership. Information on becoming a member is available on the website www.suaa.org.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see the plans for our spring annual meeting to be held electronically on April 24. The agenda will include the election of four members of our Executive

(continued on page 2)

SUAA-UIUC CHAPTER LEADERSHIP 2021-22

(Committee assignments are shown in italics)

~ OFFICERS ~

President

John Marlin* - *Program*

Vice President

Wynne Korr* - *Legislative*

Secretary

Debbie Kemphues* - *Program*

Treasurer

Ron Webbink

~ OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ~

William Adams* - *Legislative*

Marissa Brewer* - *Communications, Legislative*

Melinda Carr* - *Membership, Communications,
Newsletter Co-Editor*

Bettina Francis* - *Communications*

Carol Livingstone* - *Webmaster, Communications,
Newsletter Co-Editor*

Donna Miller* - *Program*

Deb Stone* - *Benefits*

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

Matthew J. Wilson*

*(*members of the Executive Committee)*

~ OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ~

Thomas Conry - *Legislative*

Robert Rich - *Legislative*

Rick Schoell - *Legislative*

Richard Winkel - *Past President, Legislative*

~ LIAISONS ~

Cheryl Heck - *Campus*

Kathleen Holden - *Clark-Lindsey*

~ STATE SUAA LEADERSHIP ~

Thomas Conry - *State Vice President*

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

~ CHAPTER WEBSITE ~

www.suaa-ui.org

(President's report, continued from page 1)

Committee. Our speaker will be Suzanne Mayer, the recently appointed Executive Director of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). I hope that you will join us as we look forward to a productive year.

We strive to invite interesting and relevant speakers to our meetings and appreciate suggestions from the membership. Some recent speakers included Ralph Martire, the Executive Director for the Center for Budget and Tax Accountability; Barbara Wilson, former Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs for the University of Illinois System, and Emeritus Professor Fred Giertz, co-creator of the "Flash Index of Economic Growth" which provides news on the Illinois economy. He was recently re-elected as a SURS trustee.

As COVID-19 hopefully enters a less deadly phase, we anticipate returning to in-person meetings in the future. We would appreciate your feedback on whether to have the meetings in a hybrid format so that members can also participate online. Online meetings pose some hurdles for voting among other things.

In conclusion, I would like to recognize two individuals who are completing their terms on the Executive Committee, William Adams and H. F. (Bill) Williamson. Bill Adams has served as Vice President and is currently Chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee. Bill Williamson is completing his 14th year on the Committee and was a former Chapter President. We look forward to receiving their continued input.

Zoom Information for Spring Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting: <http://tinyurl.com/suaa2022>

Meeting ID: 813 9515 5498

Password: 116811

One tap mobile: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

SUAA-UIUC Fall Meeting Headlined by Economist Fred Giertz

Carol Livingstone

Emeritus professor of Economics and longtime trustee of the SURS governing board Fred Giertz spoke via Zoom at the fall meeting of the SUAA-UIUC chapter. He reassured those currently receiving a pension that their benefits are very secure, thanks at least in part to SUAA. Those at more risk are current employees in their 40's, 50's and 60s who should pay more attention to proposed changes affecting their future pensions.

The assets held by SURS benefited greatly from the recent boom in the stock market, and unexpectedly high tax revenues allowed Illinois to pay its scheduled contribution to the pension system this year. However, the pension system remains seriously underfunded with a ratio of liabilities to assets of only 45%, well short of the goal of a 90% funding ratio. Giertz explained that the state pension systems are “both the cause of and the solution to” all the state budget problems. For decades, Illinois covered its annual operating budget deficits by borrowing from the required contributions to the pension system. But defaulting on pension payments, according to Giertz, is the same as defaulting on state bond payments.

The recent change to move new employees to a defined contribution plan did not solve the problem of the historic underfunding for employees in the defined benefit plan.

What options does the state have to deal with the underfunding? Bankruptcy of the entire state or of the pension systems is not allowed. The graduated income tax that failed to win approval in Fall, 2021 would have helped, but Giertz believes that the proposed changes in tax rates could not have solved all the shortages of the state. Illinois tried to buy employees out of their earned pensions, but only offered a buyout worth 60% of the expected pension, resulting in few takers.

Running out of options, Illinois has chosen to place some of the pension burden on new employees who are in the Tier 2 plan; this plan will be easier for the state to fund because of its lower payouts. However, to remain competitive in the labor market, the universities now need to find other ways to increase compensation to new employees.



Prof. Fred Giertz

What are the chances the state will become insolvent and default on its bonds? Giertz explained that the bond market consensus is that default is very unlikely. Illinois pays a bond interest rate premium of only 1-2% over the rates paid by states with rosier financial pictures. If the chance of insolvency were very high, bond interest rates would be 20% or more higher

SUAA-UIUC Executive Board member Deb Stone raised the question of whether the Tier 2 cap on salary that can be tapped for contributions actually harms the pension system by limiting the revenues that could be used to pay old obligations; she observed that more and more

employees in Tier 2 now have salaries over the cap, where contributions are limited. Giertz agreed but added that highly paid employees would be much wiser to choose the defined contribution plan over the Tier 2 plan.

Giertz also pointed out that all states who opt out of the federal Social Security system have a legal obligation to provide benefits at least as generous as Social Security. Social Security benefits are indexed to inflation, while the Illinois Tier 2 plan pension raises are limited to half the rate of inflation with a maximum of 3%. If inflation continues at a higher rate, Illinois may be forced to increase the Tier 2 system benefits to remain exempt from Social Security.

Giertz concluded his remarks by saying that the state's financial system is “challenging but tenable”.

The full recording of Giertz's talk is available on the SUAA-UIUC [web page](#).

SUAA - UIUC Executive Committee Election

Carol Livingstone and Melinda Carr

At the annual meeting in the spring, four SUAA-UIUC chapter members are elected to the twelve-member Executive Committee for three-year terms. Executive Committee members may serve for two consecutive terms if reelected. The Nominating Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee, has proposed a slate of four members according to Article 4.2 of the chapter bylaws. The biographies of these nominees are presented below. Additional nominations shall be requested from the floor. Such nominations require the consent of the nominees. All nominees must be chapter members.

Donald Uchtmann – Professor Emeritus in the Agricultural and Consumer Economics, Donald's research and teaching focused on legal issues in agricultural taxation, agricultural biotechnology, and natural resources. He has published numerous legal articles and coauthored a textbook on agricultural law. His professional and community service includes serving as President of the American Agricultural Law Association and Chair of the CU-MTD Board of Trustees. Uchtmann has served as Vice-Chair of the UIUC Senate Executive Committee and Chair of several Senate committees. He served as President of the UIUC Chapter of the Amer. Assoc. of U. Professors (2006-2009). From 1987-1996, Uchtmann served as interim head of his department and then as Assoc. Dean of ACES and Director of U. of Illinois Extension. He has presented papers, conducted research, or served as a consultant in Brazil, Great Britain, France, Italy, Germany, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Kazakhstan, China, and Japan. Uchtmann received his B.S. in agricultural science (honors) from the U. of Illinois, his M.A. in economic development from the U. of Leeds, England, and his J.D. (cum laude) from The Cleveland State University. His recognitions include the American Agricultural Law Association's *Distinguished Service Award* (2012) and the *Academic Excellence in Agricultural Law Award* (2011).

Debora (Debbie) McCall retired January 1, 2022 after serving 36 years with the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign. At the beginning of her career, Debbie held several Civil Service positions from Clerk Typist III to Administrative Aide. Upon completion of a master's degree in Higher Education Administration in 2004, she was promoted to the academic

professional position of Assistant to the Dean/Coordinator of Faculty Affairs in the College of Medicine, providing administrative support to the faculty and to three Regional Deans over an eight-year period. In 2012, she was appointed to the position of Executive Assistant Dean for Administration, the position she held until her retirement. During her career, Debbie was provided with numerous opportunities to serve and lead UIUC campus organizations. Debbie served as Chair of the campus Faculty and Staff Emergency Fund Committee from 2007-2021. She also served a two-year term as President of The Secretariat (now the Illinois Administrative Professionals group). A member of that organization since 1990, she also held the position of Historian, Chair of the Membership Committee, Chair of the Nominations and Election Committee, Bylaws Committee Chair, and served as a member of the Scholarship and Program Committees. Nationally, Debbie served a two-year term as Midwest Representative of the Deans' Assistant Group of the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) and served on its Executive Board.

Melinda Carr, an ordained Associate Minister (Elderess), retired in 2016 after 30 plus years. In her most recent position as Assistant Director for Communications of the University Office of Business & Financial Services, she supported internal and external communications for the three campuses including publishing OBFS news and developing marketing plans. Elected to the SUAA-UIUC Executive Committee in April 2019, she has served as Secretary and on the Membership Committee and recently stepped-up to assist with production of The
(continued on next page)

(Candidates, continued from previous page)

Annuitant as Co-Editor. Before joining the Executive Committee, she served as Co-chair of SUAA State Membership. As Vice President and President of the Ministerial Alliance of Champaign-Urbana & Vicinity (MACUV), Carr addressed critical issues including writing to and speaking before the Illinois Commission to End Disparities in the African American (Black) Community. She spoke on behalf of the MACUV before local school boards, city councils, and the county board. She holds a B.A. in English/Journalism from Tougaloo College and a M.S. in Journalism from UIUC. Carr has also served on various nonprofit boards and the Ministry Staff at New Free Will Baptist Church where she teaches Sunday School, supports the Music Department, and other C-U ministry outreach. She is active in documenting the history of residents for the first Black Urbana subdivision to preserve as a legacy for future generations. She is thankful to members who have supported SUAA in its 50-year history to protect employee pensions.

John C. Marlin is serving his second year as Chapter President. He holds a Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Illinois. He served as executive director of the Coalition on American Rivers (now Prairie Rivers Network) during the 1970s helping protect Allerton Park and numerous Midwestern rivers from dam projects. He was appointed to the Illinois Pollution Control Board in 1983 by Governor Thompson. He served as chair for about five years. In 1993 he joined the Prairie Research Institute's Illinois Sustainable Technology Center where he worked until retirement in 2010. He was involved in many issues including the relationship between scrap tires and disease spreading mosquitoes, livestock waste, and beneficial use of river sediment. He is a member of both SURS and SERS. John is active in local conservation organizations and is on the board of the local Land Conservation Foundation and a member of Grand Prairie Friends. His family propagated woodland wildflowers during the 80s and 90s. He is still involved with pollinator conservation, native plants and river issues. He lives in Urbana with his wife, Diane, who serves as Mayor of Urbana.

Treasurer's Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Ronald F. Webbink, SUAA-UIUC Treasurer

SUAA represents annuitants and employees of Illinois Public Universities and Colleges. The UIUC Chapter has no employees, only volunteers. The SUAA office in Springfield has employees whose principal duty is advocacy on behalf of SURS annuitants, to protect our retirement and survivor benefits. Of your \$47 annual dues, \$39 was for SUAA and \$8 for our Chapter, SUAA-UIUC. The 2021 revenues and expenses were:

Total revenues		\$13,422
Dues	\$13,268	
Interest	\$154	
Total Expenses		\$4,103
The Annuitant newsletter (printing)	\$3,484	
Meeting expenses (local, regional, state)	\$275	
Website hosting	\$344	
Gain (loss) in reserves		\$9,319

Benefits Report

Carol Livingstone

One of the most important services SUAA provides is monitoring changes in benefits programs for SURS annuitants. Members receive monthly briefings detailing bills or proposals before the Illinois Legislature that might affect the pension or benefits of annuitants.

SURS money purchase formula changes July 2

If you are currently still employed, are considering retirement, and are in the traditional or portable retirement plan, you should use the benefit estimator on the SURS website to see the impact on your pension should you postpone retirement until after July 1.

Benefits Choice Periods

May 1- June 1 is the next Benefits Choice period for annuitants who are not eligible for Medicare; changes will be effective July 1. CMS will mail a booklet outlining the changes in programs along with instructions for making changes in benefit elections. Changes can be made at the MyBenefits Marketplace website or by calling a State group insurance customer service representative (1-844-251-1777 – toll free, or 1-844-251-1778 TDD/TTY). The CMS information should be carefully reviewed. For those eligible for Medicare, the annual benefits choice period is generally October 15-November 15, with coverage changes effective January 1.

Claim Payment Delays

Funding availability for the state health plans is based on State revenue, which fluctuates. Claims paid more than 30 days late will be accompanied by an interest payment. Updated information regarding such delays appears on the CMS website under State Employee Benefits (Claim Payment Delays). As of February 25, 2022, delays for most plans were 3 months, longer for out-of-plan providers.

New wellness website

CMS has rolled out a new website with webinars, podcasts, and articles on a wide variety of wellness (physical, financial, and mental health) topics. Visit

www.Illinois.gov/BeWell and explore their offerings; recent titles included “Hobbies for Mental and Physical Health,” “Stress – a Way of Life or a Fact of Life,” and “The Changing Nature of Emergency Savings Accounts.”

I-Card & Net ID

Your I-card is your passport to many benefits, services, and discounts as well as free rides on the Champaign-Urbana bus system. If you’ve misplaced yours or not updated it since retirement, visit or call the I-card center in the Illini Union Bookstore for a replacement. Their phone number is 1-217-244-0135. See the perks available with an I-card at

<https://www.icardperks.uillinois.edu/discounts/>.

Human Resources also maintains a list of services available to retirees such as library access and free tuition for university courses. Visit

<https://humanresources.illinois.edu/retirees/benefits-services.html> to explore the options available.

Hand-in-hand with your I-card is your net ID and password, which are required for access to online resources at the university. Contact UIUC’s Office of Technology Services at (217) 244-7000 if you have not established your net ID or if you have forgotten your password.

COVID-19 testing

Those in the Champaign-Urbana with an I-card can have a free, saliva-based test for the virus at one of the campus testing sites; no appointment is required. Visit covid19.illinois.edu for further information regarding this testing. The Champaign-Urbana Public Health website (c-uphd.org) contains information about COVID-19 and the vaccine availability for those residing in the area.

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Important Sources of Information about Your Pension & Benefits

State Universities Retirement System (SURS)

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

Phone: (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

SURS is our pension system. Once registered on the website, current employees will have access to historical pay and pension calculators to help plan for retirement. After retirement, annuitants can view information about pension payments and deductions and can update addresses, beneficiaries, phone number, email address, and federal tax withholding status.

During tax season, copies of 1099-R forms can be downloaded from the site.

Central Management Services (CMS) (For State Employees)

URL: illinois.gov/cms/benefits

Phone: (800) 442-1300 or (866) 277-5669 (TTY)

Email: CMS.Ben.BCS@illinois.gov

CMS negotiates all benefit packages for employees and retirees.

When browsing through the information on the CMS web site, remember that UIUC employees are considered “State Employees” and are enrolled in the “State Employees Insurance program”. CMS has detailed insurance coverage information as well as claims delays and Benefits Booklets for Benefits Choice periods.

State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA)

URL: www.suaa.org

Phone: (217) 523-4040

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

Email: suaa@suaa.org

SUAA advocates on behalf of SURS retirees, current employees, and their dependents and survivors to preserve retirement and healthcare benefits. Members have special access on the website. Membership forms available online.

MyBenefits Marketplace

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

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

MyBenefits is a website designed to help employees or annuitants make changes to their insurance coverage during the Benefits Choice period. Members can also call a State group insurance customer service representative at the number above. This is also where you sign up for TRAIL (Medicare Advantage Plan).

TRAIL (Total Retiree Advantage IL)

URL: illinois.gov/cms/benefits/trail

(follow link to “State Insurance Program”)

Phone: (844)251-1777 or (844)251-1778 (TTY)
(same as MyBenefits)

Fax: (844) 676-1725

Email: cms.ben.medicarecob@illinois.gov

TRAIL manages a suite of State Medicare Advantage plans for retirees who are eligible for Medicare. The website has open enrollment materials and shows coverage information and monthly costs based on years of service.

Social Security and Medicare (Champaign Office)

Social Security URL: www.ssa.gov

Medicare URL: www.medicare.gov

Phone: (877) 819-2593

(800) 325-0778 (TTY)

Address: 101 S Country Fair Dr, Champaign

Help Us Recruit New Members to SUAA!!

SUAA's strength and effectiveness depend directly on the number of members. If you are already a member, encourage your colleagues, friends, and family members who are SURS participants to join. Show them this newsletter and send them a link to our chapter's website (www.suaa-ui.org) so they can see the work that is being done on their behalf in Springfield and here in Champaign-Urbana. If you are a user of social media, "like" the SUAA UIUC Facebook page and "share" its postings so your friends can see them.

We encourage you to have your dues deducted from your paycheck (if still employed) or your pension (if an annuitant). Your membership will renew automatically each year without your having to write a check or spend money on a stamp. Dues are only \$3.92 per month. Download the membership form today from the suaa-ui.org/join.htm website; complete, sign, and submit the form as directed. Your dues will be deducted monthly when your current membership expires.

If you are not yet a member – Your support through membership dues is important as we continue work to protect the future of our pension system, health benefits, higher education and general welfare of our membership. Visit our web page at www.suaa-ui.org/join.htm for easy instructions.

Dues are only \$47 per year – \$39 goes to the state SUAA organization and \$8 stays with our local chapter.

Your support is essential and we hope that this information will persuade you to join us!

SUAA is **your** voice at the Capitol; SUAA works hard to make your concerns heard loud and clear by state legislators and the Governor's office staff. SUAA provides a communications network through emails, legislative bulletins, websites, and workshops/meetings that informs and updates members on both local and state issues relative to and focused on pension and healthcare benefits.

What has SUAA done for you? (From the SUAA website suaa.org)

STOPPED CONSTITUTIONAL THREATS

- Represented all SURS participants and beneficiaries by suing the State of Illinois over Senate Bill 1 (Public Act 98-055), pension reform. The Supreme Court found the law unconstitutional, saving the average pensioner HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS over the course of their retirement
- Led the charge to defeat adding a new section to Article XIII of the State Constitution, which would have been an attack on SURS employees and retirees
- Actively lobbied the Legislature to prevent changes to the Constitution that would harm SURS retirees and active members, such as the "pension clause"

PROMOTED HIGHER EDUCATION'S FUTURE

- Stopped legislation that would create a slippery slope toward abolishing tuition waivers for university personnel, that ultimately could target community colleges next
- Supported legislation in Springfield to strengthen health care and pension benefits for SURS members
- Advocated for protecting and preserving the College Insurance Program (CIP health benefits)
- Protected faculty forced to take furloughs during the state's budget crisis
- Worked to preserve Illinois' higher education system as a critical, quality commodity for Illinois, through the Higher Education Creates Jobs campaign and other advocacy

SUAA Foundation

H. F. (Bill) Williamson

The SUAA Foundation, a not-for profit organization associated with SUAA, has a program to provide up to \$1500 in emergency assistance to persons who have been SUAA members for at least five years and are facing a sudden need for funds to cope with a crisis.

The Foundation also provides scholarships to SUAA members or their family members who are enrolled in an accredited degree program, eligible technical/trade program, or an eligible certificate program.

Grants of up to \$1000 annually are also available for professional development activities for applicants who are SUAA members in good standing and currently employed at an Illinois institution of higher education.

Further information, eligibility requirements, and application procedures for these programs are available on the Foundation link at the state [SUAA website](#). 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.

Volunteer Corner: Illinois Radio Reader

Carol Livingstone

This year, the Illinois Radio Reader (IRR) project will celebrate 44 years of service to the visually-impaired residents of central Illinois. When it began in 1978, dedicated volunteer readers sat in the basement of Gregory Hall on the UIUC campus and recorded the content of local papers and magazines onto cassette tapes; soon they moved the operation to a room no bigger than a closet in an old home on Armory Street in Champaign. Listeners used a special radio to tune in to a station playing the cassette tapes.

Fast-forward to 2022 and the readers can now record from home using apps on their own home computers. The IRR now has a comfortable studio in the high-tech Alice Campbell Hall, home of the Illinois Public Media radio, TV, and internet services. Listeners can tune in via the internet on their home computers or phones, or can use free devices loaned to them by IRR. In addition to radios, the broadcasts can be streamed through an Amazon Echo device –

provided at no cost to eligible listeners who just ask “Alexa” for the Illinois Radio Reader.

To use the service as a listener, visit the website <https://will.illinois.edu/illinoisradioreader> for the

online schedule or to apply for a radio or Amazon Echo device.

IRR focuses on newspapers from Central Illinois – the Champaign-Urbana News Gazette, the Bloomington-Normal Pantograph, the Decatur Herald and Review, the Decatur Tribune, and the Vermillion County News. Every word is read, including the very popular grocery ads.

For a wider perspective,

volunteer readers also record the Christian Science Monitor, books, health programs, magazines, and more. To become a volunteer reader, contact Kathie Spegal, the volunteer coordinator, at 217-333-6503.

Monetary contributions to support IRR are always welcome – information on how to donate is also at <https://will.illinois.edu/illinoisradioreader>.



Volunteer coordinator Kathie Spegal

In Memoriam

Marissa Brewer

Below is the name of each SURS participant from the Urbana-Champaign campus and allied agencies who passed away between July 1, 2021 and December 30, 2021. Source: Freedom of Information Act request from SURS, which no longer provides the age and date of death.

Albrecht, Johann G.	Brimm, Herschel W.	Dessouky, Ibtesam	Harris, Steven L.
Alford, Lacy D.	Brown, Martha Louise	Dixon, Clifford H.	Harrison, Allan J.
Allen, Mary Lou L.	Brunelle, Ronald W.	Dold, Charles N.	Hartman, Ruth T.
Andrews, Karen Kay	Bunnell, Jeanne L.	Donchin, Rina	Harvey, Ann V.
Apland, James M.	Burns, Rochelle I.	Eberly, Donald	Hayes, Phyllis A.
Arnett, Dwight Scott	Caldwell, Douglas B.	Economy, James	Hearn, Dwight D.
Arnold, Diane Kay	Carper, Connie J.	Eriksen, Barbara A.	Helper, Lloyd C.
Austin, Raymond E.	Clapper, Betty J.	Feinberg, Terry D.	Henton, Therese T.
Ayers, Betty J.	Clementz, Charles J.	Feller - Guardian, Marion	Hewes, Dean Edward
Bantz, Robert D.	Conley, Dorothy M.	Feng, Albert S.	Hodge, Golda C.
Barber, Cheryl A.	Corray, Hazel M.	Flash, Kenya S.	Hollern, Carol Y.
Beasley, Kimberly M.	Cotter, James I.	Fyffe, Mary F.	Hollon, George W.
Bechtel, David S.	Cowart-Williams, Johanna	Gauthier, Alain	Holmes, Dorothea
Behrends, Richard S.	Patrice	Getchius, Randal K.	Householder, James R.
Berbaum, Joseph R.	Cox, C Benjamin	Giddens, Oneda	Hubbard, Norma J.
Bernett, Thomas A.	Crickman, Virginia D.	Gilpin, John B.	Jacobs, Steven L.
Berry, Maureen H.	Dalton, Donald D.	Ginsberg, Joli L.	Jakobsson, Eric G.
Bettenhausen, Ruth M.	Daly, Jean E.	Gould, Harold A.	Johnson, Kathleen S.
Bickers, Sonya L.	Davis, Elisabeth B.	Gray, Stanley E.	Jones, M Louise
Blue, Ken A.	Davis, Lloyd E.	Green, Malcolm E.	Keller, Susan K.
Bodnar, Peter	Decker, Maurice F.	Greever, Randy L.	Kelly, Charles Worrall
Brewer, Katharyn Lee	Decker, Rosemary Ann	Hallene, Alan Mon	Kinsel, Harvey D.
Brewer, Richard A.	Delacruz, Elizabeth M.	Harmon, Lenore W.	<i>(continued on next page)</i>

Legislative Committee Report

Bill Adams

This is an election year, which translates to a shortened session in Springfield. The Illinois General Assembly House and Senate have abbreviated calendars and are scheduled to adjourn their current sessions on April 8th. This means that they will have to have their business done, including passing the FY2023 State Budget by that date. The 102nd General Assembly will adjourn after the fall Veto Session and the newly elected 103rd General Assembly will be convened in January of 2023.

The Governor delivered his budget message on February 2nd in the old State Capitol, which is a lovely building. The budget includes increases for K-12 and Higher Education as well as an extra \$500 million added to the annual pension payments for the five state funded Pension Systems. This does not include the nearly 650 local pension funds, which continue to face difficult funding challenges for local government agencies. There are still on-going calls for Constitutional action to remove protections for the Pension Systems.

We continue to closely monitor the situation and will keep you informed of any future actions that might pose a threat to our pensions and those of future annuitants.

In Memoriam

(continued from previous page)

Knoke, James H.	Nagy, Richard T.	Scott, Wayne R.	Thomassen, Cora E.
Kocher, Una M.	Nichols, Robert L.	Seay, Priscilla P.	Thompson, Michael J.
Kruse, John P.	Nieto, Alberto S.	Selby, Robert I.	Thompson, Stephen A.
Kuhns, Sharon L.	Nix, Marsha Dee	Shannonhouse, Margaret	Toft, Stuart A.
Lambert, Nancy M.	Noble, Bonnie W.	Kathleen.	Tuck, Frank K.
Landers, Aaron R.	Oliver, Elbert E.	Sherbert, Donald Ray	Twardock, Arthur Robert
Lefter, James .	Olson, Judith A.	Shipley, Richard E.	VanDeventer, James E.
Lin, Wen-Yu	Orwick, Beverly R.	Shuman, Bernice V.	Waddy, Esther H.
Mann, Lawrence R.	Ostendorf, Mary Louise	Singh - Guardian, Pramila	Wahl, Floyd M.
Mann, Ruth E.	Paul, Iain C.	K.	Walter, John H.
Marchand, James W.	Phelps, Wayne	Skeel, Robert D.	Ward, David Eugene
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Mullally, Carolyn R.	Sanford, Douglas B.	Taylor, Celeste M.	
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