

**STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION**  
**UIUC Chapter Executive Committee**  
**Clark-Lindsey, Simon Dining Room**  
**<http://www.suaa-ui.org>**  
**Minutes for February 11, 2015**

**Attending:** Pam Cler, Barbara Hartman, Jane Loeb, Mark Netter, Terri Palumbo, Terry Ruprecht, Steve Rugg, Helen Satterthwaite, Rick Schoell, Ginny Waaler, Ron Webbink, Bill Williamson

**I. President's Report**

- A. Call to Order was issued by President Terry Ruprecht at 1:32 p.m.
- B. Approval of minutes for January 14, 2015 was moved, seconded and passed.
- C. Review of schedule of meetings:
  - (1) Exec Committee Meetings 2014-15: March 11, April 8, May 13.
  - (2) Retirement Planning Conference: Feb. 21, 2015, I Hotel.
  - (3) General Membership Meeting: confirmed for April 26, I Hotel.
  - (4) Fall Big 10 Retirees, East Lansing, more information to follow.

D. President Ruprecht reported that Larry Alfrink, former EIU chapter president of SUAA, is reviewing proposed bylaw revisions discussed at last year's state meetings. Larry Alfrink is reviewing these proposals with selected chapter presidents, including ours. Last year, one proposal was to replace the position of Treasurer with a new VP. The current proposal is to combine the Secretary and Treasurer positions into one, with a single VP. Terry Ruprecht noted that under this proposal both the Secretary/Treasurer and the Executive Director would have "primary responsibility" for financial duties, and in addition, there was no role spelled out for the Secretary/Treasurer in audits. He reported that he had raised the need for clarification of primary responsibility for financial affairs. He also noted that the latest proposals for revisions of the bylaws focus on essential changes for clarity and consistency, and that the proposal for regional meetings to select regional representatives was no longer extant although regional representation was still on the table.

**II. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Webbink noted that this month's financial report contains no surprises. He also commented on the increased membership over the year. Acceptance of the report was moved and seconded (Rugg, Williamson), and the report was accepted.

*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 that the bill can be paid promptly. E-mail: [rwebbink@illinois.edu](mailto:rwebbink@illinois.edu).*

**III. Action Items**

- A. Nominating Committee: The nominating committee put forward Bill Williamson, Ron Webbink, Barbara Hartman, and Pam Cler as nominees for the Executive Committee. Approval of the nominees was moved and seconded (Schoell, Loeb), and the slate was accepted.
- B. The Retirement Planning Conference on the 21<sup>st</sup> will require manning of the SUAA booth from 8 am until 1 pm. Volunteers were obtained by President Ruprecht.
- C. Newsletter Schedule: Pam Cler drew attention to the schedule, found at the end of the January 14 minutes. She noted that the deadline for articles is Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.
- D. Update on Kanerva (health insurance): While opting out of the settlement has no advantage, members may want to object to the attorneys' fees. SUAA's attorneys filed an objection to the nine million dollars requested by contingency attorneys, requesting the court to require

documentation of work on the case. AFSCME has also objected to this request. Members can object to it as well.

- E. Update on pension reform case: nothing to report.
- F. Legal Fund status: The state office received about \$10,000 in contributions in response to an appeal, although they did not make an appeal hinged to the January 1 automatic annual increase, which resulted from SUAA legal action to block implementation of legislation altering it. Discussion followed on how to address these issues in the next Newsletter, e.g., while Kanerva is settled, pension legislation is not, and the legal fund will need additional contributions. We will want to encourage contributions perhaps at the time of the health insurance premium rebates expected in June.

#### **IV. Reporting Items**

- A. Membership: Barbara Hartman reported that membership is up 5 members, to 2134, net of 4 who dropped (2 as a result of death).
- B. Legislative Committee/Political Action: Rick Schoell thanked Steve Rugg and Helen Satterthwaite for their work on the statement of legislative principles and its preamble. It is available as a handout for the Pre-retirement conference, and can be used in the newsletter. He reported that he had met with new Senator Bennett and Representative Ammons, and that all local legislators are aware of the upcoming Spring meeting. Legislative panel members for the spring meeting will be asked to speak for about 5 minutes each, followed by questions.
- C. Communications Committee: nothing to report.
- D. Spring Meeting: everything is set. For the Fall meeting, Steve Rugg will try to book one of several possible speakers who were discussed.
- E. Spring Newsletter: see earlier discussion.
- F. Benefits Committee: Bill Williamson distributed a report of the Senate Faculty Benefits Committee meeting. He noted that the January implementation of the smaller money purchase interest rate will be awkward for the campus if it sparks midyear retirements of faculty members, who are hard to replace midyear. He outlined additional concerns about possible legislation, e.g., a ban on out of state travel which would include, for example, travel funded by a grant administered by the UI. He also noted difficulty with the recently legislated penalties for hiring higher education retirees if they then earn more than an allowed amount from higher education institutions. This has caused Parkland to refuse all such hiring.

#### **V. New Business:** no new business

**VI. Adjournment and Next Meeting.** Meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m. Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.