

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

Attending: Mary Beastall, Pam Cler, Tom Conry, Jane Loeb, Terri Palumbo, Bob Rich, 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 2:00 p.m, as arranged.
- B. Approval of minutes for February 11, 2015 was moved, seconded (Rich, Palumbo) and passed.
- C. Review of schedule of meetings:
 - (1) Exec Committee Meetings 2014-15: March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10.
 - (2) Spring General Membership Meeting: confirmed for April 26, I Hotel.
 - (3) SUAA Directors' meeting: Springfield, June 16-17, 2015, to include bylaw revisions
 - (4) Fall Big 10 Retirees Meeting: East Lansing, MI., August 14-16, 2015.

D. President Ruprecht reported that attendance was not high at the February Retirement Planning Conference, probably in part because of deep snow. In addition, this year's attendees were less likely than previous years' attendees to plan to retire in the near future, further cutting interest expressed in SUAA. He indicated that he asked not to be placed at the end of the program next year, because his perception was that quite a few audience members had left before his discussion of SUAA. In any event, the chapter is unlikely to garner many new members from this year's meeting.

President Ruprecht indicated that he will not be able to attend the SUAA Directors' meeting in June, but it will be important to accomplish the bylaw revisions, which include regional representation; he polled the group for availability to attend.

II. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Webbink noted that this month's financial report contains no surprises, with little activity. Acceptance of the report was moved and seconded (Williamson, Rich), 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.

III. Action Items

- A. Newsletter: Pam Cler reported that the newsletter was together in draft. The review copy prompted appreciative comments on the new, easier-to-read two column format. Terry Ruprecht pointed out that there is some additional space that could be filled. In response to a question from Mary Beastall, Pam Cler indicated that it had not been decided permanently to leave out information concerning how to subscribe to "Inside Illinois". This could be edited down to fit.
- B. Update on Kanerva litigation (health insurance): Tom Conry reported that there is a hearing scheduled in early April on the question of legal fees.
- C. Update on Pension revision litigation: Tom Conry reported that the plaintiffs together have only 20 minutes to present their case. Bob Rich clarified that the legal question concerning the separation of the automatic annual increase is whether or not it is a contractual commitment. It was noted that even if the Supreme Court upholds the lower court ruling, however, new legislation will immediately be introduced. Meantime the legal fund is running close to zero.

- D. Spring general meeting: Most panelists have confirmed. There will be a table with 4 mics and a podium so that they can talk from either their seat or the podium. Attendance of about 100 is anticipated.
- E. State Budget/legislation: Despite much discussion of the governor's budget proposal, not many details have yet emerged.

IV. Reporting Items

- A. Membership: An updated report was not available.
- B. Legislative Committee/Political Action: Rick Schoell noted that our local legislators are, by and large, taking stances we are comfortable with. It was noted that Carol Ammons' husband has been appointed to the SURS board. In discussion, it was pointed out that SUAA needs to ready a network of chapter presidents, who would contact institution Presidents as the need arises. We expect to need to try to mobilize higher education institutions as legislative challenges emerge.
- C. Communications Committee: nothing to report.
- D. Spring Meeting: see earlier discussion.
- E. SURS Board of Trustees Election. The one contested seat is being sought by two well qualified candidates both of whom have served previously. One is Fred Giertz, a member of our chapter whom many members have endorsed personally. It was decided, though, that the chapter could not consider whether or not to endorse him as a matter of general practice. Instead, we will take the route of providing information on both individuals.
- F. Spring Newsletter: Terry Ruprect reported that we have flipped the semester in which the newsletter goes to all UIUC retirees. While it used to be that the spring issue went to all SURS annuitants, with the fall issue going to chapter members, this has been changed to accommodate the campus fund drive insert, which needs to go to all UIUC annuitants.
- G. Benefits Committee: Bill Williamson noted that it is possible that the new Executive Director of SURS will be appointed in the very near future.

V. New Business: no new business

VI. Adjournment and Next Meeting. Meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m. Next meeting will be Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.