

UIUC Chapter Executive Committee
Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room
Minutes for December 12, 2018
Web site: www.suaa-ui.org
Facebook Site: <https://www.facebook.com/SUAA.UIUC/>

Attending: Bill Adams, Athalia Hunt, Wynne Korr, Carol Livingstone, Penny Nigh, Bob Rich, Helen Satterthwaite, Susan Trippiedi, Rick Winkel, Mary Beastall, Pam Cler, Steve Rugg, Rick Schoell, Ron Webbink, Bill Williamson, Melinda Carr, Katharine Kral

Guests: None

I. Call to Order: Winkel called the meeting to order at about 1:33 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes: November 14, 2018: Motion to approve minutes was made by Rich, seconded by Adams, and approved unanimously.

III. Review of meeting schedule: Winkel reviewed the schedule and noted one change. The Spring Chapter meeting date has been confirmed.

- A. Executive Committee Meetings, Spring 2019: February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, & June 12.
- B. Spring Chapter Meeting: April 28, 2019 - confirmed
- C. 2019 Annual State Directors Meeting: June 27-28, 2019
- D. 2019 Big 10 Retirees Conference: August 2-4, 2019 (UIUC)

IV. President's Report:

A. Report: Winkel had no formal report to make

B. Comments

1. Policy Discussion. Winkel reported on an email from Brookhart requesting a meeting given her concerns that we were writing our own legislative platform. He noted our platform is the same as the state SUAA platform. The ad hoc Policy Committee has been meeting for several months in order to come up with a position statement. It has now been rolled into the Legislative Committee. They are planning to develop policy briefs for the chapter and to respond to requests from Brookhart.

2. Member Feedback. It was noted that we had received welcome feedback from the members at the Fall Chapter meeting. It was proposed to consider a survey of our members on these issues so that we better represent them. Schoell suggested that someone such as Diane O'Rourke, retired from Survey Research Center, might be able to work with us on such a project. Questions were raised on a number of aspects of this proposal including whether it should be conducted by the state SUAA instead and what other chapters have done. For example, Carr will follow up with a 2013 survey that the Kankakee Chapter conducted. It was agreed that we would undertake the survey ourselves. This could set a template for other chapters or the state. Winkel will ask the appropriate members of the Committee to develop a survey and determine to whom it will be sent. For example, should it go to SUAA members only or to all annuitants? It was noted that this could also be a membership tool if it increases the interest of the participants and brings to light issues they were not aware of.

V. Treasurer's Report: Webbink presented the Treasurer's for activity in November 2018. Corrections from last month. Did get refund from CCFD. For the month of November, there was a decrease of \$51 in the checking account. The disbursements were for the chapter and state meetings, Executive Committee and Big 10

Retirees meeting. A motion to accept the report was made by Rich, seconded by Livingstone, and approved unanimously.

NOTE: When purchasing anything where an invoice is sent to the UIUC-SUAA Chapter, please have it sent to Ron Webbink at his office address: Dept. of Astronomy, 1002 W Green, M/C 221, Urbana, IL 61801-3074.

VI. Action/Discussion Items

A. Selection of Newsletter Editor: Livingstone was approved as the new Newsletter Editor. Winkel thanked Cler for all her hard work and dedication.

B. Planning for Spring Chapter Meeting: The date of April 28, 2019 was confirmed. The program will be a legislative panel. Cler has created a timeline for the Spring Annuitant. The deadline for articles will not be until March 3, 2019. The meeting will be held at the iHotel in the same room as the fall meeting. It was noted that having the meeting this late in the spring will improve our chances to get legislators for the panel.

C. Planning for 2019 Big 10 Retirees Conference at UIUC

1. Insurance Questions. Rugg noted that one immediate concern is the issue of whether or not we need our own liability insurance or whether we are covered by our status such as being an allied agency. It might require basic and umbrella policies for as much as \$3M. It is recommended that the committee get back to the campus concerning the need for a policy and the possible cost (perhaps premiums of \$100-200 for a \$1M policy).

2. Planning The Planning Committee has not met since the last Executive Committee meeting and plans to meet soon after the New Year. Livingstone reported that she has begun work on a web page for the conference: Suaa-ui.org/conference.htm

VII. Reporting Items

A. Membership:

1. Chapter Report. Williamson reported that this was an active month with 15 additions and 18 drops (10 lapsed and 8 deceased) meaning our total membership fell by three from 1822 to 1819. He passed out a table listing the new and rejoining members and thanked those who played a role in these decisions. He also passed out a table of lapsed members and asked those who knew these individuals to contact them. Finally, he summarized the strategy he had adopted to ask neighbors and colleagues to become members. He had emailed this proposal to the committee members which included a draft of the letter that could be used. He also mentioned that he had proposed to the State President that the Chapters be permitted to waive their dues for the first year for new members.

2. State Report. Carr reported on the regional and state efforts to increase membership. This includes a membership contest. She discussed strategies we might pursue such as being at more meetings of relevant groups (e.g., the Illinois Administrative Professionals), It is important to include current employees who may think SUAA is only for retirees. There is information on ways to conduct membership drives on the state SUAA website. One question raised was when the organization began. Livingstone mentioned that this is on the website.

B. Legislative Committee: Rich noted that there was nothing to add to the earlier discussion. He did note that we should be aware of new Committee that is being formed.

C. Communications Committee/Newsletter/Website: Livingstone reported that she can now create a SUAA-based email address for members of the group. If you do not want to provide your current email address to someone, you can provide this address. Emails sent to this site will then be forwarded to the email address you provide. She has already created emails for all members of the Committee. Members should let her know if they would like one as well. As noted earlier, she is preparing a contact page for 2019 Big 10 Retirees Conference. She is working hard to avoid the problems that occur if too much personal information is provided on a web site. She asked for any suggestions the members had concerning content of the organization of the site. She also indicated that she is looking forward to the

preparation of her first Annuitant as editor. She thanked Cler for her many years of excellent service as editor.

D. Benefits Committee: Beastall reported that the “Benefits Information” link on the Chapter website had been updated. She also noted that there was an error in the HR website

E. Regional Support: Williamson noted that there had been a request for donations to support SUAA in the recent Region 3 Newsletter. He suggested we refuse until the SUAA President changed her policy and agreed to provide the state budget we approved in the fall on the state website.

VIII. New Business. Hunt reported that the Retirement Planning Conference was being held in the spring and would be Saturday, March 2, 2019. She noted that a Chapter representative would be one of the presenters and hoped that the Chapter would continue to support the conference. Winkel led a discussion in favor of this proposal. A motion to provide \$1200 to support the event was made by Rugg, seconded by Rich, and approved unanimously. Hunt said she will send a reminder to Winkel.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting: The meeting adjourned at about 2:30 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room. The next meeting of the legislative committee will be on January 9 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.