

STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION
UIUC Chapter Executive Committee
Minutes for June 11, 2025, Executive Committee Planning Session
Web site: www.suaa-ui.org
Facebook Site: <https://www.facebook.com/SUAA.UIUC/>

I. Call to Order and Introductions.

Called to order at 1:37pm.

II. Approval of minutes for May 14, 2025.

Correct attendance. Motion, seconded, passed unanimously with correction.

III. President's Update.

Wilson got invitation to attend fund raiser with Paul Faraci via State SUAA.

IV. Treasurer's Report.

See report.

NOTE: When purchasing anything where an invoice is sent to the UIUC-SUAA Chapter, please send to Melanie Loots: 813 W. University Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820-3921

V. Action/Discussion Items.

- A. Filling a 2025-2028 Vacancy on the Executive Committee
 - 1. William Buesing is resigning from his 2025-2028 term on the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee proposed the following individual for approval by the Executive Committee to fill this vacancy per Section IV.2 of the Chapter Bylaws: Katie Ross, Assistant Vice President, System Human Resource Services, University of Illinois System. Not accepting resignation until July 1. Present Ross to complete term from July 2.
- B. Report on SUAA State Board and SUAA Foundation Board. (See attachments.) The attachments were basically informational. State SUAA no longer has a contract with SUAA Foundation. Williamson does not know where this problem is going.
- C. Planning for Annual State Meeting, June 13-14, 2025. Delegates have been selected and everyone attending has been registered. Carr, Gallagher, and Williamson are attending both days. Others will be attending one day or the other. Williamson said some of the information is spotty, but there are two amendments to the bylaws. Bylaws amendments need to be sent out 12 working days before the meeting. But no commentary on the new membership category. He agrees with not having the State SUAA fall meeting. Delegates will be reviewing the budget in June 2026, six months prior to budget date.
- D. Planning for Fall Chapter Meeting. Note that Saturdays Oct. 4, Oct. 25, and Nov. 22 are away football games.
- E. Planning for All Employee Expo, October 23, 2025.
- F. Attendance at Big 10 Retirees Association Meeting, August 5-7, 2025.
- G. Review Records Retention Guidelines. No report.
- H. Update on Process for Selection of new Webmaster and Newsletter Editor. Uchtmann indicated that he is attempting to talk to a person about serving as webmaster. If we are in dialogue with the State SUAA it would be useful to have another option. Williamson said State SUAA website is not updated so has issues with partnering with them. Martin said he also found the website lacking in basic information such as meeting dates, calendar, etc.

VI. Standing Committee Reports.

- A. Legislative Committee: Adams, Flider (Chair), Marlin, Rugg, Schoell, Winkel. Flider – legislative session is now over. Not much happened with respect to pensions or health care. Tier 2 fix didn't happen mostly because a large group of organizations wanted a bigger fix where the cost was untenable. So they created a fund so if state is found in noncompliance so those whose pension is less than social security could be paid to make it up to that level. Flider is on the State SUAA Legislative committee, meeting at the June State

SUAA meeting. He believes it will likely be a listening session for the members. Chapin and Faraci are interested in dealing with the next TRAIL health care choice period. He recommended the chapter prioritize our interests in order to move forward. (Discuss in July) Martin noted that Rose talked to Linda and Soady ; Soady tried to compartmentalize the activity on the pension into his shop, i.e., chapter reps defer to State SUAA. Uchtmann when discussing Tier 2 or health insurance, he thinks health insurance should be our priority. He believes the unions in the State will carry most of the responsibility for fixes to Tier 2. Martin agrees with those points.

- B. Membership Committee: Carr, Loots, Pearson, Williamson (Chair). Williamson gave report. Strength of Ross is she prepares reports for FB committee. Her reports are very useful. He notes that our appearance at the last in person Retirement Expo increased membership but no real changes in membership from the virtual Retirement Expo on April 27(?). Have a discussion in July about membership. Ask Williamson to send full list of membership history.
- C. Communications Committee/Newsletter/Website: Carr, Francis, Gallagher. No report.
- D. Benefits Committee: Hirschi, Stone (Chair), Williamson. No report.
- E. Program Committee: McCall, Wilson. No report.

VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports.

- A. Big 10 Retirement Association Committee: Gallagher, Williamson. Still planning to attend in August.
- B. Long Range Planning Committee: Gallagher, Marlin, Williamson, Wilson (Chair), Uchtmann. July 9th meeting will be a planning session.

VIII. New Business.

Williamson – move a strong motion of recommendation of recognition to John Marlin. Marlin presided over a critical period in the Chapter. Flider also attests to the job Marlin has done, as he contacted him often to exchange information.

Williamson – move a motion of recommendation to Melinda Carr for her years of service and taking over the Annuitant newsletter editor position after Livingstone's death. Williamson noted when Carr co-chaired State SUAA membership meeting that was very effective. Competition among chapters for their membership ideas.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:42pm. The next scheduled meeting will be at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, July 9, 2025; this will be a planning session, not a regular meeting.

IMPORTANT DATES

- A. Executive Committee Meetings, 2025: Jul 9 (planning session), Aug 13, Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 5, Dec 10.
- B. SUAA State Meeting (Springfield): Jun. 13-14, 2025.
- C. Big 10 Retirees Association (Ann Arbor): Aug. 5-7, 2025.
- D. All Employee Expo, October 23, 2025.

Sent May 21, 2025

Dear President Dunn, all members of the SUAA Board, and Executive Director Soady

Having previously, on May 2, 2025, responded to the email sent by Larry Kloc and Bryan Soady, on that same day, let me reiterate, briefly, what I wrote in response and add the following:

1. The deadline of May 15, 2025, identified in that May 2, 2025 email from Larry and Bryan, had never been previously identified and, as I indicated in my reply, any response from the SUAAF Board required a formal meeting of the Board;
2. Compliance with the Foundation bylaws required not less than fourteen days' notice in advance of a SUAAF Board meeting and, given the May 2, 2025 receipt of your "deadline", the first available date that would have allowed all members to attend and also meet the 14 day criteria was Monday May 19, 2025; and
3. The indication in the SUAA correspondence that SUAA or the SUAA Board had engaged legal counsel to prepare the MOU and otherwise consult with SUAA, now required the Foundation to also seek and consult with our legal counsel before responding.

While my May 2, 2025 note, sent to all the addressees above, constituted our response to the May 2, 2025 notice from Larry and Bryan, there was no acknowledgement from SUAA as to our immediate response.

On Monday May 19, 2025, the SUAA Foundation Board met and discussed the most recent SUAA correspondence, as well as both the proposed draft of the MOU sent on April 24, 2025 and the separate draft "SUAA Cost Center Category Estimates" document that accompanied the draft MOU.

After discussion, the decision of the SUAAF Board, approved by voice vote, was as follows:

That three SUAA Foundation representatives (Chair Dudnik, Vice-Chair Medenwald, and Treasurer Weinstein, meet with no more than three SUAA representatives to discuss both the MOU and the possible dissolution of the Foundation.

Note: SUAA had already identified Treasurer Kloc and Executive Director Soady as two of a maximum of three representatives for such a meeting, with no identification of a potential third party. We only ask that this third party also be a SUAA member.

Sincerely on behalf of the entire SUAA Foundation Board,

Elliott E. Dudnik

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Received May 23, 2025

Elliott and SUAA Foundation Board Members--

Thank you for your email as referenced above reiterating the Foundation's response to SUAA's communication of May 2 and subsequent decision of the SUAAF Board on May 19. While the SUAA Board respects the rationale outlined in the Foundation's response, it should be said that nothing in the May 15 "deadline" required agreement on the draft MOU, or even acquiescence to any part or aspect of it.

Rather, the hope of the SUAA Board was that a request to start discussions on a successor agreement by May 15 would at least begin to get a focused and substantive conversation underway between the parties, clarify any confusing language in the draft, explore any unidentified issues for inclusion in a future agreement, set further meetings for negotiation on a new agreement, and simply have the sort of "ice breaker" talks that initiate a venture of this nature. Regrettably, that was not able to happen.

At this time, as you know, by unanimous action taken on May 19, the SUAA Board voted to discontinue its fee-for-services relationship with the SUAA Foundation. I have been given to understand that any remaining Foundation records and documents held by the SUAA offices will be transmitted back to SUAAF without delay. **As such, there is no longer a reason for the proposed three-member teams to meet.**

As an independent entity, any decision about "possible dissolution" of the foundation is solely a decision of the SUAA Foundation Board. That said, the SUAA Board is grateful for the services you have provided and wishes you the best in charting future directions to carry on your operations.

I hope you and yours enjoy the holiday weekend...

Randy Dunn, President
SUAA Board of Directors