

**STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION**  
**UIUC Chapter Executive Committee**  
**Minutes for May 14, 2025, Executive Committee Planning Session**  
**Web site: [www.suaa-ui.org](http://www.suaa-ui.org)**  
**Facebook Site: <https://www.facebook.com/SUAA.UIUC/>**

**Executive Committee Attendees:** Melinda Carr, Tanya Gallagher, Melanie Loots, Vera Mainz, John Marlin, Debora McCall, Donald Uchtmann, H. F. Williamson, Matthew Wilson

**I. Call to Order and Introductions.**

Wilson called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

**II. Approval of minutes for April 9, 2025.**

A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**III. President's Update.**

Wilson reported that the Spring meeting went very well. Provost John Coleman did a good job and the presentation was interesting. There were approximately 30 attending. Uchtmann sent a thank you note to Coleman and received a nice reply. Williamson reported that he received an email from William Buesing saying he thought he'd be too busy to serve. Williamson invited him to attend at least until the July meeting as he may not find it as burdensome as he believes. If he decides not to serve, Wilson can propose someone to fill the vacancy for approval by the Executive Committee (Article IV. 2 of the Chapter Bylaws).

**IV. Treasurer's Report.**

Loots reported that she stopped payment on the check to campus to pay for the fall meeting expenses as the check was never cashed. She wrote another check and hand delivered it to the appropriate University personnel. She is also ready to pay the invoice for the spring meeting. She reported that those who will register for the State SUAA meeting are Loots (she volunteered to be a non-voting delegate), Uchtmann, Wilson, Williamson, Carr, and Gallagher. Reimbursement of mileage will be the IRS rate (\$0.70/mile). Carr noted Wilson as President would have to send the names of the voting delegates to Soady.

*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. Report on Spring Chapter Meeting. Mainz will generate minutes for June meeting. For additional information see the President's Update, section III. McCall said 28 signed in for the meeting. 9 of whom were executive committee members.
- B. Report on the virtual Retirement Expo, April 28, 2025. Wilson had a call a couple of days before the Expo from Bryan Soady and the UIC Chapter President to review the slides for Soady's presentation on SUAA. It was reported at the FB Committee meeting that there were problems during the meeting with the computer link.  
Election of Officers for 2025-2026. NOTE: The Chapter Bylaws stipulate that the election of officers shall occur after the election of the new members of the Executive Committee at either the May or June meeting. Williamson reported that the Nominating Committee was presenting the current officers to serve another term as President, Vice President, and Secretary and that each individual had agreed to stand for election. A motion to accept the report was passed unanimously so that the officers for 2025-2026 will be Matt Wilson, President; Donald Uchtmann, Vice President; and Vera Mainz, Secretary. On behalf of the Executive Committee, Williamson thanked the nominees for their willingness to serve.
- C. Planning for Annual State Meeting, June 13-14, 2025. (See attachments.)
  1. Selecting Delegates. See above, section IV.
  2. Registration. See above, section IV.
- D. Planning for All Employee Expo, October 23, 2025. No report. There was a brief discussion of our plans for the Expo. Marlin suggested we purchase a "pull-up" banner for our booth stating "SUAA defends your

pension” or a similar text with the “SUAA-UIUC Chapter” logo. Wilson and McCall will lead our actions on the Chapter’s planning for the meeting.

- E. Decision about July 9 Meeting. Williamson started the discussion of whether we will hold the July meeting. This will depend in part on how early we want to start the scheduling and planning for the Fall Chapter Meeting. There was general agreement that we hold a July 9 meeting at least as informal planning session.
- F. Attendance at Big 10 Retirees Association Meeting, August 5-7, 2025. No report. The registration deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- G. Review Records Retention Guidelines. No report.
- H. Update on Process for Selection of new Webmaster. Uchtmann reported on a recent experience indicating the importance of this action. He went to the website to check on information for the 2025 Annual Spring Meeting. The website is “functioning” but it is frozen from the date of Carol Livingstone’s death last May so the key item on the “current” site is information on the Spring 2024 Annual Meeting.

## **VI. Standing Committee Reports.**

- A. Legislative Committee: Adams, Flider (Chair), Marlin, Rugg, Schoell, Winkel. The committee received an email from Flider. Williamson sent the legislative report to the FB committee. Williamson reported that the Agency bonus prohibition bill is a dead bill.
- B. Membership Committee: Carr, Loots, Pearson, Williamson (Chair). Williamson circulated his report. He noted that we had an active month but we lost 9 members. He sent an email to all the lapsed members.
- C. Communications Committee/Newsletter/Website: Carr, Francis, Gallagher (Chair). Williamson and Marlin will contact Francis to see if she wants to continue on the Committee.
- D. Benefits Committee: Hirschi, Stone (Chair), Williamson. Williamson noted that he and Hirschi would continue to circulate those handouts received at meetings of the Senate FB Committee of relevance to the Executive Committee. A recent example of such a handout was the summary of the spring SURS Stakeholder’s Meeting that included the point that SURS administrators are concerned about the high percentage of new employees who default to the traditional plan.
- E. Program Committee: McCall, Wilson. No additional report, see sections III and Va.

## **VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports.**

- A. Big 10 Retirement Association Committee: Gallagher, Williamson. No report.
- B. Long Range Planning Committee: Gallagher, Marlin, Williamson, Wilson (Chair), Uchtmann. It was noted that the July 9 meeting could be set up as a long run planning session.

## **VIII. New Business.**

No new business was reported.

## **IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

- A. Executive Committee Meetings, 2025: Jun. 11, Jul 9 (tentative), 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.

**From:** Williamson, H F Jr <[billw@illinois.edu](mailto:billw@illinois.edu)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 4, 2025 3:10 PM  
**To:** Loots, Melanie <[mloots@illinois.edu](mailto:mloots@illinois.edu)>  
**Cc:** Uchtmann Don <[duchtmann@gmail.com](mailto:duchtmann@gmail.com)>; Wilson, Matt <[MWilson@williamblair.com](mailto:MWilson@williamblair.com)>  
**Subject:** Registration Procedures for State Meeting

Melanie (and Don, Matt):

I think that Don's suggestions regarding registration for the state meeting are excellent. At the risk of duplication, here is my view of the procedure we could follow.

(1) Actions to Take at the May 14 Chapter XC Meeting. As Don suggests, Matt finalizes the list of individuals planning to attend the State meeting June 13-14. He reminds them that they are responsible for obtaining a hotel room using the SUAA rate.

NOTE: This will be particularly true if we have a draft of the program for the meeting by then so we know what is occurring on which of the three days involved: June 12, 13, 14,

(2) Registration and Payment. Particularly concerning Loot's first question about who submits the registration information.

As I recall, it is the Treasurer (Loots) who registers the individuals under the chapter check option rather than the individuals each registering themselves. She might check with Ron to see if this is correct. If it is, she can complete the registration once the number attending has been determined at the May 14 meeting.

(3) Whom the Chapter Pays For: As Don notes, I am sure that Chapter has paid for registration of all EC members who wish to attend particularly since we have not had "too many" attend in the past (i.e. not had more attendees than votes).

(4) Attendance and Hotel Reservation: I am not sure why you mention reserving a hotel room for “only” one night and indicate that the night would be Saturday. I (and, I assume, the other attendees) have reserved a hotel room for Friday night only since (we think!) the meeting will start that day and end Saturday afternoon.

Don notes that UIUC attendees could also attend only on the second day for the Business Meeting, particularly if the Friday program is not attractive. I think I will have to attend Friday for the meeting of the Foundation Board.

Bill Williamson

## 2025 SUAA Annual Conference & Business Meeting

<i>DAY 1:</i>	
<b>Friday, June 13, 2025</b>	<p><b>11:30 a.m. WELCOME LUNCHEON</b></p> <p>Kick-off the 2025 Conference with us and start your networking! Join colleagues from across Illinois and beyond while listening to the latest update from an Illinois Constitutional Officer (Invited - TBA), and enjoying a first-rate meal.</p> <p><b>1-3:00 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION #1</b></p> <p><b>4 concurrent sessions</b> will be provided covering in demand topics like: State legislative proposals impacting your benefits, pre-retirement and financial planning, explore and help decide the next SUAA travel destinations, and learn the latest on legal challenges to Tier 2 from <b>Eric Madiar</b>.</p>
<b>OPTIONAL</b>  <b>Welcme Reception &amp; Trivia Fun-Raiser</b>	<p><b>6:00 p.m. WELCOME RECEPTION &amp; Trivia Fun-Raiser</b></p> <p>A SEPARATE event in support of EITHER the SUAAction or the SUAA Legal Fund - Let the donor decide. Registered Conference attendees will learn more about this event once registered.</p> <p>SUAA Conference Attendees will be provided with complimentary drink tickets.</p> <p><b>Ask SUAA Staff for details!</b></p>
<i>DAY 2</i>	
<b>Saturday, June 14, 2025</b>	<p><b>8:30 a.m. - OPENING BREAKFAST</b></p> <p>Featured Speaker and special guest <b>Suzanne Mayer, Executive Director</b> of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS) will provide a status update and an overview of issues important to the SURS system and its participants.</p> <p><b>10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. BREAKOUT SESSION #2</b>In our second breakout, <b>4 concurrent sessions</b> will again be provided covering in demand topics like: How to engage and increase Membership in your Chapter, What do Members (the data) say?, Fraud prevention and identity protection, and an “attendees choice” TBA</p> <p><b>12:30 - 1:30 p.m. CLOSING LUNCHEON (KEYNOTE)</b></p> <p>SUAA is working to host another unique panel presentation, this year to include invited experts from The Civic Federation, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, and the Illinois Economic Policy Institute to discuss the recent publication (March, 2025) of the <a href="#"><u>“Modernizing Illinois Sales Tax: A pathway to a sustainable future”</u></a>. Additional invited guest experts from the Illinois Taxpayers Federation and/or other relevant groups will provide multiple viewpoints on the panel.</p>
<i>SUAA Business Meeting (Delegates Only)</i>	<p>2-3:00 p.m. House of Delegates Business Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda/Materials provided separately to certified Chapter Delegates</li> <li>• ALL Chapters should be represented.</li> </ul>