STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION
UIUC Chapter Executive Committee
Agenda for August 13, 2025, Executive Committee Planning Session
Web site: www.suaa-ui.org
Facebook Site: https://www.facebook.com/SUAA.UIUC/

Executive Committee Attendees: Melanie Loots, Vera Mainz, Debora McCall, Megan Pearson, Katie Ross, Donald Uchtmann, H. F. Williamson

Other Attendees: None

I. Call to Order and Introductions.

Uchtmann called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm in the absence of Wilson.

II. Approval of minutes for June 11, 2025.

It was noted that Ron Webbink did not attend the May 14th meeting and those minutes have been corrected. A motion to approve the minutes for June 11, 2025, was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
A motion was made to approve the summary for the Spring Meeting 2025, seconded, and passed.

III. President's Update. No report.

IV. Treasurer's Report.

Loots presented the report for the activity in July 2025 and the year to date. Loots was thanked for the 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. Report on Annual State Meeting, June 13-14, 2025. There was general satisfaction with the new location and hotel accommodations. Uchtmann led a discussion of how important we felt it was to attend the meeting in order to meet the staff of the State Office and to build networks with leaders from other SUAA Chapters. There were mixed reactions to the various presentations. For example, Ross found interesting the session where they talked about new technology that could be used to recruit new members and create targeted ads. There was less enthusiasm about the effectiveness of the presentation on the possibility of expanding the sales tax to cover services since we had hosted Ralph Martire for a much more effective presentation at the Fall SUAA UIUC meeting of 2020. The main agenda item at the business meeting was the vote on two amendments. The first proposed cancelling the Fall Meeting of the House of Delegates. The second proposed the creation of an at-large Chapter for SUAA members not affiliated with existing Chapters. After a relatively lengthy discussion, neither amendment was approved. Williamson noted that once again it was clear the critical role that the parliamentarian played in the smooth running of these meetings. Loots wondered how the three-region framework for the state had been established. Williamson noted that the number of voting delegates assigned to each Chapter was based on Chapter membership with every Chapter having two delegates plus one delegate for each additional 400 members.
B. Planning for Fall 2025 Annuitant. No report. Mainz noted Gallagher had distributed a list of proposed articles for the Fall Annuitant but didn't believe the articles had been assigned yet.
C. Planning for Fall Chapter Meeting. McCall sent a request to Chancellor Charles Lee Isbell Jr.'s office to attend the Fall general meeting but he was not available on the suggested dates. She has been trying to contact the President of the UIUC Alumni Association and has not gotten any feedback from them. She asked if anyone knew someone at the Alumni Association. Christina Oncken-Cortez, the assistant director of alumni experiences and works with the Explorer Travel groups, might also be an appropriate speaker. Katie Ross had a contact in the HR department who might have a contact. Loots wondered we should have the event at the Alumni Center if we succeeded in getting someone from the Alumni

Association to speak at the Fall meeting. McCall was requested to continue following up on her current leads. Williamson maintains a list of topics and speakers for previous general meetings. He noted that topic furtherest back involved pension and health.

D. Planning for All Employee Expo, October 23, 2025. Williamson and Ross will keep us informed. We want the SUAA-UIUC table to be next to or across from the SURS table.
E. Report on Big 10 Retirees Association Meeting, August 5-7, 2025. Williamson and Gallagher will present a report at the September meeting. They noted that the date of the next meeting on our campus had been postponed from 2031 to 2032 with the addition of another campus.
F. Review Records Retention Guidelines. Loots had no update. Williamson would like to have help deciding what to do with what is in the office in the Stock Pavilion. As far as he can tell, it is currently being used by their janitor to store supplies. Mainz suggested several members of the Executive Committee meet to sort the material, create a finding for what is kept and hopefully move it the UI Archives. Loots, Mainz and Williamson suggested we pick a date during the October 8th meeting and carry out the proposed actions. Williamson noted that SUAA-UIUC has a mailing address in the Chancellor's office, from which he picks up mail from time-to-time.
G. Update on SUAA UIUC website and new Webmaster, Jason Votava. Mainz reported that she has been working with Votava to update the website and the minimal updates have been finished. She is continuing to either send him additional updates or working with others to update the webpages. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to commend Mainz for her efforts. Ross said she used to maintain a facebook page. Before undertaking an update of the SUAA-UIUC facebook page, she suggested that we test the demand for it. She suggested posting a short article in the Fall Annuitant asking members if we should update our facebook page or let it go. We could also ask if anyone would volunteer to maintain it if we do continue with it.
H. Report on SUAA UIUC Business Cards (see attached designs). Uchtmann noted that he them better than he thought he would. One suggestion was to have the SUAA-UIUC URL on the back of the card be white on the dark blue to make it readable. It was noted that cards 4 and 7 have The Voice at the top of the card while the others have other emphases. Cards 2, 5, and 7 have the banner "Join Before You Retire" in various places and emphasis. Ross suggested that it might be appropriate to change the name of the Annuitant to The Voice if we like that option. It was also suggested that the QR code be made as large as possible, and make sure it is the SUAA-UIUC website. This will be further discussed as the September 10th meeting.

VI. Standing Committee Reports.

A. Legislative Committee: Adams, Flider (Chair), Marlin, Rugg, Schoell, Winkel. No report. It was suggested that someone review all committee assignments, minimally contacting all currently listed members and ask them if they want to continue.
B. Membership Committee: Carr, Loots, Pearson, Williamson (Chair). Williamson requested that Ross be added to the committee. This was approved. Williamson noted that our membership report shows we returned to our typical pattern with a small loss in membership. We are still on track to having a better record this year (i.e., a smaller loss in membership) than the two previous years. Uchtmann noted that we might be able to leverage our website to increase our membership.
C. Communications Committee/Newsletter/Website: Carr, Francis, Gallagher. No report.
D. Benefits Committee: Hirschi, Stone (Chair), Williamson. No report.
E. Program Committee: McCall, Wilson. See section 5C, above.

VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports.

A. Big 10 Retirement Association Committee: Gallagher, Williamson. See section 5E, above.
B. Long Range Planning Committee: Gallagher, Marlin, Williamson, Wilson (Chair), Uchtmann. No report.

VIII. New Business.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting.

The next scheduled meeting will be at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025.

IMPORTANT DATES

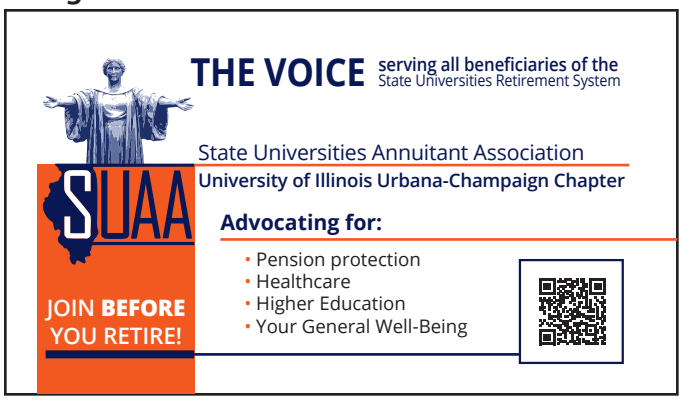
A. Executive Committee Meetings, 2025: Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 5, Dec 10; 2026: Jan 14 (tentative), Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 8, May 13, Jun 10, Jul 8 (tentative)
B. All Employee Expo, October 23, 2025.

Design 1

Design 2

Design 3

Design 4



Design 5

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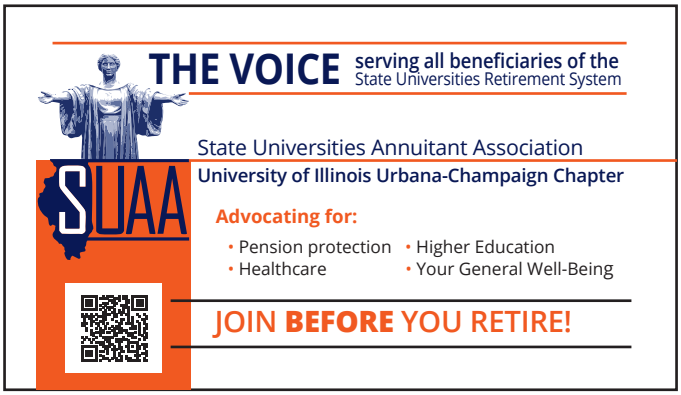
Design 7



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