

# THE ANNUITANT

A PUBLICATION OF THE SIU CARBONDALE ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION

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NOVEMBER 2014

## SIU President Randy Dunn speaks at Fall General Meeting



SIU President Randy Dunn

President Dunn quickly accepted our invitation to address the Fall General Meeting and designated his topic as “Direction of the SIU System.” In a fast-moving presentation he outlined several important areas for attention in the near future.

He indicated that exciting things are happening in the system while there is certainly no shortage of challenges. He indicated he is excited about the future of SIU! In his remarks he stressed that the campuses have much responsibility for their programs and direction and he looks forward to working with them.

Dunn indicated he believes the Board of Trustees will soon think broadly about goals for the future. He sees this as planning for the future that has strategic focus. Three to four big strategic goals would provide guidance for the various activities of the campuses. Such planning would set direction for what would and would not be done.

He looks forward to working with goals that add value to what the University system is and does, but not by weakening the campuses. The activity will hopefully establish a framework for new and revision initiatives in the system.

President Dunn indicated that the planning might well use innovative practices to transform the region. An Advanced Energy Center might evolve from the Coal Research Center and also include other areas such as energy from waste products and biofuels. He also suggested another goal will be to streamline for efficiency. Records are often kept at three campuses and might be centralized. The effort will be to figure ways to increase revenue and reduce expenses.

Specific to SIUC, we found it interesting that Dunn mentioned the need to get back to recruiting new students for the Carbondale campus from the lower 35 counties (like they used to) to improve enrollment. He also mentioned keeping outlying recruitment offices staffed and keeping high school counselors updated and informed of SIUC programs.

The President answered numerous questions at the end of his remarks. He was upbeat about the potential for SIUC and the system while fully recognizing that many challenges exist. He’s optimistic good things are ahead for SIU!

## Greetings to our recent SIUC retirees

As is our organization’s custom, its third newsletter of the year is dedicated to the most recent group of SIUC retirees and an introductory copy of the newsletter is sent to them as an invitation to join us on our journey as SIUC retirees and SURS annuitants.

Although the Annuitants Association is often mistakenly viewed as an organization made up strictly of university retirees, the connection with active campus employees officially begins when one initially signs papers to hire on with the University and becomes a member of the State University Retirement System (SURS). Once you are a contributing member to SURS, you are an ANNUITANT!

Now, as the 2013-2014 group of retiring faculty and staff settle into their well deserved retirement, it is with pleasure that we recognize each

of them by listing their name in a special section of this newsletter. If you see a name of a colleague who you worked with or know, please send them a congratulatory note with an invitation to join us, through SUAA, in our effort to protect our pensions and benefits and to continue our special SIU connection.

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## In Remembrance of Interim Chancellor Paul Sarvela

by Douglas Bedient, SIUC Annuitants Association President

The death of Interim Chancellor Paul Sarvela serves as a reminder of how fragile life is. My dealings with Dr. Sarvela were limited. But I did chair the doctoral study of a faculty member in CASA and served as an outside member on other Ph.D. committees for several other CASA faculty members. Dr. Sarvela always attended the final oral examinations. He would listen attentively as the committee raised questions and debated points with the student. But when other questions were opened he always had interesting points to raise. Students were asked to relate their research to their current position and how the degree would benefit their program and their own students. I thought this was the sign of an administrator who put his people first and made their educational progress an important part of his own work. I know he will be missed. This is a somber time since his death was a shock to the campus. Let’s keep his family in our thoughts and prayers and remember what a special man Paul was!



Paul Sarvela

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## *A message from the president*



**Douglas Bedient, President**  
SIUC Annuity Association

**G**reetings! We annuitants have had good news in the past several months. The *Kanerva vs. Weems* decision that health insurance was part of the pension package was excellent news for us retirees. The state's decision to assess fees that ranged from 1 to 4% of a pension for health insurance was sent back to a lower court by the Illinois Supreme Court in a decision with only one dissenting vote.

Some of us were probably astounded to hear that Central Management Services proceeded with plans to increase health insurance assessments in July even after the *Kanerva* decision. Health insurance fees were increased for the month of July but SUAA intervened. The protest was upheld and the insurance increase was rolled back.

SUAA has moved to have the health insurance payments we annuitants paid returned. So all in all, we have had success in the battle with the pension reform that called for partial payment of health insurance by retirees. But there are other court cases to be fought.

When you review the data about membership in SUAA and contributions to the Legal Fund that permit SUAA to take legal action, much remains to be done. I realize that I am preaching to the choir as this newsletter goes to members of SUAA (and recent retirees who we hope will join us). I think about Henry David Thoreau as I analyze our Chapter's and the state's SUAA membership as well as Legal Fund support. Thoreau opposed the 1847 U.S. invasion of Mexico and was bitterly opposed to slavery. To protest these policies he decided he would not pay taxes. His protest resulted in an arrest and subsequent jailing. His friend, Ralph Waldo Emerson, visited and asked, "Henry, what are you doing in there?" Thoreau replied, "Waldo, what are you doing out there?"

We have about 750 members in the SIU Carbondale Annuity Association. The total SUAA membership is about 15,750. Contributions to the Legal Fund as of September 12 totaled \$339,217.04 from 3,062 people. Those of us who are members and contributors know that SUAA is defending the pension and benefits that we were promised. But why do so many retirees and current employees act a bit like Ralph Waldo Emerson and ask, "What are you doing?"

It is clear that the state of Illinois needs and wants to do something to reduce its pension deficit. So far the efforts have focused on changing the rules for retirees and current workers. This battle is not going to just go away after the *Kanerva vs. Weems* decision. The legal action SUAA is taking requires funding. How about becoming an advocate for the work of SUAA?

First of all, think about the retirees and current employees that you come into contact with. How often have you even mentioned that SUAA is working diligently to protect our pensions and benefits? One of our members recently told me that some retirees don't even realize that SUAA was successful in keeping the health insurance premium at the level of 2013-14. This happens because many have direct deposit of funds and may not track the amount of deposits to an account. But SUAA was successful in keeping health insurance premiums at the 1 or 2% level rather than doubling as CMS had in mind in July. And in October no health insurance premiums were deducted. SUAA is filing papers to have the premiums that we paid returned to us. Do you think that the state would have taken these measures if SUAA and other retiree groups had not joined together, gone to court and fought the changes?

Spread the word to your friends and ask that they join in this movement. One recommendation was to send a month or two of the amount of your health care premium increase to the Legal Fund of SUAA to help maintain our momentum. Help us recruit new members and ask others to join in supporting the Legal Fund that is putting money back in your account and your pocket. We are making progress! Our chapter membership report increased by 36 in September! Thanks to all who helped!

Concerted action by many of us can help bring about more realistic pension reforms. Please join in today and emulate Henry David Thoreau by taking action! Thanks for your support and encouragement!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Bedient".

*The Annuitant* newsletter is published three times a year by the SIU Carbondale Annuity Association and the Department of Human Resources, Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 27 - 18, 2014 - SIU THANKSGIVING CLOSURE

DECEMBER 25, 2014 - JANUARY 2, 2015 - SIU CHRISTMAS/NEW YEARS CLOSURE

JANUARY 19, 2015 - SIU CLOSURE FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

JANUARY 20 - 23, 2015 - BOOKSTORE GREETERS AT THE STUDENT CTR

SO WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SPRINGFIELD? If the question is, simply, what is happening in Springfield, the answer is a big NOTHING.

The court decisions that we are all anxious to know about are in the future -- an indefinite future.

The law suit that will determine if the state can use its Reserved Sovereign Powers (Police Powers) to protect the decision to make us pay for our health insurance after retirement and diminish our benefits goes forward. The plaintiffs' reply to the state is due October 31, 2014. November 20, 2014 was the date determined for when the court will hear arguments and rule on the motions.

As of today (October 23), the Attorney General's office has requested more time to prepare its case. The extension has not yet been granted. So, we don't know at this point when the health insurance premiums are to be paid back because of this postponement--if granted.

Rep. Raymond Poe has introduced House Bill 6201, which amends the State Finance Act. It contains provisions concerning court ordered refunds of health insurance premiums paid by annuitants, survivors, or retired employees. The bill creates a mechanism for state retiree health insurance premium returns.

Veto sessions are November 19, 20, and 21, then again December 2, 3, and 4. This bill could come up during veto session.

It was pointed out to me that Article 13, Section 5 of the State Constitution also protects those who are currently working. The article specifically states that "membership in any pension or retirement system of the State" is an enforceable contractual relationship "the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired." This emphasis--that all who are members of a retirement system-- clearly includes all current employees who are members of the SURS pension system. I expect to hear this obligation and contract argued further.

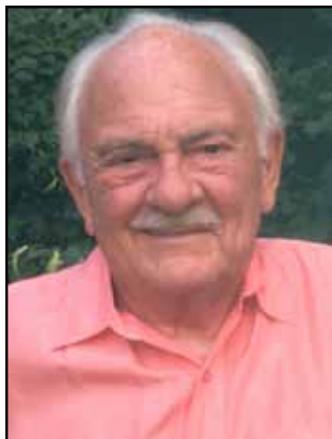
So, for now, we don't know much of what is happening and can only watch and wait. Again, if you are not on the SUAA listserv, email [suaa.org](mailto:suaa.org) to have your email address entered. The Mini Briefings from Linda Brookhart, executive director of SUAA, are the best single source of information on what is happening to our pensions and the pension systems.

And, once again, if you haven't donated to the SUAA Legal Fund, go to the SUAA website ([suaa.org](http://suaa.org)) for details regarding the pension lawsuit and information on how to donate. We've spent over \$300,000 thus far on the lawsuits and will need more in the near future. When current employees talk with you about pensions, point out that the best protection of their pension and benefits is membership in SUAA.

### WIFI now available to campus guests

SIU Carbondale now offers free wifi use to campus guests. When you are on campus and need to access the Internet from your smart phone or iPad you can go to settings and look for the Campus Guest open wifi option. To access the Internet, you will need a password, which can be attained by calling the Information Technology (IT) Helpdesk at 435-5155.

If you are using a laptop, the Campus Guest open wifi should appear as an available open access, and to get the password you would need to call the IT Helpdesk.



**Bruce Appleby, President**  
SUAA Executive Committee

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### Campus Directory no longer available in printed format

For those of you who looked forward to receiving a copy of the Campus Directory each year, take note that the university no longer publishes and distributes the directory. The same information can now be accessed on-line at the SIU website under people finder, at <https://itmf1.it.siu.edu/PF/>.

## *Special Feature - Spotighting our Recent Retirees*

### **Congratulations Recent Retirees—you are special!**

*We need you, and you need us!*

The SIUC Annuitants Association Board and members welcome you to the ranks of retirees.

We encourage you to become a member of the State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA)—the VOICE serving all participants and beneficiaries of the State University Retirement System (SURS). By joining SUAA you also become a member of the SIUC Annuitants Association and will enjoy our many local chapter activities—membership meetings, social activities, newsletter, lecture series, raising funds for scholarships, and many more. At the end of September 2014, the SIUC chapter of SUAA had 754 members. However, we need more support and the Board strongly encourages you to join us.

SUAA is our voice with the Illinois Legislature in Springfield. Our elected officials have proposed legislation that will adversely affect both retirees and active university and community college employees. Your membership will further the advocacy and lobbying efforts of SUAA. Our legislators have told us that their effectiveness in advocating for an organization or group is greatly affected by the number of members in the group. In other words, NUMBERS DO COUNT!

Annual membership is only \$37.00 or \$3.08 per month. This is a small charge to help fund SUAA's efforts in protecting the pensions and benefits of all annuitants--retirees and current employees and survivors.

JOIN TODAY! Go online to [www.suaa.org](http://www.suaa.org) and click on "Join Now" or go to the SIUC Annuitants Association website: [www.annuitants.siu.edu](http://www.annuitants.siu.edu)

Payment options include: annual payment by check or automatic dues deduction from pension checks.

For additional information or questions, please contact me, Thyra Russell. You may reach me at 618-457-7554 or [trussell@siu.edu](mailto:trussell@siu.edu)

Interim Chancellor Paul Sarvela honored 156 Southern Illinois University Carbondale retirees at a recent retirement ceremony and reception at the Student Center. The event honored employees who retired between July 1, 2013 and July 31, 2014. The Annuitants Association congratulates the following members of the 2014 class of retirees listed by hometown, department and years of service.

#### **ILLINOIS**

##### **Anna**

Janet Louise Gollhofer, Continuing Education and Outreach, 16 years.  
Cynthia Kessler-Criswell, Educational Administration and Higher Education, 24 years.  
Judith V. McFadden, School of Social Work, 27 years.  
Elyse Lamm Pineau, Speech Communication, 23 years.

##### **Ava**

Elizabeth E. Cottom, Flight Services, 28 years.

##### **Belleville**

William R. Caldwell, ASA Aviation Management and Flight, 7 years, deceased.

##### **Benton**

Rosemary Cavallari, SIU Foundation Carbondale, 24 years.  
Karen L. Tucker, Illinois Clean Coal Institute, 23 years.

##### **Buffalo Grove**

Carolyn Lee Mohr, Curriculum and Instruction, 10 years.

##### **Buncombe**

Lisa Lynne Tripp, General Counsel and Legal Affairs, SIU University-wide services, 31 years.

##### **Carbondale**

Karen P. Algee, Office of Teacher Education, 6 years.  
Peter H. Argersinger, History, 15 years.  
Deborah D. Babcock, Human Resources, 17 years.  
Harold R. Bardo, MEDPREP/Medical Education Preparatory-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 48 years.  
Diann Sue Bauer, Labor and Employee Relations, 27 years.  
Richard F. Bortz, Workforce Education and Development, 46 years.  
Nazeih M. Botros, Electrical and Computer Engineering, 29 years.  
Clarence L. Boykins, Information Technology, 30 years.  
Dianne Christy, Continuing Education and Outreach, 22 years.  
Michael W. Collard, Physiology-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 20 years.

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Thomas Connelley, Student Center, 26 years.  
Betty Jean Covington, Physical Plant Service, 14 years.  
Herschel A. Davis, University Housing, 9 years.  
Patricia Sue Eckert, Continuing Education and Outreach, 35 years.  
Philip Feinsilver, Mathematics, 35 years.  
Kathleen Cecilia Ginther, School of Music, 15 years.  
Robbie J. Glaser, University Housing, 24 years.  
Richard L. Grabowski, Economics, 34 years.  
John L. Graig, Physical Plant Service, 21 years.  
Scott J. Hagler, Physical Plant Service, 23 years.  
Jane Marie Hinze, Kinesiology, 18 years.  
Frank G. Houdek, School of Law, 29 years.  
Piroska E. Huvos, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology-School of  
Medicine, Carbondale, 15 years.  
Alfred Jackson, University Housing, 15 years.  
Allan L. Karnes, College of Business, 33 years.  
David A. Kidd, Broadcasting Service, 24 years.  
Elizabeth I. Lewin, Educational Administration and Higher Education, 17 years.  
Sharon Sue Lipe, Intercollegiate Athletics, 24 years.  
John R. Magney, School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies, 22 years.  
Olise M. Mandat, Geography and Environmental Resources, 32 years.  
D. John McIntyre, Curriculum and Instruction, 36 years.  
Joyce L. Metcalf, Library Affairs, 21 years.  
Bonnie L. Miller, School of Law, 20 years.  
Claire Mitchell, College of Mass Communications and Media Arts, 30 years.  
Thomas M. Mitchell, Economics, 30 years.  
Salah-Eldin A. Mohammed, Mathematics, 29 years.  
Donald Dean Mullison, Counseling Center, 24 years.  
Elizabeth Porter, Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, 19 years.  
Patricia Sue Richter, Department of Public Safety, 26 years.  
J. Kevin Roth, School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies, 4 years.  
Sara Long Roth, Animal Science Food and Nutrition, 25 years.  
George E. Schedler, Philosophy, 40 years.  
Dallas R. Service, Center for Teaching Excellence, 24 years.  
Bill Shields, Workforce Education and Development, 51 years.  
Judy Simpson, Library Affairs, 26 years.  
Susan Jean Smith, Traffic and Parking, 23 years.  
Frank L. Stemper, School of Music, 30 years.  
John H. Summey, Marketing, 35 years.  
Cynthia Lee Taylor, Student Center, 29 years.  
Trina Kaye Thomas, Broadcasting Service, 26 years.  
Leigh A. Tiebout, School of Allied Health, 30 years.  
Pamela Anne Umlauf-Brown, Student Health Services, 29 years.  
Linda K. Vineyard, Information Technology, 28 years.  
Raymond Francis Wacker, Accountancy, 24 years.  
Mehdi R. Zargham, Computer Science, 30 years.

#### **Carterville**

Connie J. Baker, School of Social Work, 23 years.  
Lowell Wayne Berentsen, Aviation Technologies, 10 years.  
James Louis Carl, Undergraduate Admissions/Enrollment Management, 29 years.  
Larry Wesley Gardner, Bursar, 25 years.  
Becky Anne Johnson, School of Social Work, 7 years.  
Shelly K. Mudd, University Housing, 27 years.  
Thomas Leroy Newton, Intercollegiate Athletics, 18 years.  
Carol A. Reynolds, College of Education and Human Services, 25 years.  
Todd Dee Sigler, Department of Public Safety, 29 years.  
Nancy S. Vale, Mathematics, 49 years.  
Tammy Lee Winter, Library Affairs, 29 years.  
Lynette R. Wright, University Housing, 31 years.

#### **Cobden**

Joan Ball, Theater, 22 years.

Patrick C. Brumleve, University Housing, 28 years.  
Suzanne Lee Garoian, Vice Chancellor for Research, 23 years.  
Pamela Jacobini, Physiology-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 24 years.  
Sherri M. Lukes, School of Allied Health, 26 years.  
Sandra F. Partridge, Accounting Services, 29 years.

#### **De Soto**

Linda Burroughs, College of Applied Sciences and Arts, 27 years.  
David A. NewMyer, Aviation Management and Flight, 38 years.  
Paula J. Parks, Workforce Education and Development, 19 years.  
Dana J. Vinyard, Information Technology, 24 years.

#### **Deerfield**

JoAnne C. Roler, Curriculum and Instruction, 10 years.

#### **Du Quoin**

John Rex Duncan, Office of Economic and Regional Development, 11 years.  
Barbara Suzanne McCrary, Office of Assessment and Program Review, 21 years.  
Judith A. Melton, Learning Support and Testing Services, 8 years.  
Jeffrey Keith Myers, Office of Sponsored Projects Administration, 23 years.

#### **Galatia**

Keith F. Mortag, Aviation Management and Flight, 27 years.

#### **Goreville**

Michele Rushing, College of Agricultural Sciences, 29 years.

#### **Gurnee**

Judith Ann Macrowski, Curriculum and Instruction, 8 years.

#### **Herrin**

Jeanine Bulliner-Ross, University Housing, 29 years.  
Russell Chiaventone, Payroll, Human Resources, 26 years.  
Sharon Mae Richardson, Department of Public Safety, 18 years.  
Vera L. Slankard, SIU Foundation Carbondale, 30 years.  
Brenda K. Winkeler, Recreational Sports and Services, 8 years.

#### **Jonesboro**

Marla Marie Fuller, SIU Foundation Carbondale, 29 years.  
Cathy Jo Reed, Head Start Agency, 21 years.

#### **Makanda**

David G. Gilbert, Psychology, 28 years.  
David G. King, Anatomy-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 36 years.  
Matthew C. MacCrimmon, University Press, 24 years.  
Vicki A. Nelson, Dean of Students, 15 years.  
John Howard Newsome, University Housing, 19 years.  
Barbara Szary, MEDPREP/Medical Education Preparatory-School of  
Medicine, Carbondale, 40 years.

#### **Marion**

George P. Aldridge, University Housing, 17 years.  
Steven E. Banker, Office of Sponsored Projects Administration, 24 years.  
Ronda R. Demattei, School of Allied Health, 31 years.  
Nancy Jane Denis, Head Start Agency, 16 years.  
Bonnie Collier Ebelhar, Institutional Research and Studies, 8 years.  
Diane Marie Richey, Curriculum and Instruction, 23 years.

#### **Morton Grove**

Griff Edward Powell, Curriculum and Instruction, 8 years.

#### **Mount Vernon**

Paul D. Penrod, Physical Plant Service, 12 years.

#### **Murphysboro**

Jeanne Anne Baker, Technology, 34 years.  
Keith H. Beyler, School of Law, 31 years.  
Janet Fay Caraway, Rainbow's End, 13 years.

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Paul T. Chapman, Physical Plant Service, 19 years.  
Maureen L. Doran, Anatomy-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 31 years.  
Valerie Jean Draves, AIS Office, 28 years.  
Laura L. Cates Duncan, School of Law, 34 years.  
Sheila May Echols, Student Center, 30 years.  
Magdalen Sue Hawthorne, Dean of Students, 15 years.  
Beverly Joyce Love, Radio, Television, and Digital Media, 9 years.  
Lisa M. Marks, University Housing, 30 years.  
Sandra L. McRoy, Workforce Education and Development, 30 years.  
Daniel L. Nickrent, Plant Biology, 23 years.  
Glenn W. Poshard, Office of the President, 12 years.  
Gerald C. Ripley, Student Health Services, 28 years.  
Janet L. Rogers, School of Allied Health, 36 years.  
Donna J. Sanders, University Housing, 30 years.  
Fred R. Schnautz, Physical Plant Service, 24 years.  
Donald Sparling, Zoology, 10 years.  
Lidia Claus Stahl, Foreign Languages and Literatures, 25 years.  
Harold G. Tucker, Department of Public Safety, 24 years.  
Martin Joseph Will, Registrar's Office, 32 years.  
Sandra W. Williams, AIS Office, 22 years.

#### **Olney**

Paula E. Nance, Technology Off-Campus Degree Programs, 9 years.

#### **Palatine**

Jeffrey R. Beaulieu, Agribusiness Economics, 31 years.

#### **Percy**

Dennis Kiehna, Plant and Service Operations, 19 years.

#### **Pittsburg**

Matthew A. Orr, Physical Plant Service, 16 years.

#### **Plainfield**

Mark A. Carwyle, Department of Public Safety, 25 years.

#### **Pomona**

Jeffrey Mark Feltman, School of Law, 8 years.

#### **Steeleville**

Louis C. Harding, Information Technology, 11 years.

Marilyn S. Harding, Accounting Services, 8 years.

#### **Stonefort**

Wayne Patrick Whitlock, Information Technology, 9 years.

#### **Troy**

Carolyn Ann Pierce, Student Health Services, 13 years.

#### **Wayne City**

Stanley B. Blank, Curriculum and Instruction, 12 years.

#### **ARKANSAS**

##### **Beebe**

Linda Gail Eubanks, Technology Off-Campus Degree Programs, 9 years.

#### **CALIFORNIA**

##### **San Diego**

Charles Robert Parker, Workforce Education and Development, 17 years.

David Carl Taylor, Workforce Education and Development, 18 years.

#### **LOUISIANA**

##### **Lafayette**

Ronald James Pelias, Speech Communication, 32 years.

#### **MISSOURI**

##### **St. Louis**

Jan Irene Roddy, College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, 25 years.

#### **TEXAS**

##### **Bastrop**

Blaine Bartholomew, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology-School of Medicine, Carbondale, 22 years.

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## **SUAAAction report**

– CAROLYN DONOW

**A**fter our fall letter asking for donations to your Political Action Committee, you came through for us in a big way. Collections thus far have exceeded our goal of \$160,000 by 10%. Thank you!

With that money we were able to make campaign donations and attend fundraisers to keep legislators aware of SUAA issues. Our SUAAAction Board determines the distribution of direct campaign donations based on feedback from our local chapter leaders and our Springfield lobbyists. As co-chair of the Board this year I participated in that meeting on September 17—very interesting and a good way to get insights into candidates on both sides of the aisle. Our lobbyists know the current legislators and their positions on our issues, and they have researched the positions of the new candidates running for office.

These funds are also available for local SUAA leaders to attend in-district fundraisers. When you get an invitation to a local fundraiser, ask the state office for funding and go. The purpose of this is for local SUAA leaders to make our legislators associate us with SUAAAction and talk about SUAA's policy goals on pensions. Your participation at fundraisers can be an important tool to get our message across to our political leaders.

Per state law, SUAAAction sends a quarterly report to the Illinois State Board of Elections. The report lists contributions and expenditures. To help you know how your money is spent, we have a link on our webpage to the D2 reports. Start at the SUAAAction website <http://suaa.org/action.php>. Click on SUAAAction D2 Reports, and then click on the latest Quarterly Report. Scroll down past Receipts to the Expenditures section. Under the Transfers Out, click on Itemized. In that section are the names of all the politicians who have received money from SUAAAction.

Our fiscal year ends in December. Since all of us have two months left to contribute, I will report on total amounts contributed by our chapter and by other chapters in the next newsletter.

# Chapter Happenings

## BOOKSTORE GREETERS

-DOUG BEDIENT

### NEW DEAL AT THE BOOKSTORE

The times they are a changin' for Bookstore Greeters! I think the changes are good news! For sure, the greeters will be less exhausted at the end of a shift. Remember the growing weight of many of the book bags and backpacks over the past years?

I met with Bookstore Manager Chad Nall in October to review our fall work and clarify some matters for January 20-23, 2015. Before I said very much Mr. Nall said he thought it was time for changes in the operation. He was not sure how the program evolved so that most of our efforts went into checking in and returning student items. Chad suggested that greeting students, welcoming them to SIU Carbondale, answering questions, and suggesting solutions for problems students encounter should become our priorities. Such activities have been difficult to address when the load of students checking in and out was very heavy.

There are other reasons for the change too. We know that the bags and backpacks have become heavier and more fragile as computers, phones and tablets became common. I have feared that a bag might be dropped and some expensive item damaged, or an expensive item lost. In the fall one student reported a phone was missing from her bag. Fortunately the phone had fallen out and was found on the floor, but that was not immediately evident. Responsibility for damage and loss has been on Chad's mind and mine.

Mr. Nall plans to hire student workers to take over the check in and out aspects of the operation. Greeters will truly be greeters starting in January. Some greeters have 'retired' because the physical demands were too much. I hope they will return to the team and continuing greeters re-enlist since the physical demands will be reduced.

Recruitment materials will be sent soon. Please consider joining in as we begin a new phase as Bookstore Greeters. You can contact me, Doug Bedient, at 687-2792 if you have questions.

## GOLF

-KEITH MCQUARRIE

No golf outing was held this fall. For all those interested in playing golf, the next golf outing will be planned for Spring 2015. We look forward to having new retirees who enjoy golf join us at our next outing at one of our fine local golf courses.

Watch for further details about our Spring golf outing in the Spring newsletter, on our listserv and on our website.

## EMERITUS FACULTY ORGANIZATION

- BILL WRIGHT

The 2014 Emeritus Faculty Lecture was presented on October 28 by Jeanine Wagner and Margaret Simmons, Professors Emeriti from the School of Music. The title of their program was *It Takes Two*. A crowd of 80 in the Recital Hall in the Old Baptist Foundation watched and listened as Professors Wagner and Simmons talked about and performed examples of the interplay between singer and pianist, and the roles of each, in a performance. The commentary was interesting and enlightening, and the music was outstanding. The appreciation and enthusiasm of the crowd elicited one encore.



## BLOOD

-MARY MANTOVANI

### FALL BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

The AA Blood Drive held on August 26 and 27, 2014 was very successful – a total of 71 pints was collected. Thank you Mary Mantovani, Jackie Mueller, Nancy Pfaff and Roberta Reeves for volunteering to work at the Drive.

The next Drive will be in late January 2015. Let's try to make this Drive even more successful than the last Drive.

To volunteer, please, contact Holly Rick at 453-6689. **CAN'T HELP---DONATE!** Remember that blood is always in great demand.

## CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN SURS CAMPUS MEETING

Several members of the Association were on hand to meet and greet current SIU Carbondale employees who attended an informational meeting conducted by SURS at the Law School Auditorium on October 14.

Board members supplied each of the attendees with SUAA handouts and membership application forms. Board director, Jay Brooks, briefly addressed and welcomed the group prior to the SURS staff presentation on retirement options and benefits.

This was yet another way our local chapter continues to be involved in campus activities involving all annuitants.



## CHAPTER HOLDS 50/50 FOR SUAA LEGAL FUND

Our chapter held a first recently at the Fall General Meeting and raised \$210 for the SUAA Legal Fund. After brainstorming by the executive committee on ways to increase membership and assist with SUAA's Legal Fund fundraising, it was decided to try a 50/50 raffle at the Fall General Membership Meeting. Tickets were sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The lucky winner was Maryann Dorn, who graciously donated her winnings back to the Legal Fund. Thanks to all who participated in our first fundraising effort and an extra special thanks to our winner for her generous donation.

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 Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
 255 Douglas Drive  
 Carbondale, Illinois 62901

202109

**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

**If you are associated with SIU Carbondale...**

You should join the State Universities Annuitants Association. SUAA serves all participants and beneficiaries of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). SUAA is the only advocacy organization focusing solely on preserving pension and healthcare benefits for current employees and retirees of public universities and community colleges. It is important that everyone—retired and current employees, spouses, and survivors—become a member of SUAA. The annual fee is \$37.

**Ways to join:**

- Go to [www.suaa.org](http://www.suaa.org) and click on “Join Now.”
- Go to the Annuitants Association website: <http://eaa.siu.edu/> and click on “Membership Information.” Payment options include automatic dues deduction, annual payment by check, or automatic payroll deduction (current employees only). Automatic dues deduction is encouraged because it eliminates the need to be contacted annually by SUAA.
- Call the SUAA Office toll-free: 888-547-8473.

To those who are already members of SUAA we thank you. To those who have not yet joined, please consider joining today. We need to protect our pension and benefits.

Thyra Russell  
 SIU Carbondale-AA Membership Chair  
 457-7554 or [trussell@siu.edu](mailto:trussell@siu.edu)

**SIU CARBONDALE ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION  
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**WEBSITES TO MARK**

State Universities Annuitants Ass. (SUAA) ..... [suaa.org](http://suaa.org)  
 State Universities Retirement System (SURS) ..... [surs.org](http://surs.org)  
 SIU Carbondale Human Resources ..... [hr.siu.edu](http://hr.siu.edu)  
 SIU Credit Union ..... [www.siu.cu.org/](http://www.siu.cu.org/)  
 Illinois Education Association ..... [ieana.org](http://ieana.org)  
 SIU Alumni Association ..... [siualumni.com](http://siualumni.com)  
 Illinois State Government ..... [www.illinois.gov/](http://www.illinois.gov/)  
 SIU Carbondale Annuitants Association ..... [annuitants.siu.edu](http://annuitants.siu.edu)

**FACEBOOK PAGES TO JOIN**

STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION  
 SIU CARBONDALE ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION