

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

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SIUE DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY HOUSING RETIRES

This weekend on Segue, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's premier radio show that discusses the lives and work of the people on campus and beyond, SIUE Chancellor Randy Pembrook, PhD, interviews Director of University Housing, Mike Schultze.

This episode of Segue aired at 9 a.m. this Sunday, August 4, 2019, on WSIE 88.7 FM The Sound and siue.edu/wsie.

Schultze recently retired after serving as Director since 1988. He was responsible for planning, constructing, and maintaining SIUE's student housing units. Schultze was integral to transforming SIUE from a commuter campus to a residence campus. Schultze also advanced quality-of-life initiatives for student housing residents.

Schultze did some work for then Vice-Chancellor Rockingham outside of SIUE and they became acquainted. Rockingham approached Schultze about her plans to build residence housing to expand SIUE's potential reach. Schultze saw this as an exciting opportunity to transform the institution.

Pembrook stated the biggest difference he noticed coming back as Chancellor three years ago as opposed to his student days in the 1970s, is that there is now a constant presence of people actually on campus.

Schultze reflected back on the origins of his interest in University housing. As an undergraduate, he was a resident advisor at his own University (Mercer), and then promoted to Head Resident Advisor.

Schultze used the University Placement Service and started working in student housing in Atlanta, Ga. Schultze said part of his initial interest was a desire to interact with students. As he moved up the ladder, he found himself moving further and further from the orbit of students. Schultze found he had to be intentional in his planning in order to maintain a level of contact with students.

Schultze stated he was very touched by returning students who chose to come back to attend Schultze's retirement ceremony. It made him feel good that he created a positive enough experience for students to want to come back to honor him.

When asked about the transition from calling student housing “dormitories” transitioned to referring to “residence halls”. Schultze stated that “dormitory” conjured up the image of a military style-housing unit, institutional and sterile. Housing professionals were determined to make residence halls places that students could feel at home.

To hear this episode in its entirety, return to the College of Arts and Sciences website and choose “College Talk” for our episode archives. Or, follow this link:

http://www.siue.edu/artsandsciences/CASsegue_prevshows.html .