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## SEGUE

# SIUE's Pembroke & Budzban reflect on 2018-19 academic year

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For the Intelligencer

On this week's episode of Segue, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's premier radio show, co-hosts Greg Budzban, PhD, College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) dean, and SIUE Chancellor Randy Pembroke, PhD, took time to reflect upon the recently concluded 2018-19 academic year. This episode will air at 9 a.m. Sunday, June 16, on WSIE 88.7 FM The Sound and [siue.edu/wsie](http://siue.edu/wsie).

"It has become a tradition to have you on as a guest and talk about the academic year we just finished, as well as interview you in the fall and share what you are looking forward to in the year to come," Budzban says.

Last September, Budz-



Budzban

ban was pleased to witness the opening and rededication of the Science East complex.

"Most of SIUE's campus went up between 1965 and into the 1970s," Chancellor Pembroke says. "The University built '100-year buildings' with the hope that we would update them 50 years into the 100 years.

"Building by building,



Pembroke

we will be doing a renovation of all the original buildings. We started in Science East, are working now on Founders Hall, then moving on to Rendleman, and the Morris University Center."

That barely scratches the surface of SIUE's massive renovation undertakings. Changes will also be occurring from September to late December

at the SIUE East St. Louis Center.

"We found that people wanted a little bit more flexibility in the multipurpose room," Pembroke says. "We took their insights into consideration and will be dividing that space with moveable walls.

"People will be able to play sports in the room, and folks can continue to hold recitals and have group meetings in that space."

A new pediatric dental center will also become part of the SIU School of Dental Medicine footprint within the 2019-2020 academic year; the center will conduct oral surgeries that have normally been completed at hospitals, which will reduce waiting periods for children with special dental needs.

"As of the time we

recorded this interview, our state lawmakers have recently concluded a legislative session," Budzban says. "This time, we emerged with a budget on time! That's cause for celebration."

"When I originally arrived on campus, we were operating on around 27 percent of our operating budget," Pembroke recalls. "The next year, we were working with about 50 percent, and the other 50 percent was retroactively funded before we received a 10-percent cut.

"The news out of Springfield a few weeks ago was very good for higher education. We now have a 5-percent increase in base funding, and they renewed a commitment to MAP and AIM High."

MAP refers to the Monetary Award Program, which provides grants,

that do not need to be repaid, to Illinois residents who demonstrate financial need. AIM High grants encourage Illinois residents to attend college within the state by providing renewable, financial assistance. Not only do these grants allow students to attend college affordably, but also, they allow students to have less debt once they graduate.

With funding also granted for the SIUE School of Pharmacy and the NCERC at SIUE, Pembroke believes this legislative session has been one of the most successful in recent years.

To hear more of Pembroke and Budzban's reflections on the 2018-19 academic term, tune in to Segue at 9 a.m. this Sunday, June 16, on WSIE 88.7 FM The Sound and [siue.edu/wsie](http://siue.edu/wsie).