

SIUE Chapter of the State Universities Annuitants Association  
June 18, 2018  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Morris University Center

## Call to Order

President John Jennetten welcomed new retirees attending, called the meeting to order, and introduced Chancellor Pembroke for welcome.

## Welcome by Chancellor Pembroke

Chancellor Pembroke - welcomed everyone to SIUE and thanked Linda Brookhart for all her work. He then gave some University highlights:

- Thanked President Dunn for his support for a system reallocation
- SIUE graduated approximately 2600 students this May Commencements.
- 60% of alums live within 60 miles of campus
- Nursing Master's program ranked top 100
- Have Initiated some successful community programs with various municipalities.
- Have nursing, pharmacy and dental programs in Costa Rica
- Hosted World Trade Center conference
- Four alums were highlighted in St. Louis Under 40 top leaders.
- Student athletes have achieved 3.0 GPA for 12 years in a row.
- SIUE is fastest growing university with lowest costs and lowest debt
- SIUE community ranked 11th safest.

He wrapped up by thanking everyone for their service. Questions were then asked by the audience.

## Welcome to new SIUE SUAA Chapter board members:

President John Jennetten introduced new board members: Kelly Thompson Hess, William Retzlaff, Keith Becherer, Lora Miles and Connie Stamper Carr

## Introduction of Senator Andy Manar by Linda Brookhart

Senator Manar told a little about himself then talked about the recently passed 2019 State Budget and referenced the last couple of years budget impasse and challenges.

Some of the highlights for this year's budget included:

- Four million for MAP.
- New program of 25 million to be matched by the universities that can be awarded to Illinois students for unmet financial aid need to get students to stay in Illinois.
- 2% increase in Higher Ed Budget

Senator Manar says they still have their work cut out for them. Board of Education looking at proposal that would give them spending authority over Universities. He then entertained and answered questions from the audience.

## Linda Brookhart, SUAA Executive Director

Linda reminded everyone of the upcoming Annual meeting later this week and the focus on higher Ed. She talked about the challenge of 40 new legislators to be elected this coming election. She talked about the Pension Debt and noted that only 20 some percent of folks are on pensions. When the state pension system was initiated they knew it would not work in the long run but no one has ever visited or reviewed it. Now it is completely unaffordable.

She talked briefly about the Tier I pension buyout that has passed and not sure who would take advantage of this unless terminally ill or non-active. Also noted they are watching the Tier III - defined contribution plan proposal which currently is not showing any social security line. SUAA is not looking to support Tier III plan unless it includes a social security alignment.

Linda then entertained and answered any questions from the audience.

## Treasurer's Report by David Ault

SIUE Credit Union account balance as of 5/31/18 was \$7,795.76. Receipts from dies were \$1,256.00 and expenditures of \$821.99. Have a CD and interest rate went from 2% to 2.5%.

## Membership Report by Jo Gibson

- Co-chair of state membership committee and a candidate for SUAA state office.
- SUAA/SIUE Membership is currently at 480 members.
- Currently gathering ideas for program presentations to members and for current employees to get their interest to join. Chapter has a website. Biggest question is what can we bring to this millennial population. Jo reinforced how we can help by joining today if not already a member, get your colleagues to join, sponsor a colleague or sign up your spouse and be an active member.

Appeal for new members and committee volunteers

President John Jennetten reminded everyone to attend the SIUE Retirement Recognition immediately following our program. He thanked everyone for coming and adjourned meeting.