

SUAA/SIUE Chapter Newsletter

SUAA is Celebrating its 50th Year!

Your SIUE Chapter of SUAA was formed on April 4, 1973, with 29 members. Then President Rendleman acknowledged the local chapter and immediately pledged his office's support.



SIUE's Dr. William Tudor served as SUAA's President 1978-79, and Mary Routh Beem served as SUAA Secretary 1975-78 receiving glowing resolution for her work at three Annual Assemblies and for her 'motivating forces of the Association.'

Information taken from [SUAA Through the Years 1971-1991](#).

February Event Recap

On February 24, SUAA offered a virtual event hosted by the UIC Chapter entitled "Will the State Keep its Promise? Are SURS Pensions at Risk?" Speakers were Dr. Ann Lousin, Professor at UIC John Marshall Law School, and Eric Madier, Madier Government Relations, LLC. Both have significant experience with the legislature. You can access the recorded webinar from our website at <https://www.siu.edu/suaa/chapter-activities/02-24-21.shtml>.

Campus Information

SIU System President Dan Mahony

In an effort to get to know both campuses well, President Mahony lived first near SIUC and now lives close to SIUE. His office is in the Chancellor's suite in Rendleman Hall. Ultimately, President Mahony may live near Springfield for the long term. Read more of his comments in the *The Alestle* at: <https://bit.ly/3amlZey>.

In-Person Commencement

SIUE announced in-person commencement at Ralph Korte Stadium! An Inclement Weather Plan has been established.

To adhere to the Restore Illinois Plan as well as SIUE's safety protocols, ceremonies have been split into smaller groups. This spring SIUE will host upwards of 14 ceremonies on **Saturday, May 1 and Thursday-Sunday, May 6-9** including inviting back 2020 Spring, Summer and Fall graduates. A full list of ceremony times are listed on the SIUE Commencement site: <https://bit.ly/3n3Eyu7>.

All graduates are welcome to bring two guests to their ceremony.

All ceremonies will also be live streamed for any guests not able to attend due to the ticket limitation.

All graduates and guests will be required to complete a COVID-19 self-assessment before coming to campus and must wear masks the entire time on campus. Masks can be removed while crossing the stage and for the photo opportunity.

Campus Covid Information

Covid-19 Campus Town Hall meetings can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3v3ZvYN>.

All Covid-19 Campus Messages are listed here: <https://bit.ly/2P27jLg>. Spring Enrollment and Fall Enrollment projections are included in the April 9th Campus Message.

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Meet Michael Schultz



- SIUE Chapter Board Member
- Current SIUE Covid-19 Coordinator
- Former SIUE Housing Director

Even as a 30 year plus employee, I was not always aware of the importance of SUAA. It was not until about 20 years into my career that I saw the influence that SUAA had in 2013-2015 fighting, all the way to the Illinois Supreme Court, to save the State pension from being drastically overhauled. Without that investment of time and resources from SUAA, our futures would have been changed drastically. It was that advocacy that convinced me to join and be an active member of SUAA. With budgets always going to be tight in the State of Illinois, we need SUAA, and more importantly members of SUAA, to help protect our futures.

SURS Updates

You should have received an email from SURS regarding Trustee Elections beginning April 1 and ending May 3rd. A follow up email contained instructions for voting on-line, by phone, or by paper ballot. (Eligible members who do not have a valid email on file with SURS will receive voting materials by U.S. mail.)

This is an important election. Please take the time to learn about each candidate and vote. These elected trustees will be your voice on the SURS board. To read the candidate statements, visit the following SURS link: <https://bit.ly/3gwwhhh>.

Visit the SURS website at www.surs.org for more updates including a new Deferred Compensation Plan, the SURS Winter Newsletter, and the resignation of the SURS Executive Director.

SUAA State Office

The Annual Meeting and election of officers will be held by Zoom June 17-18.

The Fall Meeting will be held November 17 and it is hoped this can be in-person.

Watch your email/mail for details.

SUAA Foundation

SUAA Foundation Survivor's Assistance Bookmark

The SUAA Foundation offers laminated survivor's assistance bookmarks. The bookmarks contain a wealth of information for you or your loved ones to keep with your important papers for your survivors. Please call 217-523-4040 to order a bookmark. There is no cost for the bookmarks.

SUAAAction

Illinois' current population is 12.65 million.

The State could lose at least one congressional seat and one electoral vote in the Electoral College upon final confirmation of the 2020 Census.

Unfortunately, the US Census Bureau will not be able to provide the Illinois population data until September, since the pandemic slowed the gathering of this much needed information.

The Illinois Constitution requires a new redistricting map be approved by June 30, 2021. A formal decision about what to do has not been made. It is clear that a decision needs to be made soon.

All legislators – both House and Senate – will be up for re-election in 2022. This can cause problems with filing to run for an elected office, as those deadlines cannot be initiated earlier. Due to the decrease in population, Illinois will most likely lose another congressional seat. There are currently 18 congressional seats. Illinois peaked in 1949 – 1953

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with 26 seats. The 26th congressional district of Illinois was created in 1949 but was eliminated due to the result of the 1950 Census.

Read the entire SUAAAction Newsletter at:
<https://bit.ly/3dqrBHR>

Legislative Affairs

102 General Assembly Session Schedule
Illinois House Calendar
<https://bit.ly/3dpR9EE>

Illinois Senate Calendar
<https://bit.ly/2QA6gmd>

Stay Up to Date

Stay up to date with your SUAA/SIUE Chapter by visiting our web site: <https://www.siue.edu/suaa/>.

Keep the State SUAA office apprised of changes to your contact information, especially your email address. For instance, if you retire and decide to stop using your SIUE email account, let us know the new, preferred email address you will be using. That allows us to be able to communicate more directly with you. It also saves the chapter the expense of mailing information to members for whom we do not have an active email address.

Contact the State Office at (217) 523-4040 with all updates.

Your SUAA/SIUE Chapter Board

John Jennetten, President
Nobby Emmanuel, Vice President
Lora Miles, Secretary
David Ault, Treasurer
Jo Gibson, Membership Coordinator
Keith Becherer
Jan Caban
Bill Retzlaff;
Stephanie Robbins
Michael Schultz
Connie Stamper-Carr
David Steinberg
Kelly Thompson-Hess
Ann Emmanuel, Website Content Manager

