

PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY OF THE SUAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

JULY 30, 2025

[**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** My apologies for the delay in completing this most recent meeting summary. Following the July 30 meeting, I left for a planned vacation followed by some family visits. Hopefully back to the regular schedule now with the end of summer--
Randy Dunn]

The SUAA Board convened in regular session and approved minutes from regular and special meetings on April 30, May 19, and June 10, 2025. The Board also reviewed draft minutes from the 2025 Annual Business Meeting. All approved minutes will be posted at www.suaa.org where additional details and related discussion notes can be found.

Highlights of the July 30 meeting include the following:

- ❖ The **President's Report** noted that with Betty Zeedyk (Parkland College Chapter) being elected to the Region 3 Community College Director position, her outgoing position of Secretary is now vacant (with no one having run for that position this spring). SUAA's Kathy Walbert was asked to prepare meeting minutes until the position of Secretary is no longer vacant. Additionally, after presenting her for Board consideration, Tanya Gallagher (UIUC Chapter) was unanimously appointed to serve as Region 3 University Director. We welcome Tanya to the Board and appreciate her willingness to serve!
- ❖ The **Treasurer's Report** consisted of a review of the most recent Treasurer's report and financial statements through June 30. Treasurer Larry Kloc also noted corrections made by the SUAA Special Finance Committee to reflect an operating cash fund balance of \$206,662. Larry also reported that the Finance Committee plans to make certain changes to the accounts structure for easier tracking and monitoring—to include not just the operating, but also the reserve accounts. Finally, the Board approved a new budget transfer policy as recommended by the Finance Committee.
- ❖ The **Legislative Committee** reported on some key legislative items: Meetings at various levels are being held regarding issues around access to the healthcare issues that our SUAA members are experiencing. The fall veto session starts this year on October 14 (see below regarding SUAA's Fall Meeting being held on October 15 in Springfield). Representative Jay Hoffman, leader of the House

Democrats' "Pension Working Group," will be on the SIUE campus September 3, 2025. Executive Director Bryan Soady will join that session.

- ❖ Reporting for the **Membership Committee** was Pat Asher who shared successful practices highlighting the importance of non-faculty staff members for strengthening overall enrollment numbers in SUAA. Auto enrollments are up to 1,450 for the year.
- ❖ In the interest of time (as the meeting was running long), **Regional Directors** reports were limited to reminding the Board of their respective regional meeting/call dates.
- ❖ The **Executive Director's Report** indicated plans for the Fall Meeting to be held on October 15 at the Inn at 835 in Springfield. Extended discussion also took place regarding scheduling and venue for the 2026 Annual Meeting (possibly to be held at the I-Hotel in Champaign). In the continuing discussion about staffing, SUAA has received six resumes for the office administrator/manager which had been advertised (after Kathy Walbert moved to Director of Operations); Bryan is also investigating utilizing a person or service on a limited contractual basis to assist with digital media. Following Board discussion about its ongoing importance, Bryan will update the strategic plan (from its earlier framework) and begin including a strategic planning tracking/monitoring report at every regular meeting of the Board.
- ❖ In **Other Business**, the Board entertained the possibility of a future policy or bylaw establishing an emeritus board membership. Research on possible approaches and language will take place before the next regular Board meeting on October 30 to extend this discussion before any action is recommended.

Lastly, the Board moved into an executive session—no action was taken as a result and the meeting adjourned immediately thereafter.

Please consider attending the SUAA Fall Meeting in Springfield on October 15. With the Illinois General Assembly in session, it is sure to be an interesting and informative day—and an opportunity to see colleagues from around the state!