# Illinois State Annuitants Association Newsletter State Annuitants Association Newsletter Region of the state of the stat

ISUAA—serving annuitants and survivors since 1971

Volume 14 Number 4 Summer 2020

## inside

From the ISUAA President1
How Time Flies2
Report on ISUAA Membership Drive3
Annual Dinner and Business Meeting3
In memoriam3
President Dietz's April 9 letter to the campus community 4
Summer news from ISU Alumni Association4
TeeBirds invite new members and look to start as soon as possible 5
Additional TeeBird information 5
The ISU University Club5
Save these dates5
Helping Hamper 6
Retiring?6
SUAA 2020 legislative platform 6
Context for the 2020 legislative action plan6
The 2020 legislative action plan 7
5

#### Illinois State Annuitants Association Newsletter

Published quarterly

Illinois State University Annuitants Association

Campus Box 8000, Normal, IL 61790-8000

Annuitants.IllinoisState.edu

#### From the ISUAA president

By Gail A. Lamb, galamb@IllinoisState.edu

#### **Welcome to our Summer Newsletter!**

We hope you are staying healthy and well during these new and challenging times. We apologize for the sudden cancellation of the March luncheon, done due to health concerns related to coronavirus (COVID-19) and the timely decisions made by Dr. Larry Dietz, president of Illinois State University, to begin online teaching for our students and faculty. Now, please note, that for the same reasons, our board has decided to cancel the June 17 Annual Dinner and Election meeting. We will plan to hold ISUAA elections at our September 2 Fall Breakfast meeting, which will also feature Larry and Marlene Dietz! In addition, you will receive the usual late July issue of our ISUAA newsletter, which will include more information about the September meeting and the reservation form for that event, assuming activities will have returned to some sense of regularity. Please look at the announcement made by President Dietz on Thursday, April 9 regarding the summer activities and plans at the University. I am including his comments verbatim on page 4.

#### **Membership Update**

I am pleased to report that our efforts to increase membership continue to have an effect. You will recall that these efforts included an email blast to all employees in January, followed by a letter of invitation with attached membership forms in February. During the Founders Celebration, we supported a membership table and greeted many faculty and staff. We again are offering an Amazon gift card award drawing for new members who join prior to May 31. Thus far, we have already welcomed 48 since September 2019—an amazing increase when added also to the 87 who joined the previous year. We continue to be pleased to welcome so many current employees and new retirees who have become members.

#### Thought for the day, from author Leo Buscaglia

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

Looking forward to seeing you again at our September 2 meeting! May you be healthy and safe.

gaie a. Lamb

#### **How Time Flies**

By April Anderson-Zorn University archivist, Dr. Jo Ann Rayfield Archives at Illinois State University

#### 150 years ago - 1870

• The board received notice of two resignations from the grammar school: Joseph Carter, principal, and Mary Pennell, school assistant. Upon the news, the board announced it had: "Resolved, That, in accepting these resignation, we take pleasure in bearing testimony to the skill, earnestness and fidelity with which these teachers have done their duty. We heartily commend Mr. Carter, as an able manager and most efficient instructor, and Miss Pennell, as a most estimable lady and able teacher." With Pennell's resignation, the board's committee on teachers recommended that her duties be "performed by the Assistant of the High School, and by more general use of the services of the more advanced students of the Normal Department." Proceedings of the Board of Education of the State of Illinois, Meeting Minutes, June 22 and 23, 1870, pages 6, 12.

#### 100 years ago – May–July 1920

- The University announced Memorial Day exercises that would honor the Gold Star men of the campus who served in World War I. Plans included the folding and storing of five service flags created and displayed during the war. As stated in *The Vidette*: "The large flag of the entire university, the university high school flag, the Wrightonian flag, the library flag, and the flag of the commercial department." The second half of the event would dedicate a boulder containing a tablet with the names of all Illinois State Normal University men who died in the war. *The Vidette*, May 26, 1920 (Vol. 32, No. 34, page 1).
- Illinois State Normal University held its 61st commencement exercises in the manual arts auditorium. The program included the processional (Liberty March), a performance of the "Wedding March of the Romany" by the ISNU orchestra, an invocation by Rev. Henry B. Wooding, singing of the bridal chorus from the Rose Maiden by the ISNU Choral Club, the commencement address by Harvey C. Minnich of the Miami (Ohio) Teachers College, singing of "The Nightingale" and "The Rose" by the ISNU Choral Club, the awarding of the diplomas, the conferring of degrees by Charles Capen, and a benediction by Wooding. *The Vidette*, June 11, 1920 (Vol. 32, No. 36, pages 2–3).
- The Vidette reported on the jobs secured by some of the institution's recent graduates. Sixty alumni reported finding employment after graduation, and "about twice as many grade positions as high school positions, with about a dozen who are to do departmental work." The newspaper also reported a salary range of \$800 to \$2,600 for these graduates, with an additional selection of older alumni who recently took promotions. The Vidette, June 28, 1920 (Vol. 32, No. 38, page 1).
- Angeline Vernon Milner, university librarian, asked students who either served in World War I or knew of someone who served to come by the library and complete the university war

register. Milner notes: "Its historical value is such that it is already being consulted for information needed by the State Historical Society, and various publishing houses." Milner noted that on Memorial Day, the service flag bore 675 stars. Administration later learned more student served than they were aware, and more starts were needed. Milner had this to say to students: "Will you see whether we have done justice to all of your friends who belong on this War Roster?" *The Vidette*, July 5, 1920 (Vol. 32, No. 39, page 1).

#### 75 years ago – May–July 1945

- In addition to four other Illinois universities, ISNU was chosen as a veterans testing service center by the Veterans Administration. The center would evaluate veterans and "determine the type of training WWII veterans will need before returning to civilian employment." The new center would initially open in the psychology laboratory in the Industrial Arts building before moving to the Navy V-12 infirmary at 308 Mulberry St. *The Vidette*, May 9, 1945 (Vol. 57, No. 28, page 1).
- The Vidette reported on a weather station hub that was housed just south of North Hall. The hub, one of 150 in the state of Illinois, was considered to be in a perfect location—not too high, not too low, and provided maximum and minimum readings each day on the temperature, rainfall, and wind direction. Harry Johnson was the official 'weatherman' for the hub and collected the data each day at 5 p.m. However, ISNU geography department head Dr. H.O. Lathrop said that a thermograph should also be installed to register a continuous record of temperatures. The Vidette, May 23, 1945 (Vol. 57, No. 30, page 4).
- The last of the V-12 Navy ISNU students graduated and the program was decommissioned June 16. Lt. Meldrim Burrill "presented a special citation of commendation by Secretary James Forrestal to President R.W. Fairchild." Six framed photographs of the graduating V-12 classes were presented to the University at the ceremony as well as the banner flag and the war bond banner. *The Vidette*, June 20, 1945 (Vol. 57, No. 32, page 1).
- Five teachers were hired to fill vacancies at the University and at University High School: Dr. B.R. Ulsvick as the new associate professor of mathematics; Dorothy Eckelman as the new speech correctionist in the department of speech; Ella Leppert and Frances Alexander as new teachers at University High School in the social science department; and Rowene Stanley as a temporary instructor in the physical education department. *The Vidette*, July 25, 1945 (Vol. 57, No. 35, page 4).

#### 50 years ago – May-July 1970

A new performance group, Dance Theatre, was formed. Sponsored by the Department for Health and Physical Education for Women, this group was an 'outgrowth' of the 50-year-old dance club, Orchesis. The new club would give members the opportunity to include increasingly popular forms of dance in their routines, such as jazz and ballet. Men and women of any age and any major could join the group, which would serve as

- a "creative outlet for those who like to dance and choreograph." *The Vidette*, May 5, 1970 (Vol. 82, No. 61, page 5).
- Students from ISU participated in a memorial service at the Quad flag pole on May 6 to remember the lives lost in the Kent State University shooting two days earlier. In response, President Samuel Braden called for a six-day search for a response on the ISU campus. During those days, the American flag would fly at half-staff on campus. "Four of those days will be in the memory of the Kent (State) University students, two will honor the memory of Black Panthers Fred Hampton and Mark Clark who were killed in Chicago in January, and May 19 will honor the birthday of Malcolm-X." *The Vidette*, May 7, 1970 (Vol. 82, No. 62, page 1).
- Braden announced his resignation the week of June 12. *The Vidette* described the campus atmosphere as one of "stunned disbelief and regret" at the surprise announcement. The Academic Senate also expressed "profound regret" and stated: "As members of the first Academic Senate of Illinois State University, which was created during (Braden's) presidency and under his tutelage, we pledge to continue the deliberations of this body in a tradition exemplified by this resolute and spirited leadership." Vice President and Provost of Northern Illinois University Francis R. Geigle took over as acting president of Illinois State University on September 1. *The Vidette*, July 1, 1970 (Vol. 83, No. 1, page 1).
- The new General Services building opened over the summer in west campus. Located south of Tri-Towers, the new fire-resistant facility housed University service departments such as photographic services, electronic repair services, the security police office, and personnel office. The new facility also served as a printing location for University Printing Services and contained classrooms for Graphic Arts and Printing as well as community rooms for service training. This building would eventually be renamed to the Nelson Smith Building. The Vidette, July 9, 1970 (Vol. 83, No. 2, page 1).

#### 25 years ago - May-July 1995

- The University Library Committee proposed a \$77,000 multimedia laboratory for Milner Library. The proposal included 20 computers, 10 IBM clones, and 10 Apple Power Macintosh 6100s, all with printers and laserdisc players. The lab would be implemented over three years, with funds also supporting student staff to supervise the use of the lab. According to University Library Committee member Fred Peterson: "Electronic text and multimedia programs are the direction that education is going." The Vidette, May 1, 1995 (Vol. 107, No. 150, page 3).
- Violent thunderstorms and a tornado warning forced students into stairwells on the evening of May 9. While some residence hall students studying for finals found themselves in dorm stairwells for about an hour, others found that their 8 p.m. final exams were delayed. ISU Provost John Urice initially pushed exams back thirty minutes but changed it to an hour once the weather service extended the tornado warning. The alert was sent over intercoms and broadcast on local radio and TV stations. The Vidette, May 10, 1995 (Vol. 107, No. 155, pages 1, 10).

- The Bone Student Center announced two new eateries for the fall semester. Premium Yogurt and Ice Cream would replace the now-closed Dairy Queen. Also opening was Coffee and Tea Express. These two new establishments would give the Bone Student Center a total of seven restaurants. The others are McDonald's, Taco Bell Express, Pizza Hut Express, D.J.'s Deli, and the 1857 Cafe. Citing additional space next to the old Dairy Queen, ISU's Catering Manager Harvey Meister said the two new eateries would take the vacant space and open next to one another. *The Vidette*, July 6, 1995 (Vol. 108, No. 3, page 3).
- Three Redbird baseball players were drafted by Major League Baseball. Andy Schofield had just completed his senior year with Redbird baseball and signed with the St. Louis Cardinals, who selected him in the 25th round. Bill Brabec had one year of eligibility left but instead signed with the Toronto Blue Jays. Incoming freshman Craig Taczy, who signed a National Letter of Intent with the Redbirds to pitch, instead signed with the Los Angeles Dodgers. *The Vidette*, July 19, 1995 (Vol. 108, No. 5, page 16).

#### Report on ISUAA Membership Drive

Our ISUAA Membership Drive thus far has been wonderfully successful, and we will continue with additional efforts in the coming year. Please refer also to the SUAA legislative platform 2020 included toward the end of this newsletter.

#### **Annual Dinner and Business Meeting**

The Annual Dinner and Business (elections) meeting scheduled for June 17 has been canceled. Elections and additional business will be held at our Annual Fall Breakfast meeting which will be on September 2, 2020.

#### In memoriam

Heather Dennis	12/16/2019
Patricia Foltz	3/25/2020
Lynne Higgins	3/12/2020
Daniel Hinrichsen	1/19/2020
Betty Hinthorn	2/3/2020
Judith Holt	2/13/2020
Robert Hursey	2/23/2020
Peter Krueger	1/16/2020
George Lohnes	12/13/2019
Lillie O'Connell	1/16/2020
Gerald Parsons	1/6/2020
Jerry Phelps	2/4/2020
Vernon Pohlmann	
Mary Rozum	3/15/2020
Lawrence Stubbs	2/3/2020
Dina Vaughan	1/11/2020
Roger Weller	

## President Dietz's April 9 letter to the campus community

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

I hope this day finds you healthy, in good spirits, and closely following all national and state guidelines for taking care of yourself and others during this pandemic.

As we continue to experience the effects of COVID-19 on our country, our state, and our university, it has become clear that Summer 2020 will not be a return to summers as we have known them on our campus. It is with this understanding that I share with you our plans for classes and operations at Illinois State University for Summer 2020.

We understand that these decisions impact not only our faculty, staff, and students but also those who use our facilities for a multitude of purposes. We will continue to teach, learn, and serve the community to the best of our abilities albeit in nontraditional ways.

#### **Summer classes**

All undergraduate and graduate summer courses will be taught online. The University will continue to evaluate clinical and lab experiences for relevant disciplines and determine whether alternative learning experiences can be provided over the summer. All summer courses will be graded utilizing traditional grading scales for those courses.

#### **Preview**

Preview, Illinois State University's two-day summer orientation and registration program required for all incoming first-year students, will be moved to a virtual environment. More details will be made available to incoming students, their families, and the campus community as plans are finalized.

### Summer camps, conferences, events, and activities

All summer camps, conferences, events, and activities held on the Illinois State University campus or sponsored by Illinois State scheduled through July 31, 2020 shall be postponed or canceled.

#### Faculty/staff travel

All University-related, non-essential domestic travel and all international travel is suspended through July 31, 2020. Essential university-related travel requires written pre-approval of the president or appropriate vice president.

While no decision has been made regarding faculty/staff travel in the fall, you should be aware that public health concerns driven by COVID-19 could continue to affect air travel and activities deemed non-essential.

Illinois remains under a statewide stay at home directive through April 30. Decisions regarding on-campus and remote work by University employees in May and throughout the summer will be made based on updated information and guidance from federal, state, and local government and health officials.

Once again, I thank you for your patience, your perseverance, and for the care and compassion you show toward each other in these difficult times.

Respectfully,

Larry H. Dietz President

For more information about ISU's Coronavirus updates, please check ISU's coronavirus page: Coronavirus.IllinoisState.edu.

#### Summer news from ISU Alumni Association

By Rachel Kobus, associate director, Alumni Relations

Free lifelong learning webinars, Homecoming 2020, royalty nominations

Keep learning and growing with the **Alumni Association's Illinois State Insights**. This webinar and live stream platform encompass a variety of topics presented by authors, field professionals, Illinois State faculty/staff, and even Redbirds like you, all for free. The complimentary platform kicked off last October with *New York Times* bestselling author James Clear has he covered his book *Atomic Habits*, explaining how the surprising power of small habits have a huge impact on life. Following the launch topics covered included essentialism, learning the art and science of creativity, making a difference, willpower, and self-confidence. Visit **alumlc.org/ilstu** to register for an upcoming event.

After fun in the sun, campus comes alive in the fall during Homecoming week (October 19-25). There are many must-do activities, with Saturday being the most action-packed day of the week-long celebration. Alumni can join in on the annual Town & Gown 5K Run and One-Mile Family Fun Run, watch the Homecoming Parade, stop by the Redbird Welcome tailgate tent, and/or cheer on the Redbirds football team at Hancock Stadium. Information on these and more events is available at <a href="Homecoming.Illinois-State.edu">Homecoming.Illinois-State.edu</a>.

The recognition of royalty is also celebrated during Homecoming. The Alumni Association is currently seeking nominations for the 2020 alumni king and queen.

To be eligible for alumni king or queen, graduates must have celebrated their 50th class reunion, have a strong connection to the



For more information, visit

Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu

University, and be able to attend Homecoming events throughout the weekend. Nominations can be for an individual or for a couple.

Those that know of proud Redbirds to put in for the running can complete a nomination form at <a href="Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu/Royalty">Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu/Royalty</a>. Deadline to submit is July 17.

## TeeBirds invite new members and look to start as soon as possible

By Dave Williams

The ISU TeeBirds golf league is always looking for new members! The 2020 golf season is tentatively scheduled to begin on June 4. TeeBirds are retired or current faculty or staff members, spouses or significant others, and guests. We meet Thursday mornings for nine holes of golf and social events. Some members continue on for 18 holes on our play days.

The group's home course is Illinois State University's Weibring Golf Club, but we mix in other area courses for variety including Ironwood, Prairie Vista, The Den, and Highland. Weekly play alternates between individual scoring and various scramble formats along with various social activities. We plan events to appeal to golfers at all ability levels.

The TeeBirds 2020 season is hoping to start at 7:30 a.m. on June 4, with an opening organization meeting and refreshments followed by golf play at 8:30 a.m. We continue to play every Thursday through September. The annual membership fee is \$15. Members are welcome to play any Thursday as your summer schedule permits. Check out our website for more information at isuteebirds.net or contact membership coordinator Chuck McGuire at <a href="mailto:crmcgui@">crmcgui@</a> IllinoisState.edu.

We welcome golfers at all ability levels. Just show up at the first morning of play at 7:30 am for a social meet-and-greet, orientation, and a 9-hole play at ISU Weibring Golf Club. Come join and give us a try!

#### **Additional TeeBird information**

By Chuck McGuire and Dave Williams

#### ISU's Weibring Golf Club retiree rates

Once again, Weibring Golf Club is providing several **special rates for ISU retirees** for the 2020 golf season. Among them is a popular golf play card, the ISU Retiree Card for 10 nine-hole rounds for \$130. The ISU Retiree Card is especially useful for TeeBirds members but may be purchased by any ISU retiree. It is non-transferable, and only one 10-round card may be purchased per season. The card expires December 31, 2020. Other special rates for individual and family passes, season walking passes (individual and family), and 25 round frequent player cards (nine or 18 holes) are available. Please check in the clubhouse or online at www.isugolf.com/season-passes.

Weibring Golf Club has always been a good friend of ISU retirees and especially of ISU TeeBirds golf. Thanks to the great staff for all their hard work! If you have a chance, stop in and say hello to Tom Szymoniak, the new head golf professional at the Weibring Golf Club.

#### The ISU University Club

By Bob Preston and Kay Wilson

Important update: As you all are aware, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has radically altered our lifestyles, for the near-term at least. As of mid-March 2020, the state of Illinois, Illinois State University, and our communities are responding vigorously to the challenges that have developed. We fervently hope that by next fall semester the pandemic will have abated. If the national and state authorities sound the all clear, we shall resume our programs described below. Please see our website (UClub.IllinoisState.edu) for updates on these matters as the fall semester draws near. In the meantime, stay well and abide by the advice of our public health and medical experts.

University Club discussion hours: The University Club is the only ISU social organization open to all faculty, staff, administrative professionals, retirees, and ISUAA members. You are cordially invited to join us for any or all our programs. You need not be a University Club member to attend. We always enjoy chatting with new colleagues and old friends in an informal congenial atmosphere. We provide complimentary snacks and a cash bar is available for those who wish to enjoy wine and other libations. We meet every Friday during the fall and spring semesters from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the faculty/staff commons in the Bone Student Center. Our first meeting of the fall 2020 semester will be held Friday, August 21.

The new home for the ISU University Club is now the faculty/ staff commons in the northeast corner of the second floor in the new addition of Bone Student Center. The revitalization project of the Bone Student Center is nearing completion and the faculty/staff

#### Save these dates

Fall Kickoff Breakfast—Wednesday, September 2, 2020 Holiday Luncheon—Wednesday, December 2, 2020 Spring Luncheon—Wednesday, March 17, 2021

#### Check out the Annuitants Association website

#### Annuitants.IllinoisState.edu

- Announcements-Why join?-How to join
- Contacting your legislator
- Legislative news
- History of ISUAA-Organization-Newsletters
- Survivor assistance information
- · Parking on campus
- · Meetings and events schedule

Jess Ray, webpage coordinator



commons is in a newly built part of the Bone Student Center. The schedule for the talks for the fall 2020 semester is still being developed at this time. Please check our website calendar page (<u>UClub</u>. <u>IllinoisState.edu/calendar</u>) for the presentation topics.

Gourmet dinners: Due to the revitalization project, our gourmet dining program has been on hiatus. We are planning to restart this program with a target of one gourmet dinner per semester. These dinners are an opportunity to enjoy fine food with friends and colleagues with a central theme or food from a particular country. Please check our webpage for updates for these dinners (<a href="UClub.Illinois-State.edu/dinners">UClub.Illinois-State.edu/dinners</a>).

Scholarships awards: On December 6, 2019, we continued our 28-year tradition of awarding 10 \$500 scholarships to ISU undergraduate and graduate students who were academically top achievers and who were also involved in giving back to the University and community through service. The funding for these scholarships is provided by independent donations from our members and colleagues. We encourage all who are interested in supporting our academically talented and socially engaged students to consider contributing to this program.

#### **Helping Hamper**

By Jan Cook

Last year at our June ISUAA annual meeting, we agreed that we will dedicate our future Helping Hamper collections to the new School Street Food Pantry for students who can show a college ID. The pantry is currently visited by a couple of hundred students, some with families, every Friday afternoon. They will appreciate any food or personal products that you can donate.

I suggest that we can contribute "support" products most effectively if we have a schedule so that there are enough of the special items to serve more than the first arrivals in line. To that end, please consider the following, although any food or similar items will be welcomed:

Summer: Food, especially salad dressing, and hot weather

hygiene razors, soap, deodorant

**Fall:** Food, especially cans of chicken, and dental products

Winter: Food, especially oatmeal and fruit, and warm socks **Spring**: Food, especially peanut butter, toilet paper, feminine

hygiene products

THANK YOU all very much!

## Retiree information hotline

Have a question? Need an answer? Don't know whom to contact? Call (309) 438 4311, the phone line answered by Human Resources just for retirees and surviving spouses. Staff will either direct you to the needed resource or take your name and number and have someone follow up with you.



#### **Retiring?**

Time to submit new membership form.

For those employees who are retiring in the near future and who pay their ISUAA/SUAA dues through payroll deduction, it is important to remember that you will need to **complete a new membership form arranging for your dues to be deducted by SURS rather than Illinois State University's payroll**. If you submit your new membership form before you retire, your first dues payment will likely be deducted from your second pension check. The membership form is available at <a href="Annuitants.IllinoisState.edu">Annuitants.IllinoisState.edu</a>. (click on the 'membership' heading-then 'how to join'--select the form for retirees). **Thank you for your continued support.** 

#### **SUAA 2020 legislative platform**

This platform serves as a guideline for SUAA's positions on legislation affecting pensions, health insurance, other retirement benefits for SURS participants, and the viability of the state's higher education system.

The primary legislative goal for 2020 is protecting retirement security of all past, present, and future employees of Illinois' public universities, community colleges, and their survivors.

SUAA will review and evaluate all proposed initiatives and legislation relating to pensions, other retirement benefits, and the maintenance of a robust higher education system to determine their compatibility with the Association's goals, and as appropriate, will publicly support or oppose such initiatives and legislation either in part or in their entirety.

If legislation is enacted that SUAA considers to be in violation of the pension protection clause of the Illinois Constitution, SUAA is prepared to challenge that legislation in the courts in concert with coalition partners or independently if necessary.

#### **Context for the 2020 legislative action plan**

The first session of the 101st Illinois Generally Assembly produced some positive outcomes for SUAA members. The budget passed included modest, though inadequate, increases in appropriations for the state's universities and community colleges and a rollback from 3 percent to 6 percent of the liability cap for increases in benefits attributable to the portion of state university and community college employee salary increases during final rate of earnings period.

Pension fund contributions are to be made at the certified amount and the pension buyout program has been extended. None of the harmful proposals to restructure higher education received attention.

Much remains left undone and the future is cloudy. A major concern is where revenue will reform pension systems. SUAA will continue to oppose efforts to reduce pension benefits and support measures to generate revenues enough to meet pension obligations and strengthen the state's higher education system.

#### The 2020 legislative action plan

#### **Protecting Pensions**

- SUAA supports legislation that would guarantee full funding of the SURS pension system.
- SUAA opposes any effort to restructure the pension debt that includes a pension holiday.
- SUAA opposes any legislative attempt to amend, modify or eliminate Article XII, Section 5 of the Illinois state constitution which states "Membership in any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired."
- SUAA opposes legislation that does not provide for a compounded annual increment for **Tier I** annuitants of 3 percent or higher.
- SUAA supports legislation to revise inadequate Tier II pensions
  for an equitable set of benefits related to final salary period, automatic annual increment, and early retirement reduction. SUAA
  will monitor the Tier II program to determine whether it currently meets the "safe harbor provisions" of Social Security.
- SUAA supports legislation to revise the **self-managed plan** by structuring a plan that provides for participation in Social Security and barring that makes changes ensuring that the **plan** meets, at a minimum, the "safe harbor provisions" of Social Security.
- SUAA opposes any pension plan, current or future, where the contributions by the (public) employer and the employee do not accrue in a state pension system.

#### Revenue enhancement measures

SUAA supports, in principal, a fair progressive state income tax. SUAA supports proposals for using pension obligation bonds to

fully or partially pay down the pension debt, as well as other proposals such as a restructuring of the pension debt. It is recognized that

it may take a package of initiatives to move the state towards full funding of its pension systems.

A key condition for SUAA support of any pension related initiative or package of initiatives intended to increase revenues or result in a savings to the state is that a portion of all resulting increases and/or savings be dedicated to reducing the state's pension debt.

SUAA supports other revenue enhancement measures not directly related to pension debt that address the state's continuing fiscal crisis. These measures include but are not limited to the taxation of selected services, a speculation sales tax, and the elimination of some tax breaks such as the foreign dividend exemption, offshore oil drilling credit, and retail sales tax discount.

#### Health insurance

SUAA supports legislation to ensure that all Illinois public university and community college employees, retirees and survivors are treated equitably under the State Employees Health Plan and College Insurance Programs.

SUAA supports full funding for the College Insurance Plan, and SUAA opposes any reduction in coverage provided by that plan.

#### Federal legislation

SUAA supports the repeal of the Social Security Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset.

#### Preserving the quality of higher education

SUAA opposes legislation to reduce or eliminate the 50-percent tuition waivers for the children of current employees at state universities.

SUAA will monitor bills that have either a positive or negative relationship to higher education and will report accordingly. SUAA opposes efforts to "reform" and politicize higher education through folding existing boards and commissions into the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and increasing IBHE's power by giving it the authority to alter and eliminate existing curricular offerings and set uniform admission requirements at the state's universities and community colleges.



#### **ISUAA Directory Update**

Please use this form to correct information in the 2019-2020 Chapter Directory. Please respond ASAP. If the information in the directory was correct/complete, you do not have to complete this form. **Send** to **ISUAA**, Campus Box 8000, Normal, IL, 61790-8000

NAME	SPOUSE'S NAME	
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	EMAIL	



**Annuitants Association** 

Campus Box 8000 Normal, IL 61790-8000

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the Annuitants Association at (309) 438-4311.

An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity

University Marketing and Communications

20-10652 printed on recycled paper

#### YES, I SUPPORT REDBIRDS RISING!

GIFT DESIGNATION	OPTION 3: Make a gift online at Giving.IllinoisState.edu.
COVID-19 REDBIRDS RESPONSE FUND (3075005)	
ISU EXCELLENCE FUND (3065065)	Name(s) University ID (if known)
RED AND WHITE SCHOLARSHIP FUND (2327001)	Address
COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT/OTHER:	Addition
PAYMENT OPTIONS	City State ZIP
OPTION 1: Check. A check for my gift of \$ payable to	Preferred email address
Illinois State University Foundation is enclosed.	Preferred phone number
OPTION 2: Credit Card:  □ VISA □ MASTERCARD □ DISCOVER □ AMERICAN EXPRESS □ A single gift in the amount of \$	OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT ISU  I (and/or my spouse/partner) work for a matching gift company:  ———————————————————————————————————
☐ A recurring gift in the amount of \$, ending on/ (month/day/year),	☐ Please send me information about ways to support ISU through a provision in my will, trust, retirement plan, or other deferred gift arrangement.
to be paid: $\square$ monthly $\square$ quarterly $\square$ semiannually $\square$ annually	☐ I have already included ISU in my will, trust, retirement plan, or other deferred gift arrangement.
Name on card	Please mail this form to:
Account number CVV Expiration date	Illinois State University Foundation  Campus Box 8000  REDBIRDS
	Normal, IL 61790-8000
Signature	THE CAMPAIGN FOR ILLINOIS STATE