

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
(Final; Information)

SUR.18.01 Report on SURSMAC* Meeting November 1, 2017**

SURSMAC held its fall, 2017 meeting at Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois, beginning at 10 a.m. on November 1, 2017. Those attending were welcomed by Jayne Defend, SURSMAC Chair, and Larry Curtis, SURS Employer Representative. The first speaker was Executive Director Martin Noven who was completing his first year in that position. He emphasized the efforts that SURS is making to work with participants on the Self-Managed Plans (SMP). They are working to better inform such individuals on how to plan for funding their retirements.

Douglas Wesley, Chief Investment Officer, provided an investment update. As of June 30, 2017, SURS investment performance had matched or exceeded their market goal and the Public Funds Index for the quarter and for each longer interval reported from one year to 20 years. Further information on the content of his report is available on the SURS website. The material available there includes reviews of the current fiscal year results, notes on the next fiscal year strategy, and up to date information on these issues.

Kristen Houch, Legislative Liaison, presented a legislative update starting with the bill that appropriated fund for SURS for the FY 2018 budget. The principal legislation that she discussed was Public Act 100-0023 which establishes the new Optional Hybrid Plan (OHP), a combination Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution plan. It has no impact on retirees, current members of Tier I, and those who are in a Self-Managed Plan (SMP). Existing Tier II members can elect the OHP while new employees can chose between the OHP, Tier II, or SMP. SURS estimates it will at least 18 months to implement the OHP to it is likely to be as late as 2020 before it is available. SURS must develop the plan, submit for and obtain IRS approval, incorporate it into the SURS systems and administrative processes, and produce enrollment materials and procedures.

Among the action items was a report from H. F. Williamson (UIUC) indicating that senior members of the UIUC benefits and human resources offices hoped that SURS would reinstate the Administrative Advisory Committee. He hoped that other SURSMAC members who shared this opinion would also make the request.

The remaining items were the approval of the minutes for the SURSMAC meeting on May 18, 2017; the election of new officers: Roger Spayer, William Rainey Harper College, as Chair and Melanie Lewis, Parkland College, as Vice Chair; and the discussion of the amendments being proposed for the SURSMAC Constitution so that meetings can be held electronically.

At approximately 11:30 a.m., the meeting was adjourned sine die.

Respectfully Submitted, H.F. (Bill) Williamson, John Kindt, UIUC Senate Representatives

*SURSMAC is the State Universities Retirement System Members Advisory Committee to the SURS Board of Trustees. Members are faculty and staff representing the various institutions and agencies affected by SURS: public universities, community colleges, state surveys, and retiree organizations. It normally meets twice a year in Champaign, Illinois.

** This report paraphrases some salient excerpts from the SURSMAC Minutes for this meeting prepared by the SURS staff and their work is hereby acknowledged and appreciated.