

FALL SEMESTER NEWS

Spotlights on Oxnard Classes and Santa Barbara County

Enrollment is open for all OLLI classes in Ojai, Ventura, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and the CSUCI campus in Camarillo. We want to call your special attention to some very unusual courses on Thursdays in Oxnard. In the morning, we have a class on the “History of Sail and Sailing Ships” at the Channel Islands Harbor. It is taught by experts from the Maritime Museum where you’ll be able to connect lectures with detailed ship models and visiting tall ships. A most hand-on course. In the afternoon, at the Wilson Senior Center, we have “From Planning to Potholes”, which tackles the academic and practical issues in local government vis-vis county, state and federal governments. It is co-taught by a political scientist and John Flynn, who served many years on the County Board of Supervisors. You will hear how local government is run from the trenches, as well as within the framework of political science.

Please note that, for the first time, we have classes in Santa Barbara and Carpinteria, all on Mondays. The SB morning class “Watersheds and Wetlands” will inform you about the biology of these locations, as well as conservation and restoration issues. A field trip is included. The instructor has worked with several marine science institutes and sanctuaries in the area. In the afternoon, one can explore “the 60s through the prism of rock-folk music”. Learn how the 60s were both reflected and driven by the music of legendary artists. In Carpinteria in the evening, you can visit Ireland via “Modern Irish Literature”, which clarifies the developments in 20th century Ireland as reflected in, and influenced by, its literature. Out partners are the Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara and the Carpinteria Women’s Club.

Campus Classes Are Again 8 Weeks!

When we moved classes to our Richard Merkin - OLLI Room in the Broome Library two years ago, classes were limited to three six-week sessions, with each class meeting for 2.5 hours per weekly session. Many members were unhappy about the 2.5 hour classes. But, in Fall 2010 and winter 2011, classes will again be 8 weeks long, two hours per meeting! This will please many members. This was made possible by an agreement between Nick Fuentes and Amy Wallace, Library Director. Spring 2011 campus classes will be for six weeks because the room is needed for spring finals. But for two semesters, all OLLI classes, off- and on-campus, will adhere to the 8 week schedule.

The Imperfect Catalog

The fall catalog lost track of one course somewhere at the printer. Bruce Collins’ class “**Crooners and Songbirds: The Great Pop Singers 1930-1970**” was omitted. It will be held at the Ventura Senior Center, Tuesdays 12:50-2:50. Learn how the invention of the microphone changed popular music and led to the careers of such as Sinatra, Bennett, Mathis, Fitzgerald and other icons.

And There’s More. OLLI, partnering with CSUCI and the Goebel Center, brings “**Professors and Pastries**” to Thousand Oaks. This is a bi-weekly evening meeting with CSUCI and OLLI professors to

informally discuss interesting topics. A similar program, “**Town meets Gown**” is held in Camarillo. See the PDF attachments.

OLLI INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR

With the 2009-2010 (our 6th!) year just ended, it’s time to recognize our Instructor of the Year, based on class evaluations in all courses taught that year. To be eligible, the instructor must have taught at least two courses. To have diversity in recognition, the award this year is renamed “*OLLI Instructor of the year whose name is not Bill Garlington*”. The 2009-2010 awardee is **Robert Piccioni**. Robert, or as he prefers to be called, Robert, has brought order to our physical universe by making Einstein and cosmology eminently understandable without sacrificing rigor. Instead of walking away from his classes saying “huh?”, his students universally (no pun here) report deeper understanding of the subject matter. Way to go, Robert! Honorable mention based on evaluations is due to instructors who have obtained superior evaluations having taught one or more classes: Kevin Hughes, Shannon Diffner, Alisa Hall, Steven Norris, Rachel Cartwright, Herb Gooch, Laura Hagel, and of course, Bill Garlington. If you haven’t taken a class with any of these instructors, you’ve missed out!

TASTE OF OLLI HAS A NEW LOOK

In the past, Taste of OLLI was conducted on Saturday mornings in Thousand Oaks during the regular semester, that is, concurrent with all other OLLI classes. In the fall, this left a large gap between the end of the semester (mid-October) and the beginning of the winter semester (early January). No more! Many members have abhorred this vacuum, wanted OLLI to provide more learning experiences throughout the year. So, we are covering the period between end of the fall semester and mid-December with our popular “Taste of OLLI” rather than having it concurrent with the regular semester. I know, you’re saying “but what will I do with my time between mid-December and the start of the winter semester?” Tough. You’re on your own for those 4 weeks. Read a good book. Take the planned winter course with Shannon Diffner which has some readings and read them during the 4 week down time. But *DO enroll in Taste of OLLI lectures in October, November and December*. The program is attached to this Islander. If enrollment is satisfactory, we will continue offering “Taste” between full-course semesters.

EVERYONE CAN RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS – PAINLESSLY

We’ve said many times, and no doubt will repeat it many times – OLLI requires growth in membership to thrive. Our major source of income is membership fees, and our only source of fees is....members. We have taken steps to increase membership by adding courses in Oxnard and extending the blessing of OLLI to Santa Barbara County, but recruiting new members is still mainly in the hands of current members. A handful of your member colleagues have been very active in disseminating flyers and catalogs in key venues in the county, but we need the cooperation of many more members. So, we’re going to make it easy. We are printing post-card size card with promotional material. These will be available in classrooms at the beginning of the fall semester. Please take a bunch to hand to friend, acquaintances, and other nice people to tell them with the joys of OLLI membership. Take them with

you when you lie down, when you rise, and when you walk by the way. Take them with you to Trader Joes, where there are many nice people. Social groups, church groups, etc. are good targets for distribution. OK?

STAKEHOLDER'S MANUAL FOR HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM MEMBERSHIP

Attached to this Islander, and also on the OLLI site, is your manual for safe and enjoyable operation of your OLLI membership. We hope this manual answers many of the questions often raised by members, tells you how OLLI works, and maximizes your enjoyment of your membership.

OLLI-CSUCI web site www.csuci.edu/exed/osher.htm

National OLLI Site: <http://usm.maine.edu/olli-national/> (take a look – it's informative)

Marty Kaplan, Director of Programs marty.kaplan@csuci.edu;

Nicholas Fuentes, Director of Operations nicholas.fuentes@csuci.edu, 437-2698

Administrative Support Assistant, Brianne Keighley brianne.keighley@csuci.edu 437-2748 (fees, enrollment, updating information, etc.)

University Police 437-8444

University Parking 437-8432

University closures, roads information 437-8444

CSUCI Library 437-8561

Alumni & Friends Association 437-8952

CSUCI Disability Accommodation Services 437-8528

ADA (community rides for those with mobility problems) 983-0691

Mail: OLLI, California State Univ. Channel Islands, One University Dr., Camarillo CA 9302

OLLI office, 2109 Sage Building FAX: 437-8859



Winter Mini-Courses Are Back in Thousand Oaks!

“Taste of OLLI: An Intellectual Buffet”

The *Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at California State University Channel Islands* returns to Thousand Oaks with a mini-course series on Saturday mornings from 10-12 at the CSUCI Extended Education Center at 501 Marin St. (near the Oaks). The mini-courses provide superior intellectual enrichment in a variety of topics. **At “Taste”, enrollment is open to all interested parties, regardless of age.** The enrollment fee is \$15.00 per single module, or \$100.00 for the entire series if paid in advance. Participants may pre-enroll with a credit card by **calling** (805) 437-2748 Monday-Friday, 8 AM – 5 PM *before* the class(es) they wish to attend, by **mailing** the attached form with a credit card number or check (no cash) *at least one week before* the first class to be attended, or by paying the fee at the session (CC only). It is **strongly** advised that fees are paid in advance of classes. Though on-site enrollment is permitted (please arrive at 9:15 AM to enroll), there is no guarantee of same day enrollment due to limited seating

October 23

How to Write and Read an Orchestral Score

An insight into the basic acoustic principles that determine the sound of an orchestra as well as the basics of orchestrating and reading a score.

Miguel del Aguila has written over a hundred published works. Recognized with a long list of awards, his music is regularly performed and recorded worldwide.

October 30

Roots of American Foreign Policy

America is the most powerful state in human history. Understanding how this came about reveals much about our choices for the future. While it does not determine the future, the past is a prologue we are wise to read if we are to avoid mistakes and embrace successes.

Dr. Herbert Gooch is the Director of the Masters in Public Policy and Administration graduate program at California Lutheran University

November 6

From Stroke to Thought: Contemporary Gestural Calligraphy in the Middle East

Calligraphy is the most traditional high art in the Middle East, and has historically been considered sacred. The lecture examines the recent development of secular gestural calligraphy employed by Middle Eastern artists as a rigorous, culturally-rooted alternative to the western abstract expressionism that reached its apex in the mid-20th century.

Dr. Owen Doonan is President, Los Angeles County Archaeological Institute of America and in the Art History Program, California State University Northridge.

November 13

Einstein for Everyone

In plain English, we explore the discoveries of history's most famous scientist and how he revolutionized our understanding of atoms, the universe, and almost everything in between.

Dr. Robert Piccioni is a physicist, public speaker, radio host, and award-winning author, educated at Caltech, Stanford, and Harvard

November 20

Avant Garde Film

From the beginning of cinema history around the turn of the 20th century, filmmakers have tested the boundaries of acceptable filmmaking. Explore some of these experimental films, many made by film artists who later became famous for more conventional works.

Bob Koster is a former movie producer, with 40 years of experience in the movie industry and 20 years lecturing on the university level all over the planet

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December 4

Richard Rodgers and His Collaborators

A trailblazer of the American musical and composer of many of the most memorable gems in the American songbook, Richard Rodgers is unique for his ability to recreate himself with each of his collaborators - Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein II. We explore some of the secrets of Rodgers' greatness and that of his collaborators, and how their work offers a window into the values, moods, and events of 20th century America.

Barry Bortnick, Ph.D., Composer/writer of musicals, including "Songs for the Second Half. (of Life)". At UCLA, he teaches a course on the role of the arts in the life cycle and courses on the American musical. Founding Director, UCLA OLLI.

December 11

Something About Hamlet

Written over 400 years ago, Shakespeare's "Hamlet" has inspired more theories than any other literary work. We'll spend our two hours together discussing the most fascinating character ever created.

Bruce Collins has been puzzling over Hamlet (both the play and the character) for close to a half century.

December 18

A New Birth of Freedom: Our Greatest Heroic Challenge

Examines areas that are critical to the maintenance, restoration, or expansion of freedom in the U.S.: (1) national security measures, including issues of border safety; (2) gay rights; (3) privacy concerns; (4) corporate and government power; (5) significance of the tea party movement.

Dr. John Pendleton teaches history at Ventura College and CSUCI. He has taught Osher courses since 2005. He is a researcher and writer on a national program on innovation and is working on a book on heroism and celebrity.

Enrollment

Participants may enroll in as many classes as they wish, including the entire series. Space is limited, so advance registration is strongly encouraged. If seats remain on a class day, people may enroll at the door at 9:15 A.M. (credit card only), but space is not guaranteed with on-site enrollment. To pre-enroll, complete the form below and **mail** with a check or credit card number to **OLLI, California State University Channel Islands, One University Drive, Camarillo CA 93012**, or call 805-437-2748 to enroll by phone.

Please check the lecture sessions in which you are enrolling. The fee is \$15 per session, or \$100 for the entire series of 8 lectures, a savings of \$20.00.

Entire Series (\$100.00).

October 23, How to write and Read an Orchestral Score

October 30, Root of American Foreign Policy

November 6, From Stroke to Thought: Contemporary Gestural Calligraphy in the Middle East

November 13, Einstein for Everyone

November 20, Avant-Garde Film

December 4, Richard Rodgers and his Contemporaries

December 11, Something About Hamlet.

December 18, A New Birth of Freedom: Our Greatest Heroic Challenge

(Please check one)

I am new to OLLI-CSUCI I am a returning OLLI attendee

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (Day) _____ (Evening): _____

Birth date: _____

Payment Amount: \$_____ Credit Card # (MC, Amex or Discover) _____

(Exp. Date) _____ Authorizing Signature _____

Check # (payable to CSUCI) _____

[] I'd like to receive important information, announcements about classes, events and the OLLI e-newsletter by e-mail

E-Mail Address: _____

STAKEHOLDER'S MANUAL



**OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING
INSTITUTE**

AT

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
CHANNEL ISLANDS**

Congratulations! Your decision to join the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) was a wise investment in the future of your educational and intellectual growth. You have bought into a product with great value for low cost. With proper care and treatment, your membership should give you years of intellectual enhancement, or “learning for the sake of learning”. This *Stakeholders Manual* is intended to acquaint you with how OLLI operates so that you can maximize return on your investment.. It represents the state of the Institute at the latest revision (winter 2010); from time to time, as policies and practices change, amendments will be made available. Choice of the description “Stakeholders” is deliberate since OLLI’s success depends on the support, volunteerism, and understanding of members. So read the rest, and enjoy your OLLI experience!

Background, Or What We Are About

The Bernard Osher Foundation, headquartered in San Francisco, was established in 1977 to benefit a wide range of educational, cultural, and other nonprofits. In 2001 the Foundation began a series of grants to establish lifelong learning centers for mature learners at colleges and universities. Beginning with existing “Learning in Retirement” programs in 2001, the program expanded to include universities with no prior existing program for mature adults. In 2003, when there were 18 Universities in the OLLI system, CSUCI was invited to submit a proposal for an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. A proposal was submitted by Gary Berg, PhD, Dean of Extended Education, and Barbara Thorpe, Ed.D, Assistant Vice-President for Sponsored Programs and accepted effective April 1, 2004. It was among the first 30 Institutes in the OLLI family, and one of the first to start without having had an existing program for mature learners (in large part because CSUCI was itself new!). There are now about 120 OLLIs spread among the 50 states!

OLLI-CSUCI was begun in April 2004 with Martin Kaplan, Ph.D. as founding Director. The first classes, a set of eight classes offered Monday through Thursdays for eight weeks, began in the fall of 2004, an unusually quick start-up time for a completely new OLLI. Over the years, as membership grew, OLLI outgrew its room on campus, and as its reputation spread, classes were extended to Ojai, Ventura, Oxnard, Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Carpinteria, and Simi Valley. Moreover, the number of classes kept pace with membership growth, so that in the 2009-10 academic year 49 classes were held in seven locations compared to 28 at one location in the first year.

The nature of Osher Foundation support is that in the first three to four years of a program’s life, the budget is supplemented by a yearly grant of \$100,000. At the end of this probationary period each OLLI is scrutinized for program quality, financial sustainability, and membership growth. Only those surpassing all criteria are awarded an Endowment of \$1,000,000. From this the OLLI can use up to \$50,000 of the annual earnings for its budget, obtaining the rest through member fees, donations, and grants. OLLI-CSUCI was awarded the Endowment in May, 2008, joining a small but distinguished list of Universities.

The OLLI-CSUCI Philosophy

As is true of all Institutes in the OLLI family, your OLLI is dedicated to providing intellectual stimulation to persons over 50. The Foundation’s purpose is to serve senior learners who no longer need college credits or degrees, and who will have nothing of tests and grades! It is learning for the sake of learning, not “will this be on the test?”

The Foundation permits wide latitude in *how* the learning proceeds. About half the OLLIs have classes taught by fellow members – actually they are less “classes” than discussion groups. These tend to be Institutes that existed prior to becoming OLLIs, which retained their member-led format. Other OLLI’s have courses taught by paid experts, often University faculty or retirees. These OLLIs are often those started where previous lifelong learning programs did not exist, such as CSUCI. Your OLLI is in the latter group, and we have chosen the academic class format with instructors who are engaged to provide the highest quality of instruction. Another distinction between OLLIs is that some offer a variety of formats and content – short courses (five weeks or less), single lectures, and self-improvement and skills training in addition to academic subjects. Our belief is that short courses and non-academic topics are readily available via Community Colleges and therefore our mission as a University-related Institute is to provide the best in academic courses. Furthermore, longer courses promote in-depth treatment of academic topics, avoiding the superficiality of one-time lectures.

This does not mean that experiences, both learning and social, are ignored by our quality-driven course philosophy. Member opportunities additional to our menu of regular courses will be described in the section: **Partnerships and Benefits..**

Becoming a Member: Three Options

Classes are open only to members, but attaining membership is easy; just enroll in classes! There are three levels of membership. By enrolling, you have selected one, but you may change to another in a subsequent OLLI session. A **Full Year** membership permits enrollment in all three OLLI course sessions each year (Fall, Winter, and Spring) at a savings over three **Single Session** memberships. The latter permits unlimited enrollment only in the session in which membership is current. The third level is **Single Course** membership, in which the member may enroll in one course that session. To enroll in more, the member would have to upgrade to **Single Session** membership. Single course membership is designed for persons who want to test-drive OLLI by taking one course, or for those who, for any reason, wish to attend a single class close to home.

Locations

OLLI services are available at several locations. The central location is at the CSUCI campus in the Richard Merkin-OLLI room in the John Spoor Broome Library. Classes are held daily for six weeks, two and one-half hours per class meeting. Off-campus courses generally run for eight weeks, meeting two hours per session. Classes are held in Ventura, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Ojai, and Oxnard. In fall 2010, we will begin offering classes in Santa Barbara and Carpinteria..

How Courses Are Selected and Evaluated

Members participate meaningfully in the process of course selection. Members may, for example, suggest courses and instructors to the staff, though if instructors can not be found for certain courses, they can not be held. The typical process of building a course schedule starts with a potential instructor submitting a proposal to the Director of Programs (DP). The proposal may have been invited by the DP on the basis of member preferences, or spontaneously submitted by potential instructors. The proposal consists of brief descriptions of the course and instructor, and a more detailed course outline. Where the

proposer is new to OLLI, a resume and references are also requested. The DP reviews the proposal and makes a preliminary judgment of quality and fit to the program, often working with the proposer to improve the course. When the course is judged acceptable to OLLI standards, it is sent to the *Curriculum Committee*, consisting of four to five OLLI members who review the courses for meeting our standards and potential interest to members. Courses not meeting those criteria and that can not be remedied by comments from the Committee and DP are discarded. Acceptable courses are then presented to the full membership enrolled that session, who indicate their interest in each class. Those classes not achieving a sufficient level of member interest are dropped, leaving us with courses that are judged to be of high quality and member interest.

At the end of a course, the course and instructor are evaluated by class members on a standard survey. Instructors not receiving very good to excellent evaluations are not invited back to OLLI. The course and instructor evaluation scales have a maximum score of 5.0; typically the *average* score of OLLI instructors is over 4.5.

Courses cover the spectrum of topics in the sciences, social sciences, art and music, and humanities. To insure diversity in courses, no course is repeated at the same location within a two year period. A pool of nearly 60 instructors (at this writing) is available to serve your course needs, many of them University Faculty.

The number of courses offered in any given year depends on revenue that year. In turn, revenue depends on the number of members and the level of membership fees. *It is preferable to increase the former than the latter, so it is in your interest to recruit new members rather than face fee increases or course decreases.* Another revenue source, in addition to proceeds from the endowment and member fees, is donations from members and others in the community. Each OLLI member is a potential fund raiser, designated to locate donors for the program.

A special course package

Your OLLI comes with an optional package, **Taste of OLLI**. This is a series of eight two-hour lectures in Thousand Oaks on Saturday mornings. The lectures are on an array of topics, each by a different lecturer, often an OLLI instructor, but sometimes a special guest. These lectures are intended to attract new members by having them test the product for a short and inexpensive time, that is, to give them a “taste”. Though intended for newcomers, present OLLI members are cordially invited to attend, but as with the newcomers, they pay the small added fee.

Partnerships and Benefits

OLLI members do not live by courses alone. Members are especially invited to University events, such as visiting speakers; they have use of the Library, and may purchase a pass to take materials home, along with other benefits. Some benefits are in the hands of members, for example, members are encouraged to form committees to enhance programs such as social events, a summer program of speakers from among membership, and travel.

OLLI has had **partners** over the years that enhance the OLLI experience. They change with time, so in this manual a small number will be mentioned. First, we are able to hold our off-campus classes through

the partnership of institutions in other cities, mostly Senior Centers. Second, The CSUCI John Spoor Broome Library has partnered with us to provide the Merkin-OLLI room for campus classes. In return for use of the room during our three six-week sessions, OLLI equipped the room, raising over \$80,000 in a very short period from member and friends donations for the equipment. Third, we partner with the CSUCI Alumni and Friends Associations so that OLLI members receive a discount on membership, that is, they pay the same fee as CSUCI graduates. Membership in the A&FA entitles OLLI members to many benefits. Finally, there is our oldest and very dear partner, the New West Symphony. From our start, a member of the Symphony has been teaching classes. Members taking classical music classes are invited at a vastly discounted ticket price to a performance of the NWS, the program of which is often related to the class topic, Class members are then escorted to the “Green Room” to meet and greet performers after the concert. All OLLI members have access to discounted NWS tickets.

Communication

In any organization communication is important for members to take full advantage of the organization. In fact, failure to be engaged in communication can have negative consequences for you and your OLLI. Over the course of a year, important information is sent to members about special programs, new courses, changes in courses, enrollment openings and closings, changes in policies, and more. Here is a list of the media through which your OLLI speaks to you about important news regarding its functioning. Ignore them, and your OLLI will not give you the full service you deserve:

- The quarterly newsletter: **The Islander**
- **Bulletins** placed on the class room board. The board should be checked at each class meeting.
- **Announcements in classes** by instructors, OLLI staff, or designated members.
- **E-mails**. It is important to have your current email address on file to write you about class cancellations, beginning of the enrollment period, and so on. The Islander is sent only by email. One of the perks of membership is that members may enroll before enrollment is opened to the general public via catalogs, but they can take advantage of advance notice only through the email announcements sent to them.
- **OLLI Web Page**. Announcements and other news (e.g., classes for the coming session) are placed on the OLLI web site (www.csuci.edu/exed/osher.htm). Visiting it will yield a wealth of information about your OLLI.
- Attending the **Annual Member and Information Meeting** usually held in August.
- All **queries or communications** from members regarding courses and instruction should be addressed to the Director of Programs. *All other communications* are addressed to the Director of Operations.

Your **instructor** rarely knows anything about OLLI beyond his or her own class. Unless it's a question about that particular class, don't ask.

Your OLLI Comes With Two Optional Speeds

OLLI may be operated in one of two modes. Either will bring you satisfaction; the choice is yours. The **client mode** is more automatic, requiring little effort beyond paying fees and taking classes. In this mode, similar to a soda machine, the member inserts coins and the course drops out. Members choosing this mode should still attend to communications as messages important to their classes and enrollment

are frequently conveyed (see preceding section on **Communication**). The client-member benefits OLLI by contributing to its member base, which in turn impacts the number and variety of courses that may be offered.

The **active member mode** is more complex. The member may choose from among many different activities. This mode offers involvement in the work and functions that benefit OLLI, reflecting a stake in OLLI's present and future. The outlay in time and effort is met with pride in the member's role in OLLI's success. The **active member** has many outlets available for his or her contributions. A short list includes:

- **Recruiting** by bringing new members, distributing catalogs and flyers in the community, identifying, speaking to outside organizations, and more. Recruiting new members is the engine that drives OLLI – when membership falls short, courses and other activities are curtailed.
- Serving on the Curriculum Committee that reviews course proposals and conducts the membership interest survey.
- Serving on the Member Services Committee that, with input from membership, plans extra-curricular activities such as travel, summer and social programs and speakers from within membership.
- Serving as class representatives to administer surveys and course evaluations in their classes and act as a bridge between the P.A. and the class.
- Seeking donations in the community (including donations from oneself)
- Being available to assist the Directors in matters that emerge from time to time.

Concluding Points

Your OLLI will provide intellectual enrichment for years to come, but requires patience, understanding, and if you choose, volunteer assistance. The number and variety of classes depends on fee and other revenues, which are best enhanced by a steady flow of new members. Enlisting new members is largely in your hands by word-of-mouth, active recruitment, and personal cajoling. OLLI could not run smoothly without the assistance of those who choose to be active members and volunteer for needed activities. In the end, the courses that are offered, and more directly, the experiences outside those courses, are in the hands of the stakeholders, that is, OLLI membership.