



## President’s Message

*By Joyce Ono, President, OLLI-CSUF*



The OLLI Board has begun to set goals based on our 2016-2021 Long Term Plans tempered by our unprecedented situation of being shuttered for months to come. Our strategic goals for the coming year are: 1) Keeping OLLI members safe; 2) Optimizing OLLI’s

membership size and composition; 3) Improving OLLI’s fund-raising efforts to fund improvements of our facilities in concert with CSUF’s campaign; 4) Maintaining and expanding OLLI’s relationships with CSUF and surrounding communities; and 5) Maintaining continuity and success of OLLI’s programs. This planning will be complex because there are so many uncertainties before us.

Our major unknown at this time is how many of you are planning to renew your membership for the coming year. Registration for membership for 2020-21 will start in mid-July, and it will be with bated breath that we monitor how many of you renew your membership while our ability to provide the rich assortment of learning and socializing opportunities is compromised.

I posed this question to members of the “Drawing for the Fun of It” and “Watercolor Workshop,” and the vast majority would renew. Both courses met virtually during the intersession, and it made me realize how much I missed seeing and being with friends at OLLI these past three months! Anne Logan, a relatively new OLLI member, said she is renewing to support OLLI. I’m hoping that many more of you share this sentiment, because as with any organization, OLLI has fixed costs, like OLLI office staff salaries.

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## **Ruby Gerontology Center**

### **How it Came About**

*By Chris Shaw, Editor*

OLLI’s home on the Cal State Fullerton campus is the Ruby Gerontology Center (RGC). The facility includes: a multipurpose room with moveable walls (Shapiro Wing) at one end; the Mackey Auditorium at the other end; with classrooms, conference rooms, computer laboratories and the OLLI office between them; all surrounding an open-air courtyard. Construction of the building commenced in August 1987, and it opened a year later.



Leo Shapiro, second from left, was among those who celebrated the groundbreaking in 1985 for the Ruby Gerontology center at Cal State Fullerton. Pictured with him, from left, are Jewel Plummer Cobb, former CSUF president; the late Charles L. Ruby, for whom the center is named; and James Roosevelt, the keynote speaker for the Nov. 20 celebration.

Pictured are, from left: Jewel Plummer Cobb (CSUF President), Leo Shapiro, Charles L. Ruby and James Roosevelt (son of FDR) at the RGC groundbreaking.

Prior to 1988, the members of the Continuing Learning Experience, or CLE (now known as OLLI) were meeting in the Mahr House, now known as the George Golleher Alumni House, located on State College Blvd.

CLE started in 1979 with 27 members. Within

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President . . . . . Joyce Ono  
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 Vice President Programs . . . . . Ellie Monroe  
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Desktop Publishing: Celia Reynolds

## Vice President Programs

**Ellie Monroe**

### Try it! You Might Like It!

*By Ellie Monroe, Vice President Programs*



My background of over 30 years in finance/business/marketing management, requiring skills in budgeting, forecasting, program development and Continuous Measurement Improvement Facilitation, are an asset to my position

as VP Programs. I am responsible for the 140 courses offered during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. I took on this position after serving on the Curriculum Committee since 2010.

Each Blue Book starts with a month-long process by my dedicated Scheduling Team, consisting of eight Section Editors: Renee Cabrera, Joanne Hardy, Ellie Monroe, Beverly Risse, Vickie Fears, Dan Coby, Carol Thurk, Sue Batie and Ann Sparks. We work directly with instructors and coordinators to update write-ups and scheduling

for each course. I then turn the curriculum over to the Blue Book Editor, Chris Shaw, for copyediting by his team and printing by the University. This activity is performed three times per year and takes hundreds of work-hours to accomplish.

Classroom space is normally Scheduling’s number one constraint, finding which days and times the instructor is available, and locating the appropriate-sized classroom without intruding on the needs of the already established “legacy” classes. OLLI shares some classrooms in the Ruby Gerontology Center, including Mackey Auditorium, with CSUF. “Right-sizing” the classroom capacity to the anticipated number of class attendees allows OLLI to further maximize the use of limited classroom space. Some OLLI courses may be held in the Student Housing classrooms adjacent to the RGC.

The VP Programs is assisted by many volunteers and oversees the following: Curriculum Committee, co-chaired by Judy Alter and Renee Cabrera; Computer Education Committee (CEC), chaired by Richard McCaman; and the Trips Committee, chaired by Ken Luke. The Distance Learning Team, which was already videoing a number of classes for the OLLI website, had to accelerate their work as it became a major priority. Bob Newcomb leads this impressive team.

The VP Programs works with instructors to resolve issues that may interfere with the presentation of classes. I my need to investigate and find resolution for classroom attendance growth, instructor and classroom conflicts, and relocation of classes to other facilities due to a variety of reasons.

When the campus was closed to OLLI members, it created a need to deliver OLLI’s classes to all members online via Zoom videoconferencing. The Instructional Continuity Committee was formed to accomplish this. I chair this Committee, which includes Judy Alter, Renee Cabrera, Susan Hanna, Rick Hearn, Don Lake, Richard McCaman, Jim L Monroe, Bob Newcomb, Joyce Ono, Bill Reilly, Chris Shaw and Mike Stover. The Committee developed a plan to experiment with some of the courses during the spring intersession and provide workshops for the instructors and coordinators to

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**40th Anniversary Tribute to All CLE/OLLI Presidents**



**Leo Shapiro**  
1979 -1981



**Lucien Miner**  
1981 - 1983



**Gordon Shaw**  
1983 -1985



**Philip Castle**  
1985 -1987



**Stephen Balgrosky**  
1987 -1989



**Bill Coston**  
1989 - 1990



**Cedric O'Donnell**  
1990-1992



**Ken Glessner**  
1992 - 1994



**Louise Lee**  
1994 - 1995



**Anthony Arace**  
1995 - 1997



**Don Pease**  
1997 - 1999



**Anne Pearson**  
1999 - 2001



**Barbara Talento**  
2001 - 2003



**Kirt Spradlin**  
2003 - 2005



**Charlotte Fox**  
2005- 2007



**Barbara Talento**  
2007 - 2009



**Dave Musante**  
2009 - 2011



**Charles Ritz**  
2011 - 2013



**Michael Stover**  
2013 2015



**Barry Escoe**  
2015 - 2017



**James Monroe**  
2017- 2019



**Joyce Ono**  
2019 - 2021

## Jasmine Victor, Winner

### OLLI Master's in Gerontology Award

By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer



Every year OLLI selects one outstanding Master's in Gerontology graduate student to be recognized for his or her exceptional contributions to the field of gerontology. This year the Master's in Gerontology Outstanding Graduate Award recipient is Jasmine Victor. The award is supported by a check from OLLI for \$1,000.

While studying for her bachelor's degree in psychology, Jasmine interned at South County Adult Day Services through Alzheimer's Orange County. After her internship, she continued to volunteer there for another two years which led to her current position as the Enrollment Case Manager at the Center. During her time at CSUF she was a research assistant and volunteer for the lab at the Fibromyalgia and Chronic Pain Center. She was also a lead cognitive tester and trainer of other research assistants in the Fibromyalgia Longitudinal Study which investigates the impact of Fibromyalgia on cognitive and physical performance in middle aged and older adults.

Based on the data collected in that study, she is writing her thesis "Sedentary Behavior and Cognition in Older Adults." Her thesis advisor, Dr. Barbara J. Cherry, notes that Jasmine's research "includes men and women ranging in age from 50 to 85 years. It is expected that results will support previous findings in that sedentary time will have a significant negative relationship on cognitive performance."

Jasmine also served as president of the Sigma Phi Omega Honor Society for fall of 2019, helping students and the community through workshops and donation programs.

Her academic goal is to earn a doctorate in cognitive neuroscience, because she wishes to do research on the aging brain. She wants to examine preventative measures for cognitive decline and discover relationships with

neurodegenerative diseases.

Her career goal is to continue her research on the aging brain and neurodegenerative diseases, preferring to work within the government such as the BRAIN Initiative or with a corporation such as the Brain Research Foundation. Jasmine feels that working within a university would be very beneficial as universities are "overflowing with new ideas and have a great support system of colleagues."

Jasmine's research and discoveries will certainly assist in supporting the quality of life in aging adults. OLLI salutes her determination and hard work as she follows her dream to continue her research on the aging brain.

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three years membership had grown to nearly 400. They knew they needed more room to support their growing organization, so they decided to raise private donations to construct a new home for CLE.

Cal State Fullerton agreed to provide the land for the building and be responsible for maintenance, if CLE raised the funds to build the facility. CLE and CSUF agreed to share the facilities as a gerontology center with the following goals:

- To coordinate educational programs for understanding adult development and aging.
- To conduct interdisciplinary research to advance knowledge regarding aging and later life.
- To expand opportunities for professional growth and development for those interested in gerontology.
- To foster productive intergenerational activities in educational and research projects.
- To make the skills and knowledge of the university available to the region to address issues related to aging.
- To provide opportunities for lifelong learning and service for older adults through Continuing Learning Experience (OLLI).

The fund-raising committee was co-chaired by Leo Shapiro and Bill Coston, who enlisted a number of senior volunteers, well-known for their activities supporting the university. They raised \$2.1

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## What's Happening at the Board

By Chris Shaw, Editor

OLLI's Board of Trustees met on May 7 and May 14. Following are highlights of the issues from those meetings:

### May 7

- Thanks to those completing their terms on the Board: Chris Shaw, VP Communications; Janice Jeng, VP External Relations; Jim Monroe, VP Technology; and Trustees at Large Joanne Hardy, Linda Lockwood, Susan Mullaly and Bill Sampson. Janice and Bill will continue on the Board as Trustees, and Susan was elected VP External Relations.

- Newly-elected Board members officially installed: Joyce Ono, President (re-elected); Mike Stover, VP Administration; Ginger Barnhart, VP Communications; Susan Mullaly, VP External Relations; Bob Newcomb, VP Technology; Ann Sparks, Secretary; and Trustees at Large Renee Cabrera, Vickie Hite, Janice Jeng and Cynthia Owens

- Bill Sampson was appointed Trustee at Large to replace Susan Mullaly.

- OLLI's Long Term Plan 2016-2021 reviewed in anticipation of updating the Plan.

- OLLI's 2019-2020 goals reviewed in anticipation of establishing goals for 2020-2021.

- Summer curriculum will include arts, languages and science classes delivered via Zoom. Changes in curriculum, and how to join using Zoom, will be emailed to OLLI members.

- External marketing to recruit new members may be used, if membership declines.

- OLLI-CSUF may assist USC students in research projects.

### May 14

- Impact on OLLI's revenue and budget from possible reduced membership due to coronavirus analyzed.

- To date, OLLI received \$32,473 in donations from 166 members.

- Motion to reduce summer 2020 membership fee was rejected.

- Summer curriculum will offer about 50 courses.

- 64 training sessions held for instructors and coordinators on hosting Zoom classes, and more

will be done. Also holding workshops on content delivery.

- Called 465 OLLI members who are not opening emails to encourage them to keep in touch with OLLI.

- Periodically calling OLLI members to mitigate loss of socialization with OLLI members.

- Familiarizing OLLI members with the Board via reports (like this) in each ChroniCLE. Adding photos of Board officers on the OLLI website, with descriptions of responsibilities and official OLLI email addresses, for better access by OLLI

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million, no small amount in those days, none of which came from either the State of California or CSUF. That \$2.1 million paid for the entire facility, including the building, equipment, furnishings and landscaping. All of the donors can be found listed on the wall of the Shapiro Wing that faces the courtyard.

The Ruby Gerontology Center was named after one of its principle donors, Charles L. & Rachael E. Ruby. Dr. Charles Ruby was a noted civic leader, who helped to bring the new California State University to Fullerton in 1959 and was a founding member of CLE in 1979. The Shapiro Wing was named after another principle donor, Leo Shapiro, who was CLE's first president.

The fund-raising committee convinced a number of local governments to contribute to building the RGC, including Orange County, Anaheim, Santa Ana, Brea, Placentia, La Habra and Fullerton. They also enlisted contributions from a number of corporations, including one that continues to have a close tie to OLLI, the St. Jude Medical Center. Many of the doctors who are instructors for our "Medical Series" classes are from St. Jude. Even more impressive were the individual donors and planners, like Ruby, Shapiro, Mackey and my own father, who put their money and their time and effort into designing and building a venerable center that has enabled OLLI to develop its current exceptional quality and diversity of courses and events. Our thanks go to these visionary charter members, who set the standard for volunteerism at OLLI.

## Meet Patricia McKeon

### Betty Robertson Award Recipient

By Elaine Mitchell, Staff Writer



Every year, as part of our collaboration with CSUF, an OLLI selection committee (chaired this year by John Blaydes) has the privilege of giving the Betty Robertson Award to an older graduate who chose to start college later in life. This year Patricia McKeon won the award, which included a check

for \$1,000, and a one-year OLLI membership.

For those who do not know, Betty Robertson was the CSUF Director of Community and Outreach programs for UEE, now EIP. In 1979, Betty initiated the concept of continuing education for retired professionals. She helped found CLE, Continuing Learning Experience, which evolved into OLLI.

Patricia McKeon began her education at the other end of the life cycle; her first college classes, beginning in 1973, were in childhood development. Through those rocky early years, she continued to work on her education despite emotional ups and downs, including substance abuse and domestic violence. She discovered that her recovery helped her share her strengths to help others recovering from the same conditions. Finally in 1993, Patricia completed her A.A. Degree in Childhood Studies at Saddleback College. However, before she successfully moved into a four-year college, a divorce had her back in emotional and financial distress.

Cleaning houses to support herself, taking classes and also helping her aging parents, Patricia soldiered on. She was invited to move in with her parents, to be closer to help them and, finally, she would be able to get the higher degree she wanted. Her father's passing unleashed emotional turmoil and conflicts with her sisters that added roadblocks; but by 2011, she completed her CSUF Bachelor of Science in Human Services with a minor in Mental Health. Now completely dedicated to working

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Even under our compromised circumstances, OLLI has much to offer. Thanks to the hard work of VP Programs Ellie Monroe and her support team, numerous courses (50+ this summer) are being offered virtually. OLLI members may also audit CSUF courses.

OLLI members are eligible for many CSUF student privileges. If you log in to your CSUF student portal account by clicking on Students on the [CSUF website](#), then entering your CSUF username and password (which you used for online membership registration), you'll find among a long, alphabetized list of Apps that you have access to [LinkedIn Learning](#), which offers over 10,000 online video tutorials on almost anything you want to learn! You'll also find you have access to some free software at the Student Software page at <http://www.fullerton.edu/it/students/software/>.

We are in the process of negotiating a reduction in the recently increased parking fee (from \$40,000 to \$60,000) that OLLI pays for Parking Lot J, since we will not be allowed to return to campus for several months. CSUF students have been granted returns for parking fees, and we're hoping that we may be able to offset some of our anticipated reduction in revenue. OLLI has reserves that we can dip into if this turns out to be a dire financial situation, so we **will** be back when it is safe. You can do your part in helping OLLI to sustain itself in the months to come by recruiting friends and family who are 50+ to join OLLI to take advantage of our virtual learning programs and other benefits.

I hope many of you have taken advantage of your OLLI membership's access to using the enhanced Zoom account available through CSUF to communicate with your family and friends to help cope with self-isolation. If you are still intimidated by technology, help is available for members at the Friday Free OLLI Tech Help sessions accessible through the [OLLI website](#), and the [CSUF Zoom site](#) where OLLI members may contact the Student IT Help Desk. We are all in this together!

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### *VP Programs..Continued from Page 2*

learn to teach classes using Zoom.

With the help of the Instructional Continuity Committee, Curriculum Committee and Communications Team, OLLI is offering 50 courses during the summer session, plus some additional special events that are still in the works.

I want to personally congratulate the many volunteers who have been putting in unbelievable hours to bring these courses to OLLI for the summer session. The instructors and coordinators have spent many hours attending a variety of workshops to receive instructions on how to plan and present their classes using Zoom. In addition, we have many volunteers who will be supporting our instructors and coordinators in providing technical assistance.

I look forward to seeing members return to classes for the summer. Yes, we will be in “virtual classrooms,” but we will all enjoy making that personal contact OLLI is so used to having. I encourage all of you—Try it! I think you **will** like it! Reward our volunteers by attending the many classes they have prepared for OLLI members.

### *What's happening ... Continued from page 5*

- Developing crisis management and emergency preparedness plan.
- Getting recommendations from CSUF Facilities and EIP on the patio renovation plan.
- Getting member feedback on how coronavirus may affect their membership in OLLI.
- Ramping up marketing of OLLI to the public to mitigate possible reduction of membership due to coronavirus.
- Researching sharing Distance Learning videos with other OLLIs to enhance our library.
- Researching virtually sharing our curriculum with local retirement communities.
- Negotiating with CSUF for parking fee reduction due to coronavirus shutdown.
- May offer virtual presentation of postponed 40th anniversary events.
- OLLI-CSUF Collaboration mentors are continuing to meet with students virtually.
- OLLI scholarships to CSUF students were

## **Special Events**

(All events subject to change)

**Fall Open House** • Aug 8 canceled\*

**Christ Cathedral Concert** • Sep 8 canceled

**Lake Arrowhead** • Oct 28 canceled

**CSUF Concert Under the Stars** • canceled

**Pantages “Hamilton”** • Rescheduled from Nov 4 to February 2021

**Alaska Cruise** • Postponed to August-September, 2021

\* *Possible virtual event—watch newsletters*

### *Meet Patricia ...Continued from page 6*

with older people, she became a Long Term Care Ombudsman with the Council on Aging, Orange County, and continues to love her work to this day. Patricia continued to take classes and earned a Certificate of Completion in Basic Mediation and a Certificate in Professional Fiduciary Management for Conservators.

Patricia was accepted into the CSUF Gerontology Program one week after her mother’s passing. She survived getting mom’s home ready to sell, dividing the remaining assets with her sisters, working full time. But then, the sudden death of her older sister did erect some roadblocks to that last phase, the project for her MSG degree. However, she said winning the Betty Robertson Award really boosted her self-confidence, and her “steadfast commitment to the field of Gerontology” will carry her through that final step. Good luck, Patricia.

Patricia McKeon’s words of wisdom for others pursuing a college degree later in life, “Be realistic in your ability to devote the time and energy it may take to complete the degree. Be willing to accept your limitations and be flexible with your expectations. Remain true to yourself and, above all else, enjoy the journey.”

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awarded (see articles in this ChroniCLE).

- Collaboration with USC students is moving forward (see May 7 report).

- Membership registrations for summer session only start May 18.



## OLLI

at California State University, Fullerton

*"A Continuing Learning Experience"*

1979 - 2019: 39 Years of Excellence

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### **Not Receiving OLLI Emails?**

If you have unsubscribed in response to **any** OLLI email, you have unsubscribed from **all** OLLI emails. If, for any reason, you are **not** already receiving OLLI emails about upcoming classes, events and special notices, you can subscribe (or re-subscribe) by going to <http://tinyurl.com/olliEmailSignUp> and entering your email address, first name and last name.

If you still have trouble receiving emails from OLLI, send an email to [ollinewsbytes@hotmail.com](mailto:ollinewsbytes@hotmail.com) and include your name and email address.



### **How to Get the ChroniCLE by Email - Save Trees and Stamps!**

Unless you elected not to receive emails from OLLI, you are currently receiving an email each month announcing the new ChroniCLE and calendar for the upcoming month with links to view or download the publications. You can also access the most recent ChroniCLEs and calendars through links in the weekly OLLI News Bytes and on the OLLI Website.

If you are receiving the ChroniCLE in the mail, but no longer want it mailed to your home, send an email to [olli-info@fullerton.edu](mailto:olli-info@fullerton.edu) with **your name and address** stating: "Do **not** send me a ChroniCLE in the mail." If you ever need the printed version, copies are always available in the OLLI office.

### **If you Need to Contact OLLI**

Website: <http://olli.fullerton.edu>

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