President’s Message

Everybody enjoys a story. My story is how I transitioned from the daily schedule of work to retirement/travel/no schedule and then my transition into OLLI-CSUF.

When I finally made that important decision to retire, I started to imagine many things about retirement. What would life be like without a daily, weekly and monthly schedule that is not created for us by other people?

It was in 2005, after almost four decades in education, when I made that decision to sign my retirement papers. I had no idea what to do in retirement. All I knew at the time was that I would not have to go to any more board meetings, or meetings of any kind. My thoughts were that I would choose what I wanted to do and when I wanted to do it. I was looking forward to these visions of a life without meetings and schedules, and endless opportunities to do nothing. I was fulfilling my imagination of retirement by traveling the world with a sense of freedom from the demands of a career. After a few years it dawned on me that traveling and doing nothing was not enough; something was missing. I could no longer say I needed a vacation, because every day was Saturday, and someplace in the world it was happy hour and it’s always 5 p.m. in Margaritaville.

Cheryl and I would meet other seniors on our trips, and they talked about how they played golf or cards several days a week, and were already planning their next trip. They shared their medical appointments and procedures and the challenges of

Susan Mitchell Receives the Betty Robertson Award

Pictured is Susan Mitchell with John Blaydes, OLLI’s Vice President of External Relations, speaking at CSUF’s Honors and Scholars Award Ceremony on May 15 at the Meng Concert Hall, where Susan received OLLI’s Betty Robertson Award. “Susan is an excellent recipient and strongly reflects the attributes of a lifelong learner,” exclaimed John of the awardee, who earned the highest grade point average (3.97) of those considered for the award, and who graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Master’s degree in American Studies.

Susan was awarded $500 and a year’s membership in OLLI. Each year this award is given to one of CSUF’s oldest graduates who best exemplifies the spirit of lifelong learning. Begun last year, the award was named after Betty Robertson, one of the seven founders of CLE (Continuing Learning Experience, the predecessor of OLLI-CSUF) some 37 years ago and fondly referred to as the “Godmother of CLE.”

Born in 1948, Susan embarked on her quest of a Master’s degree almost 42 years after receiving her B.A. degree. In the interim, she raised four children as a single mother, and taught eighth grade in California public schools. This left her no time to consider an advanced degree program, but she explained, “I’ve always been a student at heart. It’s that curiosity about life and wanting to share that experience that led me to pile my children in the car for summer vacation trips to explore amazing parts

President’s...Continued on page 3

Susan Mitchell ...Continued on page 3
OLLI Communications Audit Results

During April 2015, members were surveyed about their usage of, and satisfaction with, the various methods OLLI uses to communicate information to them. The survey was designed by a Communications Audit Team comprised of Mike Stover, Joyce Ono, Carol Thurk and Ed Batson. In Ed, OLLI was fortunate to have a member who is an expert in the field of market surveys. They chose to use the online Qualtrics survey system, plus paper copies of the survey available in the office.

The team received 431 online responses and seven hard copy responses, for a response rate of 32% of the membership. This was very good, as Ed explained that response rates for similar surveys average under 5 percent.

The survey identified nine different vehicles that OLLI uses to communicate to members. Printed vehicles include the Blue Book Course Catalog mailed to members before each semester, the ChroniCLE mailed monthly and posters pinned to the bulletin board and elsewhere in the Ruby Gerontology Center (RGC). Electronic vehicles include the OLLI News Bytes emailed to members weekly, the Events Open to the Public emailed weekly, the ChroniCLE emailed monthly, the electronic bulletin board in the Shapiro Wing foyer, emails sent as needed on individual topics and the website.

Principal Communications Findings

* Members think OLLI does exceptionally well in communicating with them.
  * The Blue Book Course Catalog is the most read and most popular communication vehicle.
  * The OLLI News Bytes weekly email is the second best read and appealing mode of communication.
* The electronic bulletin board and printed posters at RGC reach fewer members overall and are considered less useful than all other communication channels. However, more engaged members, not surprisingly, pay greater attention to these two sources of information.
  * News about classes is, by a huge margin, the content of greatest interest to members.
  * Profiles of OLLI members narrowly edge out the other content offerings in garnering interest.
  * Although In Memoriam notices are not of great appeal to members in general, interest in these notices is higher among engaged and longer term members.
* Although engagement with OLLI is an important determinant of overall member satisfaction, it is not correlated with how well OLLI communicates with members.

Principal General Findings

* Members are extremely satisfied overall with their experience as OLLI members.
  * Three quarters of survey participants say they definitely will continue their OLLI membership.
  * Overall satisfaction and the propensity to remain a member are not related to personal demographic characteristics or length of membership.
  * Engagement, as indicated by the number of classes, lectures and events attended, or by the number of days a week typically spent at OLLI, is the greatest predictor of overall member satisfaction and the likelihood of continued OLLI membership.

A link to the full report of all results, including tables and charts showing detailed data are available in the OLLI News Bytes.

Chris Shaw, Associate Editor
being a senior. Cheryl and I started searching for something more meaningful in our lives. Cheryl volunteered at the Nixon Presidential Library & Museum in Yorba Linda where she worked in the archives and gave student tours to local schools and visitors from around the world. In December 2005 on a trip to Israel we met Leonard and Theda Leventhal, who shared with us the benefits of joining OLLI-CSUF. We never knew that this program existed. We listened to them but it didn’t sink in. We were not ready to settle down and commit to a program.

Several years later on a trip to Denver to visit cousins Dick and Naomi Wisott we learned they were members of OLLI at the University of Denver. In fact, Dick was the president of OLLI at DU. We decided to look into OLLI when we returned home. We joined OLLI-CSUF, and now look what’s happened to me.

My retirement dream world was turned upside down. Everything I said in 2005 has slowly changed for the better. I found that retirement is a mental state, and the more involved you are with other people in a learning environment the more meaningful your life is. Here we are learning in a university environment. At OLLI attending classes and continuing the learning process is Goal Number One. But learning is not confined to the classroom. We learn and are challenged mentally through person to person engagement in our classes, social events, trips and volunteering to make everything work better at OLLI and CSUF.

Folks, we are not guaranteed the Fountain of Youth, but we are having fun and leading a meaningful life in our golden years. I found that the best “antibiotic” (not prescribed by a doctor) for a senior is OLLI. I hope that you feel the same!

Please share your story with me about your retirement and OLLI. You can reach me through my email at bescoe@fullerton.edu.

Barry D. Escoe, President

Susan Mitchell ... Continued from page 1

of our country.” Once they traveled the historic Lewis and Clark trail.

Whenever possible Susan sought out personal and professional development opportunities, which led her to nationally competitive summer Fulbright-Hays fellowships to travel and study in Brazil, Mexico and New Zealand to study the indigenous peoples; National Endowment for the Humanities seminars on Civil Rights in the Mississippi Delta, the creation of State Constitutions, Great Plains authors and the Cherokee Nation; and a White House Historical Association fellowship award to research why Native American tribes visited the White House in the 1800s.

She also earned a National Endowment for the Humanities Teacher-Scholar Fellowship to research the Luiseno, a local Native American tribe in northern San Diego County. After learning of Susan’s extensive research on the Luiseno tribe, the San Diego County Office of Education commissioned her to write a curriculum chronicling their history and culture. Her curriculum is now used in 3rd and 4th grades in San Diego County schools to teach about California Indian tribes.

“Whatever I learned and experienced I passed on to my children, my students, colleagues and friends. I can’t live without learning and sharing,” she said.

Susan wasn’t too confident about competing with 25-30 year-olds in a college environment far different than what she experienced as a college student in the late 1960s. No women in her family had a graduate degree and some of her friends were not supportive of her pursuing one at this late stage in her life. She explained that there were times when fellow students were presenting their papers in class, that she had no idea what they were talking about. Then there were other times when she was sharing her experiences that she knew she had broadened their understanding. “Often I forgot that there was even an age difference because of the relationships that were created,” she said.

Her goals now are to teach at the community college level, and to be a mentor and role model to other older adults, encouraging them to continue their education of life.

Chris Shaw, Associate Editor
BASEBALL BASH SCENES
May 8, 2015

Go Titans!
Forms for OLLI Scholarships are available in the OLLI office between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm during the week for individuals who wish to apply for scholarships for membership dues. The completed applications MUST be returned to the office no later than noon on Friday, July 31 so the Scholarship Committee members have time to carefully review them. We are sorry but NO applications will be accepted after noon on Friday, July 31.

_Suzanne Mills, Chair of Scholarship Committee._

---

**TITANS GOING TO COLLEGE WORLD SERIES IN OMAHA**

**Good Food & Happy Fans!**

---

[Image of spectators]
OLLI Volunteer Tutors Honored at CSUF School of Nursing

It was a flyer posted in the Shapiro Wing; it was a notice posted in the OLLI News Bytes; it was an introduction to the idea of volunteering presented by a member of the Collaboration team to a fellow classmate. Since the launching of the OLLI-CSUF Collaboration plan in 2010, OLLI members have been assisting CSUF students achieve their goals through coaching, mentoring and/or study sessions on campus and online.

This past May, several members of OLLI were honored by teachers and staff at a buffet luncheon in the Kinesiology Building at the CSUF School of Nursing for their many volunteer hours in the Writing Center. Those named at the ceremony were Thone Ritch, Linda Kapiloff, Barbara Gossett, Betty Elsing-Bard, Jane Goodman, John Raphael and Sue White. All of the tutors received high praise from the students in their reports back to the School of Nursing.

It is not required to have the experience of a high school or university English teacher to qualify as a writing tutor in the program. It is important, however, to have a good command of English language writing and grammar skills, and to be comfortable in using those skills, perhaps in former on-the-job activities.

Two of the tutors mentioned above were able to attend the awards luncheon. They are Barbara Gossett and Jane Goodman. Besides the tasty lunch, high praise and camaraderie, the teachers received sweatshirts emblazoned with “CSUF School of Nursing, 40 Years.” Those tutors not in attendance received theirs at a later date.

Barbara brings a strong background in writing from her years of publishing a newsletter for Caltrans while working in their planning department. She also audited welfare programs, checking on the licensing of board and care facilities which entailed the writing of many reports.

Barbara has been tutoring in the School of Nursing for the past three years. She works with six to eight students a semester, seeing them one day a week, and reviews their journal entries approximately three days a week, inserting comments on email. She loves volunteering, it is her opportunity to give back. It gives her great joy and personal satisfaction to see the students’ work improve. She is inspired by the dedication and hard work of the students as they work toward their bachelor’s or master’s degrees in the nursing field. When not tutoring she sings soprano in the OLLI Chorale and the Westminster Chorale, plays the piano in OLLI concerts, attends French and Sit ‘n’ Knit classes, goes on field trips and occasionally attends OLLI films with her husband.

Jane Goodman loves walking on campus surrounded by the young people. She has been with the program for four years, and finds her job as tutor “so rewarding, so fulfilling.” As a paralegal she wrote many documents over the years. Jane meets with her three students for an average of one hour a week at the Writing Center, plus time on line. For the majority of her tutees English is their second language, and they are already in hospital placements.

Last year Jane was named lead tutor in the program, and was asked to sit on the Collaboration Committee, a responsibility that requires attending monthly meetings and offers her the opportunity to represent OLLI at community functions the latest a Sigma Phi Omega (National Academic Honor and Professional Society in Gerontology) event on the campus in April.

Barbara and Jane, like the more than 200 members who volunteer in the OLLI-CSUF Collaboration program, provide significant support to CSUF students and instructors ranging from participation in research studies to year-long tutoring and mentoring projects. This School of Nursing Award is a fine example of how valuable the collaboration has become to the students and their professors.

Alice Gresto, Staff Writer
SPECIAL EVENTS

Fourth of July Celebration 1:00 p.m. July 2 AUD
Descanso Gardens Trip 1:30 p.m. July 23 Lot A

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Eclectics II 12:30 p.m. July 16, 30 AUD
Eclectics I 10:00 a.m. July 7, 21 AUD

Board Meetings—Summer
July 9 and August 13
8:30-10 a.m. in Pine 111

The OLLI Board of Trustees invites OLLI members to attend its monthly board meetings (second Thursday of each month) and learn more about the OLLI business and its self-directing deliberations. Members wishing to speak on non-agenda board items will advise the President and/or OLLI Manager in writing (including a brief description of the subject to be addressed) at least one week in advance of the meeting. The President at his discretion may allocate up to three minutes if the board meeting agenda permits.

Fourth of July Celebration and Veterans Recognition
Thursday, July 2, 1-3 p.m., Mackey Auditorium

OLLI veterans will be honored during a Fourth of July Celebration and Veterans Recognition in Mackey Auditorium on Thursday, July 2, from 1 to 3 p.m. Music will be provided by our OLLI musicians, singers and dancers. Further information on the celebration will be provided in the OLLI News Bytes. Refreshments will be provided at a reception following the concert in Shapiro ABCD. Please join us for this very joyful event.

Fall Open House at OLLI
Saturday, August 8, 9 a.m. to noon
Ruby Gerontology Center
OPEN to the PUBLIC

The annual Fall Open House is an opportunity for members to invite family and friends to visit our facilities in the Ruby Gerontology Center where they can view the booths and meet coordinators and instructors representing our various classes and activities. Docents will conduct tours of RGC and membership applications will be available. Light refreshments will be provided. Parking is free and the OLLI Trolley will be in operation.

June Mailing Crew for the ChroniCLE
THANK YOU to the volunteers who helped with the June ChroniCLE mailing: Ricardo Acosta, Mary Alice Blaydes, Jean Bryant, Nancy Carlton, Dar and Norine Fredrickson, Susi Karlan, Karen Katz, Linda Lockwood, Lorraine Miller, Harriette Millman, Ann Newberry, Jerry Pollack, Judy Randlett, Marie Stiegler and Carol Thurk.
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/OLLI-email 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 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 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
Email: olli-info@fullerton.edu