



President’s Message

By Mike Stover, President, OLLI-CSUF

There are many reasons to be either delighted or anxious about OLLI’s unmistakable post-pandemic rebound. Here are three to cheer:



- Membership is well above pandemic lows, as is our offering of classes and activities.
- One of every four members volunteers their time, donates their money

or does both to make OLLI successful. From our instructors to our life-changing collaboration team, OLLI volunteers make our institute a “north star” for others to emulate.

Since my first part-time job as a news reporter, I have been in the “truth-telling” business. While my audiences, career trajectory and professional tools have changed, I thrive when truth-telling from my perspective. So, here are some about OLLI:

- There remains a substantial membership growth potential. At our pre-pandemic height, membership reached 1,700. Even with a projected net membership growth of 150 by the end of the 2024 summer semester, we’ll need 500 more members to balance our spending with revenue. Till then, we must continue slowly drawing down the balances of our reserve and donation accounts. Fundraising is disproportionately vital until we build back a sustainable membership total.
- Growth in curricular offerings, especially academic and “active lifestyle” classes requested by newer (or more physically active) members, depends on volunteers who step up to instruct or coordinate these programs.

- Several “super volunteers”—members

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OLLI-CSUF Members Support CSUF Students Well Being

By Debbie Kegel, OLLI Collaboration Team Member

It is no surprise that there is a correlation between basic needs and student performance and well-being. Yet, a 2021 national survey found 53% of students at four-year schools experience basic needs insecurity, such as inadequate food, housing or transportation.



According to the OC Register, a study showed that 18.1% of CSUF students were food insecure during the Spring 2021 semester. The Register quoted a fourth year CSUF student,

Alexa Vergil, “If I ever do have to go to the grocery store, it is usually \$100. So, paying for food—and I don’t have a job yet—kind of took a toll, and I have rent.”

At CSUF, the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) helps address student needs through programs like The Pantry, Tuffy’s Closet and The Children’s Center. OLLI-CSUF is partnering with the ASI to make it easy for OLLI members to make in-kind donations for the students needing these programs.

The Pantry provided fresh, frozen, canned and dry food items to approximately 3,500 students during the last school year. It receives food from the campus community as well as external partners such as food banks and grocery stores. The Pantry recently moved into new, larger quarters and hopes to reach more students going forward.

Tuffy’s Closet focuses on providing work-appropriate clothes to students for job interviews, internships and other career needs. It distributes clean, gently worn professional and business casual attire. Donations are received from the campus community. Approximately 700 students received a few pieces of clothing during the last school year.

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Desktop Publishing: Celia Reynolds



OLLI-CSUF Collaboration

By Alice Gresto, Staff Writer

Collaboration: Webster’s dictionary defines collaborate as “to cooperate, to contribute.” That is just what we do here at OLLI, we contribute our wisdom and services to our OLLI Community. We give back.

To us, it means working together to achieve a common goal. For several years OLLI has worked together with CSUF to share our wealth of experience to further the knowledge within our expanded community. It takes a village.



In reading the OLLI Announcements & Events Newsletter you will see an invitation to share your wisdom and your life experiences with one or many CSUF students.

Heading up this program is Sue Mullaly, an energetic brunette, who is often seen visiting the CSUF classrooms, chatting with the department leaders, handing out awards or supporting the many coordinators and volunteers that make this

OLLI-CSUF Collaboration program work.

She brings with her thirty plus years in direct sales which taught her to run her own business, perfect the skill of follow-up, find a need and fill it, build relationships, build organizational skills, overcome the fear of speaking before strangers, and persistence in the practice of continuous improvement.

Upon retiring in 2016, she found her life slowing down. Two trips to Ireland and a five-week road trip across the United States with friends did not still a growing sense of slipping into the doldrums. It took a lot of work to regroup. She developed a three-fold plan, to rebuild her social life, volunteer at a hospital and join OLLI. Eureka!

Sue Mullaly joined OLLI in 2017. She started with Collaboration because she found it in the Blue Book and was curious about what it might involve. She wanted to do something that would energize her spirit and keep her mind active in a positive way. Sue says OLLI-CSUF Collaboration answered that need. Today, in her position as Chairperson of the OLLI-CSUF Collaboration Committee, she finds herself using all the skills she worked so hard to acquire over her entire lifetime.

She is always on the lookout for OLLI members who would like to connect with students in a way that will add greater fulfillment to their lives. She also seeks CSUF students who realize they can benefit from an older adult’s perspective. She is called the OLLI-CSUF “Matchmaker.”

Working with an advisory board helps to achieve these goals. That advisory board includes: Bill Purpura, Colleges of Business and Engineering; Mary Kay Toumajian, Project LIFE Program; Julie Horn, Project Rebound Program; Linda Lockwood, College of Communications Education; Alice Gresto, Aging Studies, OLLI Articles Planning; Joyce Ono, Aging Studies, MSTEM Star Program; Sue Mullaly, International Students, EIP; Debbie Kegel, CSUF Basic Needs Program; and Roz Charles, Social Media.



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who contribute more than 100 hours of service annually—are burning out or, because of life circumstances, can no longer help. Many organizations reflect the 80/20 rule whereby 80% of results are contributed by 20% of the human and financial resources. Alarming, OLLI is trending toward an unsustainable 90/10 level whereby too few volunteers contribute too much to sustain our activities. More volunteers at all levels of engagement are needed. This can be achieved through more members offering to help and attracting new members who can also be recruited to pitch in.

- 21st century technologies must be embraced to leverage back office administrative and financial staff productivity. One thing is clear: staff growth beyond those already part of our financial plans is not feasible. Our staff can do the same with less or more with the same resources if they have the right technologies matched with the right skill sets and opportunities to use these high-productivity tools.

- Reducing University red tape obstacles and increasing staff-volunteer teamwork are needed. Finger-pointing is no substitute for thoughtful problem-solving.

- Debating the relative importance of academic versus nonacademic programs can be essential or distract us. The goal should continually be growing and refreshing our curiosity-led curriculum rather than narrowing it. As the U.S. surgeon general and other mental health professionals point out, Americans are experiencing a social isolation epidemic. Well-organized trips and social events can create meaningful member connections. Lecture, performance and entertainment classes are another part of a balanced curriculum. Other building blocks are university-level discussion groups and hands-on studio, lab and intellectually stimulating game classes. Members should also be encouraged to audit undergraduate classes and access CSUF resources and experiences.

Please join me in a continuing truth-telling dialogue that will keep us focused on doing the right things first. I invite your perspectives, volunteer contributions and suggestions.

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Tuffy's Closet also distributes full-sized hygiene products assisting approximately 2,000 students in the last school year.

The Children's Center provides daycare and pre-K for children from 6-months to five years old. The current need is for school supplies.

For OLLI member convenience, a collection box with the Pantry logo can be used for contributions to all three of these programs. It is located at the entrance of the Shapiro Wing lobby near the monitor. The Pantry will pick up the contributions at OLLI and distribute them to the Pantry, Tuffy's Closet or The Children's Center as appropriate.

You Can Help! Consider making in-kind contributions of non-perishable food, clothing and supplies to support student basic needs. See the complete list in the flyer included with the electronic distribution of this ChroniCLE and in the OLLI newsletters.

If you wish to make donations of perishable foods, please deliver them directly to the Pantry. Our "Grow Gardening Club" and others with green thumbs may be interested to know that the Pantry welcomes your home-grown fruits and vegetables. If you wish to make a monetary contribution or require a receipt for your in-kind contribution: for food, visit the Pantry at the Titan Student Union, Room 129 for small contributions, or to deliver to the loading dock, call 657-278-8756 (Monday 1-7 p.m., Tuesday–Thursday 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.); for clothing and hygiene items, visit Tuffy's Closet in McCarthy Hall, Room 143 (Monday-Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m.). For further information, please contact Debbie Kegel at Debkegel@gmail.com.

**Let's Play OLLI Bingo Social
February 9, 2024**

Come join the fun as we play OLLI Bingo. Prizes for this Bingo are artworks donated by our extraordinarily talented art class members. Join us as we enjoy the company of others, dine on good eats, seek the thrill of victory and possibly go home with a piece of art.

Sign-ups are required in the OLLI office from January 29 through February 7. Use the coupon in the flyer.

Charitable Gift Annuity Rates Increased

Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA) have always been a great idea. The gift annuity provides a fixed rate of return on your gift during your lifetime and the remainder benefits the charity of your choice, like OLLI-CSUF. Many donors create gift annuities to increase their retirement income **and** support their favorite charities.

When you fund a gift annuity today, **your payments will be at higher rates than in recent years.** In October of 2023, the American Council on Gift Annuities (ACGA) recommended increased rates for CGAs effective on January 1, 2024. We follow the ACGA's rates. The increased rates reflect the interest rate environment of the last two years. Here is an example, based on rates for a single life, of how current rates have increased:

AGE	RATE BEFORE INCREASE	RATE AFTER INCREASE
70	5.9%	6.3%
75	6.6%	7.0%
80	7.6%	8.1%
85	8.7%	9.1%
90+	9.7%	10.1%

Once you fund a gift annuity, your rate and your payments never change. Your payments will last as long as you live, no matter what the economy does. For more options and even higher payments, ask us about a deferred gift annuity. By waiting a few years for your first payment, you can receive an even higher payment rate.

No matter what type of gift annuity you fund, in addition to the tax benefits, you will have the unparalleled satisfaction of knowing the benefits you receive also help others. After a lifetime of payments to you, any funds remaining in the gift annuity support OLLI-CSUF.

When you start your gift annuity with the new, higher rates, you will have peace of mind from your fixed payments. With higher rates and potential tax benefits you will be putting more money in your pocket.

TAX BENEFITS: When you call us to find out your rate, we will also let you know about your income tax deduction and possible capital gains benefits. There is no guesswork. What you start today, gives back to you for life.

PAYMENTS FOR TWO: When you fund a gift annuity for two people, such as you and your spouse, payments will continue at the same rate, in the same amount, for as long as either of you live. Rates are different than for one-life annuities but are still attractive.

BIG IMPACT: When you fund your gift annuity, you receive the fixed payments and tax benefits, but you also do something more. After a lifetime of payments to you (or you and your spouse), all funds remaining in your gift annuity support OLLI-CSUF.

Call or email us to learn how a gift annuity can benefit you and OLLI-CSUF. As always, this information is not intended as legal or tax advice. Please consult your professional advisors for legal and tax guidance.

Planned Gifts to support OLLI-CSUF are coordinated through University Advancement. Please visit www.csufplannedgift.org or contact us to learn about all of the benefits of making a charitable bequest and how it can help OLLI-CSUF continue our important work. If you're interested in establishing your legacy and making a lasting impact at OLLI-CSUF through membership in the [Ontiveros Legacy Society](#), please contact our Office of Planned Giving at 657-278-3947 or CSUFPlannedGift@fullerton.edu.

OLLI in the News

The December 27 issue of the OC Register featured an article about OLLI at Cal State Fullerton and OLLI's Spring Preview titled "Older adults explore their passions at CSUF's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute." You can read the article on the OC Register's website at <https://www.ocregister.com/2023/12/27/older-adults-explore-their-passions-at-csufs-osher-lifelong-learning-institute/>.

Gnome for the Holidays Luncheon: December 6, 2023

Photos by Rosalind Charles, Michele Frankel and Donna Spradlin



What are Accessibility Features?

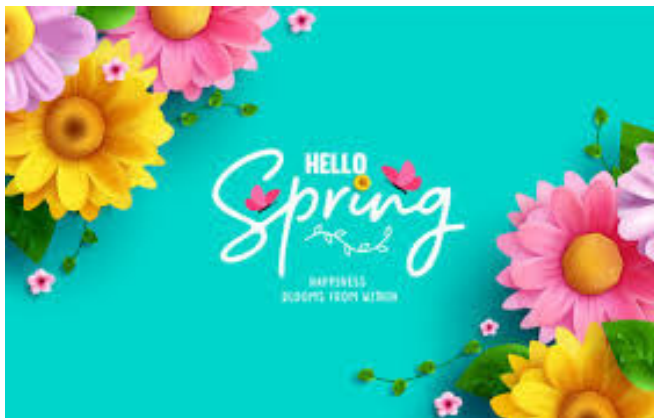
By Tom La Casa, Technology Education Committee

As technology continues to be ingrained into every aspect of our lives, it's vital that tech companies make their devices accessible to everyone. Accessibility features are designed to help people with disabilities use technology more easily. For example, a text-to-speech feature may read text out loud for people with limited vision, while a speech-recognition feature allows users with limited mobility to control the computer with their voice.

Many of Apple's accessibility tools provide for simple modifications that enhance one's use tremendously. Some examples include: increasing icon size, adjusting font size, using Siri, enabling zoom and magnification, creating favorite contacts, understanding how to use Emergency SOS and emergency contacts.

For Apple users with cognitive disabilities, Apple's latest technical innovation called Assistive Access extracts the essential aspects of an Apple device's interface to decrease the likelihood of cognitive overload. Applications like Phone, FaceTime, Camera, Photos, and Music have customized interfaces with high-contrast buttons and large text. Assistive Access can be customized to fit an individual's communication needs based on preference: graphic communication such as emojis or plain-text communication.

Click the following link and learn about the many ways Apple technology can enhance a senior's experience with their Mac/ iPhone/iPad device: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PpwVfvLLYPgOR0bVax08c0t5og8cbHFw/view?usp=share_link.



Nethercutt Collection & Museum Trip

Coming Saturday, March 9, 2024

Join us as we visit the Nethercutt Collection & Museums, which features over 250 classic cars, a collection of mechanical musical instruments, a mighty 5,000 pipe Wurlitzer theater concert organ, a fully restored steam engine, private pullman car and some of the finest crystal objects in the United States. We will have a two-hour docent-led tour of the museum.

The \$45 price includes transportation, tip, snack on the bus and admission to the museum. See the flyer for details and the sign-up coupon. Sign-ups in the OLLI office begin February 12 and end March 4.

Referral Cards for Member Use

Vice President Membership Debbie Maxwell produced a new way for OLLI members to introduce OLLI-CSUF to their family and friends—a business-sized card you can keep in your wallet or purse and just hand to someone you know or meet who you think might want to know about OLLI.

The graphic shows the front and back of the card. It includes a space for you to fill in your name, as an OLLI member, so you get credit for the referral, especially if you qualify for an award for recruiting a new member.

Drop by the OLLI office and pick up a handful of cards to keep and use as a good ambassador for OLLI at Cal State Fullerton. Thanks for supporting our 1,000+ member group of lifelong learners and friends.



What's Happening at the Board

By Chris Shaw, Editor

Following are highlights from OLLI's Board of Trustees meeting on December 14, 2023:

- An ad hoc Board committee will begin planning for negotiations with CSUF for a new multi-year parking agreement.
- Dean Leahy discussed OLLI with CSUF's new President Alva and both are very supportive of OLLI at CSUF.
- Search and interviews are continuing for recruiting a new Executive Director of OLLI.
- Congratulations to OLLI member Fran Colwell for being honored at the Vision and Visionaries Award ceremonies in February.
- Issues regarding class meeting scheduling on Thursdays and Fridays were discussed at length. VP Programs Ellie Monroe was given a vote of confidence on her handling of the issues. Parking is a separate issue, but no less important. New drivers are being recruited and certified and the OLLI Trolley will be available on days that Lot J is routinely full.
- OLLI membership as of December 14 was 1,018 (compared to 941 last year to date), including 210 new members (114 last year).
- The online registration system is up and ready for spring registrations of new members and those who joined for fall only. We are actively recruiting new members for spring.
- All OLLI members may pick up referral cards in the OLLI office for use in recommending OLLI to their friends, relatives and others.
- Coffee will be provided for members in the kitchen during the spring semester.
- An information table in the courtyard will be staffed during the first week of the spring semester.
- People will be available at the Spring Preview to answer detailed questions from members and prospective members about spring curriculum.
- VP Programs Ellie Monroe reported there are 110 programs scheduled for the spring semester and five more will be added in January. 31 are hybrid, 22 are Zoom-only and 53 are in-person-only. The spring schedule has been distributed and is on the website.
- Amendments were approved for: 1. OLLI

Policy 1.2.3 M, The Nomination Process under the Nomination & Election Policy to amend when election nominees and their bios are announced to OLLI members; and 2. OLLI Policy 3.3.1 C, General under the Travel Policy to amend the approval process for overnight trips.

- Funding was approved to promote the TitansGive Day of Giving on March 6. President Stover invited anyone who is interested to contact him to join the Day of Challenge Committee.
- The Development/Philanthropy Committee is considering a proposal by Fran Colwell to raise OLLI's Masters in Gerontology Scholarship and Betty Robertson Award and add two additional CSUF undergraduate scholarships.
- President Stover noted that OLLI diversity data showed we need to reach out to a broader range of members to increase our diversity. He asked any volunteers interested in diversity to contact him.



Bonnie Harrington snapped this picture of OLLI members lounging and visiting together in the RGC courtyard following Mike Stover's "News: Up Close and Personal" class.



OLLI

at California State University, Fullerton

"A Continuing Learning Experience"

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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, including the ChroniCLE emails. If, for any reason, you are **not** already receiving OLLI emails about upcoming classes, events, the ChroniCLE and special notices, you can subscribe (or re-subscribe) by going to <http://bit.ly/OLLISubscription> 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 for the upcoming month with links to view or download the publications. You can also access the most recent ChroniCLEs through links in the weekly OLLI newsletters 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

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Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/ollicsuf/>