

# LEARNING IN RETIREMENT, INC.

D/B/A

## THE OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Annual Meeting - May 13, 2016

President Betty Jean Craige called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present. One hundred and three members and guests attended the meeting.

She asked the assembly to observe a moment of silence in honor of Christine Pavlak, who had passed away this morning. She was the presenter for today's class *Ambiguity of Justice*.

**Minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting:** Secretary Cheryl Copeland moved "that the Annual Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2015 be approved". The motion was seconded by Bill Flatt. Motion adopted.

**Minutes of General Membership Meeting:** Secretary Cheryl Copeland moved "that the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of September 11, 2015 be approved." Motion was seconded by Sandy Clark. Motion adopted.

President Craige recognized Dr. Jack Parish, our liaison with the UGA College of Education. She noted that he will retire at the end of May.

**State of OLLI@UGA:** President Craige gave the following report:

I believe that the state of OLLI@UGA is good. We are an organization of almost 1500 members who have participated in 359 classes this year, 12 Brown Bag Lunches, 16 OLLI Luncheons at Trumps and Talmage Terrace, and 31 Special Interest Groups.

This year the Board of Directors has accomplished much. The Board approved a revised Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Georgia; a new Conflict-of-Interest Policy (for which we thank Heidi Davison and Richard Lynch); and a new set of Bylaws (for which we thank Bill Alworth, Lee Albright, Katy Crapo, Pat McAlexander, Don Schneider, and Barbara Timmons). The Board commissioned an audit of OLLI's finances by Turner and Patat and accepted their report. And the Board initiated a "Fact-Based-Decision-Making pilot project to be led by Ed Levine, Les Shindelman, and John Songster with Andy Horne as liaison to the Board.

Nancy Grayson completed a Communications style sheet which will serve as a guide for all our publications. After passing the new set of Bylaws at our April meeting, the Board elected Richard Lynch to serve in the newly established position of Liaison from the Board to the Executive Committee. The position of Vice President disappeared, but we hope that Andy Horne, who as our last Vice President gave so much time and wisdom to the Board and the Executive Committee, will not disappear.

OLLI@UGA has collaborated significantly with the University of Georgia and with the Athens community. Katy Crapo, our Executive Director, will tell you more about our projects. I do want to mention, however, that this year the Opera Special Interest Group raised \$21,180.00 for the Opera Scholarship Fund. Nine opera students received awards of \$2,200.00. Nancy Songster and John Rudy led this effort.

Now I want to thank you all. First, I thank the Board members and the officers for a very productive year of hard work. Let me name names. The Board members are Randall Abney, Gary Bertsch, Sandy Clark, Heidi Davison, Nancy Grayson, Joe Harris (representative from Washington OLLI chapter), Ian Hardin, Richard Lynch, Jill Read, Les Shindelman, and Clover Weller. The officers are Lee Albright, President-Elect; Andy Horne, Vice President; Cheryl

Copeland, Secretary; and Victor Gagliano, Treasurer. Katy Crapo, Executive Director, is an *ex officio* member of the Board and the Executive Committee.

I want to give Katy special thanks for her outstanding administrative leadership during a period of significant transition. And I thank her administrative team for their excellent work on behalf of OLLI. Our full-time UGA employees are Zu Reuter, Manager of Member Services and Technology; and Shelly Magruder, Office Manager. Our part-time Learning-in-Retirement employees are Sara Williamson, Bookkeeper; Rita Healan, Office Assistant; and Amy Munnell, Social Media Coordinator. I have really enjoyed working with all of these dedicated people. Every member of OLLI depends on these individuals for their OLLI experience.

During the past few years OLLI has grown from an organization of fewer than five hundred members run primarily by volunteers to an organization of almost fifteen hundred members run by a professional administrative staff. In the last ten months Katy has taken on increasing responsibility and authority as OLLI's Executive Director. OLLI is fortunate indeed to have a person of Katy's wisdom and experience in this critical management position. Thank you, Katy, for all you have done.

During this transition in which the Board has attended primarily to finance, policy, and planning, the chairs of the committees have assumed increasing authority for their realms of responsibility. So I would like to recognize them for their extraordinary contributions to the operation of OLLI: Bill Alworth, Chair of the Bylaws Committee; Penny Oldfather, Chair of the Curriculum Committee and her co-chairs Jim Marshall and Nancy Grayson; Dona Conway, Chair of the Luncheon Committee; Richard Bouldin, Chair of the Finance Committee; Jill Read and Vicki Krugman, Chairs successively of the Fund Development Committee; Iva King, Chair of the Hospitality Committee; Les Shindelman, Ed Levine, and Chuck Murphy, Chairs successively of the IT Committee; Richard Lynch, Chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee; Katherine Winslow, Chair of the Marketing Committee; Jay Shinn, Chair of the Membership Committee; Nancy Canolty, Chair of the Registration Committee; Peg Graham, Coordinator of the Special Interest Groups; Joan Zitzelman, Chair of the Travel-Study Committee; Sandy Clark, Coordinator of Volunteers; and Lee Albright, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

I thank Pat McAlexander, Editor of the *OLLI Times*, and Bill Loughner, OLLI's Historian, for their selfless devotion to OLLI over many years. I thank our many sponsors.

What a lot of work by a lot of wonderful volunteers! Now let me thank everyone who made this year enjoyable and satisfying for me. I appreciate very much the opportunity you all gave me to be OLLI's president. I am happy to leave you with the very capable Lee Albright, who will become your president on July 1.

So, now I can say *adiós*, farewell, *Aufwiedersehen*, *adieu*, good-bye, *arrivederci*, to you and you and you. And now I can go back to taking twenty-eight classes a semester. I look forward to seeing you all often next year at River's Crossing, Trumps, Talmage Terrace, and wherever else OLLI members may gather.

**Closure of Election:** Cheryl Copeland moved “that if all members have voted, I move that the election be closed.” The motion was seconded by Pat McAlexander. Motion adopted. Those nominated include: Brenda Hayes – President-Elect; Margaret Pruiett – Secretary; Victor Gagliano-Treasurer; Board of Directors: Bill Alworth, Bill Barstow, Richard Bouldin, Sandy Clark, Barbara Timmons, Ray Watson, Clover Weller and Jan Wheeler.

**Treasurer's Report:** Finance Chair Richard Bouldin presented the Treasurer's Report for Treasurer Victor Gagliano. OLLI@UGA conducted its first-ever audit. The firm selected was Turner & Patat.

They found our financial procedures were all in order, and there were no mistakes or material misrepresentations in the finances. We received a clean bill of health. The membership may be assured that its directors, officers and staff have handled your money carefully.

Mr. Bouldin was pleased to report that in FY2016 revenue was around \$425,000 with expenses roughly also \$425,000. OLLI@UGA should end this fiscal year with a slight surplus.

In FY2017, the Board approved a budget with a deficit of nearly \$25,000.00 with anticipated revenues of \$362,285 and anticipated expenditures of \$386,852.00. The reason for the deficit is that the value of the Osher Endowment with the UGA Foundation declined due to the stock market. The amount to be disbursed to OLLI@UGA at the end of this fiscal year will be \$82,465. OLLI@UGA is able to handle the deficit through surplus cash in checking and savings from previous fiscal years. He hoped that the members understand that our cash flow is very volatile.

**Executive Director's Remarks:** Katy Crapo gave thanks to the University of Georgia, its College of Education and in particular to Dean Kennedy and Associate Dean Dr. Jack Parish, to the Osher Foundation and its Resource Center and to the University of Georgia Retirement Association. She gave particular thanks to Marketing and Communication Chair Katherine Winslow for arranging with Dr. Carolina Acosta-Alzuru, an Associate Professor in UGA's Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, for the 13 students in the Capstone PR Campaigns course to apply public relations strategies, principles and techniques to develop a campaign for OLLI@UGA. The class researched and identified methods to attract new members throughout the Athens area, suggest methods to retain existing members and identify ways to improve our fundraising efforts. They prepared a 300-page report. She also thanked the Opera Special Interest Group for making a substantial contribution to opera scholarships for students to study opera abroad.

**Presentation of Certificate:** President Craige presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Jack Parish of the College of Education on the occasion of his retirement for all his encouragement, assistance and guidance to OLLI@UGA. Katy Crapo also expressed her gratitude.

**Carol J. Fisher Award Presentation:** President Craige said that the Dr. Carol J. Fisher Award is given each year at our Annual Meeting to a person or persons in recognition for long and significant contributions to the functioning of OLLI@UGA. With the recommendations of Board members, the President then selects the recipient. She announced that this year the award would be presented to Pat McAlexander, the editor of the OLLI Times and a member of the Picture This SIG and the 2015-2016 Bylaws Committee.

**Presentation of Election Results:** President-Elect Lee Albright announced the results of the election - those individuals who will join her next year on the Board. President-Elect: Brenda Hayes; Secretary: Margaret Pruiett ; and Treasurer: Victor Gagliano, and Directors for two (2) year terms: Bill Alworth, Richard Bouldin, Sandy Clark, Barbara Timmons, and Clover Weller. She thanked the members of the Nominating Committee, who were: Ann Darby, Bill Flatt, Louise McElroy and John Rudy.

**Remarks by President-Elect:** Lee Albright presented a Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing President Betty Jean Craige. Ms. Albright said that we are fortunate to have had her serve in this position. Ms. Albright said that her service during 2015-2016 has been wonderful experience learning all about the operations of OLLI@UGA. This is an organization of many talented, capable and fascinating people, and it has been wonderful to interact and learn from them.

There being no further business, President Craige adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.