BYLAWS

Learning in Retirement, Inc.
Doing Business As

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
at The University of Georgia

River’s Crossing
850 College Station Road
Athens, GA 30602-4811

Adopted: March 22, 2021
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**Article One: Organization**

1.1 The name of this organization shall be Learning in Retirement, Inc. (LIR). Learning in Retirement, Inc., is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization doing business as The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Georgia (OLLI@UGA).

1.2 OLLI@UGA is the beneficiary of endowment gifts from the Bernard Osher Foundation to the University of Georgia and the University of Georgia Foundation. The University of Georgia Foundation manages this endowment, and the interest is used to support the activities, programs, and personnel of OLLI@UGA. Nothing in these Bylaws shall conflict with the written agreement between the Bernard Osher Foundation and the University of Georgia Foundation.

1.3 OLLI@UGA operates in cooperation with the University of Georgia Mary Frances Early College of Education under the terms of a written Memorandum of Agreement between OLLI@UGA and the University of Georgia. Nothing in these Bylaws shall conflict with the Memorandum of Agreement between OLLI@UGA and the University of Georgia.

1.4 The OLLI@UGA name and logo shall be maintained and used as established by the Bernard Osher Foundation and the University of Georgia.

1.5 All activities of OLLI@UGA shall be carried out within the relevant law and in accordance with the Bylaws and Policies of OLLI@UGA and the Policies of the University of Georgia.

1.6 As a non-profit organization, OLLI@UGA shall not engage in any activities that may jeopardize its tax-exempt status, including the following:

   1.6.1 OLLI@UGA shall not allow lobbying or endorsement of political candidates, positions, or activities at any OLLI@UGA function.

   1.6.2 OLLI@UGA shall not allow presentations to its members on behalf of “for profit” entities.

**Article Two: Vision, Mission, Purpose**

2.1 Vision: OLLI@UGA envisions that its members will celebrate life through the benefits of lifelong learning and community engagement.

2.2 Mission: OLLI@UGA is dedicated to engaging its members in lifelong learning through opportunities for intellectual, social, and cultural enrichment.

2.3 Purpose: OLLI@UGA offers its members a varied curriculum of classes, a forum for the pursuit of shared interests, and opportunities for travel and social engagement.
Article Three: Membership

3.1 Membership in OLLI@UGA is open without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or educational experience to any individual age fifty or older and his/her/their partner.

3.2 A requirement of membership in OLLI@UGA is registration with the organization and payment of membership dues.

Article Four: Order of Business

4.1 The business of OLLI@UGA shall be conducted by an established set of procedures (e.g., the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, Martha’s Rules, etc.).

4.2 The Parliamentarian shall ensure that these procedures are reasonably followed during meetings of the Board of Directors and of the general membership.

Article Five: Board of Directors

5.1 The governing body of OLLI@UGA shall be the Board of Directors, drawn from the general membership of OLLI@UGA. The Board of Directors shall act in the name of the organization and manage the business of the organization with exclusive authority (a) to approve and disburse funds, not only in accordance with the approved annual budget and budget amendments, but for all non-budgeted expenses and all contracts for which monies have not previously been approved, and (b) to establish membership dues and fees for classes, events, and other activities.

5.2 The Board of Directors shall consist of fourteen (14) elected voting members and four (4) advisory non-voting members. Voting members of the Board shall include ten (10) Directors and four (4) Officers. Advisory non-voting members of the Board shall include (but are not necessarily limited to) the Parliamentarian and Historian (both appointed by the President of OLLI@UGA), the Executive Director of OLLI@UGA, and a representative from the Office of the Dean of the Mary Frances Early College of Education. Any other advisory non-voting members may be named with the unanimous consent of the Board.

5.3 Directors and Officers shall be elected to the Board of Directors by the general membership at the Annual Election.

5.4 The President of OLLI@UGA shall chair the Board of Directors and shall preside at meetings of the Board.

5.5 The Board of Directors shall meet at least monthly. The Board of Directors may change the meeting time and/or date with a plurality vote. A meeting agenda
shall be posted on the OLLI@UGA website (olli.uga.edu) at least seventy-two hours prior to each Board meeting.

5.6 All meetings and minutes of the Board of Directors and its committees shall be open to the general membership except for meetings of the Executive Committee, executive sessions of the Board, meetings of the Nominating Committee, and meetings dealing with personnel issues.

5.7 Any OLLI@UGA member may address the Board concerning one or more items on the agenda of a Board meeting. The member shall advise the President at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the Board meeting of the item(s) to be addressed. The time limit of member comments is left to the discretion of the President.

5.8 Upon their approval by the Board, minutes from meetings of the Board of Directors shall be posted on the OLLI@UGA website (olli.uga.edu).

5.9 Officers and Directors are expected to attend all Board meetings.

5.9.1 Any Director of Officer who finds it necessary to be absent from a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is responsible for requesting an excused absence in advance from the President. Board members who cannot attend a Board Meeting may vote on an agenda item by proxy, which must be received by the Board Secretary and President at least one day in advance of the Board meeting.

5.9.2 A Director or Officer may be granted a Leave of Absence for up to ninety (90) days. The President shall nominate for Board approval an individual to be designated as an Acting Director or Officer. The acting term limit shall be ninety (90) days or at the end of that fiscal year, whichever comes first. Should the Director’s or Officer’s absence extend beyond ninety (90) days but end prior to the end of that fiscal year, a new election may be held in accordance with these Bylaws.

5.9.3 A Director or Officer may be removed for two or more unexcused absences from scheduled Board meetings, with or without cause, if approved by the Board. Any Director or Officer has the right to present his/her/their defense in person before the Board of Directors.

5.10 When acting on behalf of the organization, Board members shall be held harmless for their actions to the full extent allowed by law. To this end, OLLI@UGA shall purchase and maintain necessary insurance policies to protect the organization and the Board of Directors against risk, including, at a minimum:

5.10.1 General Liability (personal and property damage and punitive damage).

5.10.2 Nonprofit Directors’ and Officers’ Liability (also known as association professional liability).
5.10.3  Fiduciary Liability (Performance Bond for the Treasurer).

5.11  No Director or Officer shall be entitled to receive any salary or compensation from the organization.

5.12  Directors and Officers of OLLI@UGA shall not profit from the organization's business transactions or from information obtained during the conduct of organization business. Directors and Officers shall submit a signed Conflict of Interest statement annually at the first Board meeting of the fiscal year. If a Director or Officer is concerned about a potential conflict of interest, he/she/they shall consult the OLLI@UGA Conflict-of-Interest Policy and take appropriate action.

5.13  Directors

5.13.1  Directors shall serve for a term of two years beginning July 1 of the fiscal year following the Annual Election and may be re-elected to serve one (1) additional term.

5.13.2  Five (5) Directors (or as many as are needed to fill Board openings) shall be elected each year by confidential ballot during the Annual Election.

5.13.3  Should a vacancy occur among the Directors, the Nominating Committee shall propose for Board consideration an OLLI@UGA member to serve for the remainder of the term of the position vacated. This nominee shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Board. After completing the term of the vacated position, the replacement may be elected by the general membership during the Annual Election to serve for an additional consecutive term.

5.14  Officers

5.14.1  The Officers of OLLI@UGA shall be the President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer.

5.14.2  The Officers shall be elected by confidential ballot at the Annual Election.

5.14.3  President

5.14.3.1  The President shall serve a term of one (1) year beginning July 1 of the fiscal year following the Annual Election.

5.14.3.2  If the office of President becomes vacant, the President-Elect shall become President immediately.

5.14.3.3  Effective July 1 following completion of his/her/their term of office, the outgoing President shall serve a term of one (1) year as Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall serve in an advisory capacity as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee during that year. Upon completion of his/her/their term as Immediate Past President, a member is eligible for re-election to one additional term of one
(1) year as President-Elect, followed by succession to President and Immediate Past President.

5.14.3.4 The President shall chair the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, preside at all meetings of the general membership, and present at each Annual Meeting a report of the activities of the organization. The President shall appoint the chairs of all committees except for the chairs of the Executive and Nominating Committees. The President shall also be responsible for seeing that all required financial records, reports, and certificates are properly kept and filed, and for signing all contracts for the organization. The President may sign checks and drafts for the organization and shall perform other duties reasonably belonging to the president of any similar organization.

5.14.4 President-Elect

5.14.4.1 The President-Elect shall serve a term of one (1) year beginning July 1 of the fiscal year following the Annual Election.

5.14.4.2 If the office of President-Elect becomes vacant, the Nominating Committee (chaired by the President in the absence of the President-Elect) shall propose to the Board a member of OLLI@UGA to serve the remainder of the President-Elect’s term. The Board of Directors shall elect that nominee by a simple majority vote.

5.14.4.3 The President-Elect shall participate in the operations of the organization, serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee and the Committee Chairs and as a member of the Finance Committee, and assist the President as requested. The President-Elect shall, in the event of the absence of the President, preside at meetings of the Board and of the general membership. The President-Elect shall assume the office of President upon the end of the President’s term of office. Should the President vacate the office during the President-Elect’s term, the President-Elect shall become President immediately.

5.14.5 Secretary

5.14.5.1 The Secretary shall serve a term of two (2) years beginning July 1 of the fiscal year following the Annual Election and may be re-elected to serve one additional term of two (2) years.

5.14.5.2 If the office of Secretary becomes vacant, the Nominating Committee (chaired by the President if the position of President-Elect is also vacant) shall propose to the Board a member of OLLI@UGA it deems qualified to serve the remainder of the Secretary’s term. The Board of Directors shall approve that nominee by a simple majority vote.
5.14.5.3 The Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and meetings of the general membership; file certificates required by any federal or state law; file the annual corporate registration online with the Office of the Georgia Secretary of State; serve as the registered agent of the corporation; file, give and serve all notices to members of the organization; and serve as the official custodian of the records and Seal of the organization. The Secretary may also sign checks and drafts for the organization.

5.14.6 Treasurer

5.14.6.1 The Treasurer shall serve a term of two (2) years beginning July 1 of the fiscal year following the Annual Election and may be re-elected to serve one additional term of two (2) years.

5.14.6.2 If the office of Treasurer becomes vacant, the Nominating Committee (chaired by the President if the position of President-Elect is also vacant) shall propose to the Board a member of OLLI@UGA it deems qualified to serve the remainder of the Treasurer's term. The Board of Directors shall approve that nominee by a simple majority vote.

5.14.6.3 The Treasurer shall have custody of all monies belonging to the organization, be responsible for its monies and securities subject to internal and/or external audit, and perform all duties of the office of Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Finance Committee and may sign checks or drafts of the organization. The Treasurer shall submit written reports on the organization's finances as required by statute, OLLI@UGA agreements, Board requirements, and good accounting practices. Such written reports shall be included with the Board agendas and accounting records.

5.15 Executive Committee

5.15.1 The Executive Committee of OLLI@UGA shall consist of five (5) voting members, including the four (4) Officers of OLLI@UGA and a member of the Board selected by the Board; and, as non-voting advisory members, the Immediate Past President, the Executive Director, and a representative from the Office of the Dean of the Mary Frances Early College of Education.

5.15.2 The Executive Committee’s primary function is to set the agenda of the Board meeting. However, in emergency situations when a timely decision is necessary before the Board meets, the Executive Committee may exercise the authority of the Board. Before the next Board meeting, the Secretary shall notify the Board of actions taken by the Executive Committee and provide minutes of the meeting, except for personnel matters.
5.16  The Historian shall maintain the LIR/OLLI@UGA history collection, Number 07-031, at the Hargrett Rare Books and Manuscript Library at the University of Georgia.

5.17  The Parliamentarian shall resolve questions, if any, regarding the order of business during meetings of the Board of Directors and the general membership.

**Article Six: Annual Election**

6.1  A Nominating Committee shall develop, for approval by the Board of Directors, a slate of Director and Officer candidates for the Annual Election.

6.1.1  The Nominating Committee shall consist of the President-Elect as Chair and four additional OLLI@UGA members, no more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors.

6.1.2  By no later than October 15, the President-Elect shall notify the membership that the members of the Nominating Committee will be selected by the Board of Directors at its November meeting. Members of OLLI@UGA shall be encouraged to volunteer themselves or, with prior permission, other members of the organization to serve on the Nominating Committee. The President-Elect shall present the names of proposed Nominating Committee members to the Board of Directors for selection at the November Board meeting.

6.1.3  Members of the Nominating Committee selected by the Board shall serve a term of one (1) year. Should a mid-term vacancy occur on the Nominating Committee, the Board shall select an OLLI@UGA member to fill the unexpired term. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible to be considered for election as a Director or Officer unless they first resign from the Nominating Committee.

6.1.4  The Nominating Committee shall notify the membership not later than February 1 that nominations are open for Directors and Officers whose terms are expiring at the end of that fiscal year. Criteria for nomination shall include current membership in OLLI@UGA for a period of at least one year and participation as chair/co-chair or member of a committee or in another active volunteer role with the organization. The President shall advise the Nominating Committee of any relevant needs for specific experience among the proposed nominees. Members of OLLI@UGA will be invited to nominate themselves (or other qualified members, with their prior permission) to serve as a Director or an Officer.

6.1.5  The Nominating Committee shall interview each candidate for Director and Officer positions prior to March 31. Based on information from these interviews, the Nominating Committee shall develop a proposed slate of Directors and Officers for approval by the Board of Directors at its April meeting.
6.1.6 The Nominating Committee shall also develop and present to the Board of Directors for approval at its April meeting a proposed slate of candidates for annual awards.

6.1.6.1 The Outstanding Achievement Award (formerly the Presidential Award), given to no more than two (2) members of OLLI@UGA in recognition for exemplary service to the organization and its members during the past year.

6.1.6.2 The Sustained Service Award (also known as the Carol Fisher Memorial Award), given to no more than three (3) members of OLLI@UGA in recognition for ongoing dedicated service to the organization and its members over a period of years.

6.1.6.3 The OLLI Scholar Award, given to no more than one (1) member of OLLI@UGA in recognition of exemplary participation in classes offered during the past year.

6.1.6.4 The Outstanding Presenter Award, given to no more than two (2) volunteers whose class presentations were deemed to be extraordinarily engaging and compelling.

6.2 Upon Board approval of the slate of candidates for election/re-election to the Board, confidential ballots listing the names of the candidates shall be prepared by the Nominating Committee and distributed to the membership no fewer than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

6.3 The Annual Election shall be held no fewer than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting for the purpose of electing/re-electing the slate of Directors and Officers nominated to serve on the Board of Directors.

6.4 Prior to opening the Annual Election, the President-Elect shall appoint a committee of three OLLI@UGA members who shall act as Inspectors of Election. No Inspector of Election shall be a candidate for office. At the conclusion of the balloting, the Inspectors of Election shall certify the results in writing to the President-Elect. The certification shall be affixed to the minutes of the Annual Meeting.

Article Seven: Meetings of the General Membership

7.1 Meetings of the general membership of OLLI@UGA shall be open to all members of the organization and may take place in person or online.

7.2 A quorum (defined as five percent [5%] of the total current membership of the organization) is required to conduct the business of OLLI@UGA at any meeting of the general membership. If a quorum is not present, no official action may be taken.

7.3 The agenda for any meeting of the general membership shall be posted on the OLLI@UGA website (olli.uga.edu) at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

7.4 The Secretary, or a designated representative, shall document the meeting proceedings. The minutes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for comment.
and approval not later than sixty (60) days after the meeting of the general membership. Approved minutes from meetings of the general membership shall be posted on the OLLI@UGA website (olli.uga.edu).

7.5 The Annual Meeting of the general membership shall be held during the month of May on a date determined by the President and the Executive Director. The Secretary shall notify the membership of the Annual Meeting at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the scheduled meeting. The Annual Meeting agenda shall include reports by the President, Treasurer, and Executive Director; an announcement of the names of annual award recipients; and any other business deemed necessary and appropriate.

7.6 A Special Meeting of the general membership may be called when requested by the President and approved by a simple majority of the Board of Directors. Special meetings shall be called for a specific purpose only, and no business other than that specified may be transacted without the unanimous consent of members present. The Secretary shall notify the membership of any Special Meeting at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the scheduled meeting. The notice shall include the purpose, date, time, and place of the meeting.

**Article Eight: Committees**

8.1 OLLI@UGA shall operate Confidential and Standing Committees. The President of OLLI@UGA may appoint *ad hoc* committees as needed. All committees shall be guided by the Bylaws and Policies of OLLI@UGA, the OLLI@UGA Long Range Strategic Plan, and the OLLI@UGA Board of Directors.

8.2 Confidential Committees shall include the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee.

8.3 Standing Committees shall include the Bylaws & Policies, Committee Chairs, Curriculum, Finance, Fund Development, Hospitality, Information Technology, Long Range Strategic Planning, Marketing & Communications, Membership, and Travel Study Committees, and Committee Chairs.

8.3.1 Upon taking office, and with Board approval, the incoming President of OLLI@UGA shall appoint the successors of outgoing Standing Committee chairs/co-chairs. The President-Elect shall chair the Committee Chairs. New Standing Committee chairs/co-chairs should have knowledge and experience in the areas in which they are being asked to serve.

8.3.2 Standing Committee chairs/co-chairs shall each be appointed for a term of one (1) year by the incoming President. With the exception of the Chair of the Committee Chairs, each chair/co-chair may be reappointed for additional terms.

8.3.3 Standing Committee chairs/co-chairs shall submit to the President by no later than June 15 a summary of the year’s activities, committee achievements, and recommendations for committee activities for the following year.
8.3.4 The President and the Executive Director of OLLI@UGA shall serve as ex officio members of all Standing Committees and may participate as appropriate.

8.3.5 The President of OLLI@UGA may appoint a member of the Board of Directors to be a liaison to any Standing Committee.

8.3.6 Standing Committee chairs/co-chairs may select and approve the members of their respective committees.

Article Nine: Shared Interest Groups

9.1 A Shared Interest Group (SIG) may be formed under the auspices of OLLI@UGA to enable ten (10) or more members with common interests to enjoy opportunities for ongoing enrichment, entertainment, social contact and learning together as a group. SIGs shall be open exclusively to current members of the organization unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors.

9.1.1 To form a SIG, a member of OLLI@UGA shall first determine that the proposed SIG does not duplicate any existing SIG.

9.1.2 Upon verifying that at least ten (10) members of OLLI@UGA are committed to participating in the SIG, the proposing member shall submit a brief description including the name, purpose, and activities of the proposed SIG, and the names of the proposed SIG leader and participants, to the Executive Director and SIG Coordinator for review and approval.

9.2 All SIGs shall be guided by the Bylaws and Policies of OLLI@UGA, the OLLI@UGA Long Range Strategic Plan, and the OLLI@UGA Board of Directors.

Article Ten: Classes, Events, Activities

10.1 OLLI@UGA classes, events, and activities may be held in person and/or online as appropriate.

10.2 For all OLLI@UGA classes, events, and activities, OLLI@UGA staff and members shall follow the UGA Inclement Weather Operations Policy.

10.3 OLLI@UGA classes, events, and activities shall be open exclusively to current members of the organization unless otherwise approved by the Board of Directors.

10.4 Members of OLLI@UGA who invite non-members to attend designated OLLI@UGA social activities are responsible for the registration and payment of fees, if any, for the non-members they invite.

10.5 All payments for membership dues and fee-based classes, activities, and events shall be made to OLLI@UGA in advance of the date on which the class, activity, or event is scheduled to occur.
Article Eleven: Employees of the Organization

11.1 The Executive Director shall serve as the Chief Operating Officer of the organization and shall be accountable to the Board of Directors for leadership and management of the daily activities of OLLI@UGA. The Executive Director shall also report to the Dean of the Mary Frances Early College of Education.

11.2 The Executive Director of OLLI@UGA shall have primary responsibility for hiring, training, supervising, and evaluating all OLLI@UGA staff.

11.3 Each year the President and the Board of Directors of OLLI@UGA shall assess the performance of the Executive Director in accordance with established University of Georgia Policies and Procedures.

11.4 Should the position of Executive Director become vacant, the OLLI@UGA Executive Committee shall evaluate candidates according to established University of Georgia Policies and Procedures and recommend their selection to the Dean of the Mary Frances Early College of Education.

Article Twelve: Emergency Conditions

The OLLI@UGA Board of Directors, under exceptional emergency conditions, is authorized to modify the existing OLLI@UGA Bylaws and Policies to meet the mission and goals of OLLI@UGA.

Article Thirteen: Amendments

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, repealed, or added to by a three-fourths majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Directors at any regularly scheduled meeting, provided that the proposed changes have been placed on the Board agenda no less than one week prior to such a vote.

Article Fourteen: Implementation

These Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors present at a regular Board meeting when the proposed Bylaws have been available for review at least two weeks prior to the meeting.