A Fourth OLLI Site!

A fourth site for OLLI at DU is opening for the Fall 2017 term. The development of this new site, as well as future sites under consideration, are a result of the growth OLLI continues to enjoy. Thus, it is not replacing any of our current sites. This site will be known as “OLLI on Campus,” and will be available to all members, just as the existing three sites – OLLI Central, OLLI West and OLLI South – are open to all members.

Some significant points about the new ‘campus’ include:

• Classes will be held on the DU campus in Ruffato Hall (arrangements for parking will be included);
• the classes will be offered by professors and staff of Denver-area universities, as well as professionals from local organizations;
• the classes may include an additional charge above and beyond the regular $130 enrollment fee to cover professor stipends as they occur (not necessarily all classes);
• offerings also will be made available to attendees of the Enrichment Program - thus it is not an OLLI-only audience;
• offerings are planned to be listed in the three site catalogs for the first term - and potentially beyond;
• the creation of this site allows OLLI Central to continue to focus on class development for our church locations and expands the class offerings in the Central Denver area;
• and finally, the “OLLI on Campus” format provides a slightly different offering for our members emphasizing interaction with faculty members.

The roll-out of this site is being managed by myself and Anne Christner, a long-time OLLI member, Master Facilitator, and former South Curriculum Committee member. In time, this site will be staffed with a dedicated manager in the same manner as our other sites. If you know any professors you enjoy or organizations you think it beneficial for us to contact, please let either Anne (christner.anne@gmail.com) or myself know. (barbara.ratcliffe@du.edu)

As OLLI at DU continues to grow, we will continue to identify new sites, different approaches, and varying programs to enhance the satisfaction of our current members and insure the inclusion of new participants.

— Barbe Ratcliffe

OLLI Library Reopens

The OLLI at DU office includes a small library of books and CD/DVDs either purchased by OLLI for classes, or donated by our amazing members. The library is a free lending library where OLLI members are on the honor system as they take books to read or CD/DVDs to watch for education, or simple enjoyment. The library had been closed for reorganization. The most used items, primarily Great Courses DVDs with their accompanying books and books about history and war, are now housed in the hallway. These items are organized by videos and books, and arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the Course and/or the book. The smaller office off the main OLLI area now holds all other books sorted by genre and name within genre.

Please feel free to come by the OLLI office at 2211 S. Josephine Street near the DU campus to peruse the offerings and borrow viewing/reading pleasure. A listing of all of the items can be found on the OLLI websites: OLLI library link for Central Site: https://portfolio.du.edu/olli under the Facilitator Resources tab or at https://portfolio.du.edu/ollisouth/page/54494 or https://portfolio.du.edu/olliwes PAGE47893.
Advisory Council Announces 2017-2018 Slate

The nine-member South Advisory Council oversees OLLI South’s strategic planning, budget/finance, marketing, facilities, volunteers, special events, and other matters. AC members are elected by the membership to serve three-year terms.

Elise Bennett, Ellen Phelps, Paul Mauro, and Paula Mitchell have been nominated to join the Council. This 2017-2018 slate is proposed by the AC Nominating Committee and presented to the membership via this newsletter. OLLI members may nominate additional candidates by emailing the Nominating Committee, (via Jenny; ollisouth@gmail.com) prior to June 1, 2017. If additional nominations are received, an email ballot will be distributed. If no additional nominations are received, the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee will be deemed elected.

The Council recognizes and appreciates the service of outgoing members, Gayla Solomon and Shirley Bartlett. These ladies have been instrumental in planning our social events over the last three years!! Please give them a big “thank you” when you see them in the hallways!!

From Manager Jenny

To warm welcome to all of our new OLLI South members that have joined us this year. I hope you enjoyed your classes, experienced a sense of invitation and inclusion, and met new friends along the way.

By now you are probably aware that the OLLI at DU program is run by many, many volunteers and very few staff members. This business model has proven very successful for OLLI since it keeps costs down in order to provide an affordable product for our members. But we do need a lot of volunteers; to produce one term at OLLI South; it takes over 150 volunteers!!

Volunteers serve as facilitators, curriculum committee members, advisory committee members, class assistants, and social and hospitality members. If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions, please contact me (ollisouth@gmail.com), or any facilitator or class assistant, and we will help you get connected. In the meantime, enjoy your classes for spring term, and we look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall!!

Member Spotlight

DAVID WILLIAMS

David Williams is leaving OLLI-South with a positive and reassuring sense that it is in good hands, with a number of hard-working people on the Advisory Council and the Curriculum Committee. He recognizes that too much growth is the biggest challenge facing OLLI-South, which means, as always, a concerted effort to recruit new facilitators. David is confident that the success-oriented attitude of its members will continue, wherein political differences are recognized with respect and sensitivity. “I’m just a believer in OLLI” he affirms. “It’s the very best thing going for people fifty and up!”

— Ellen Sloan
Who Are These Folks?

It doesn’t happen by accident: OLLI has managers. The primary positions are as follows:

- The Executive Director is the top manager for OLLI @DU. The Director is charged with the overall administration of OLLI at DU. The director actually works for DU, specifically University College, and has an office at DU. Barbe Ratcliffe is the current director having assumed this position upon the retirement of long-time director Vonnie Wheeler in 2016. Barbe previously was the Advisory Council President and headed the Curriculum Committee at OLLI South.

- Site Managers manage each site of which there are three: Central, West and South (soon a fourth). Each site has a dedicated manager. South’s manager is Jenny Fortenberry and has a part time assistant: Faye Hastings. Jenny has been the manager since shortly after South started, she took over in 2010. She administers the entire operation of South, Jenny is assisted by the South Advisory Council and the Curriculum Committee in making things happen.

The Curriculum Committee manages all the class offerings; it is the most important element affecting our OLLI experience. Each site has its own committee and at South the committee consists of 9 subcommittees each addressing different subject areas. These are the subject areas you see in the class catalog published each term. Sally Walling is the chairperson for GC at South, having taken over this position in 2016.

The Advisory Council (one at each site) addresses everything for running the site other than the curriculum.

Things like budget, special events, marketing, newsletter, etc. are under the AC. The current President is Paul Mauro and there are 9 voting members on the AC with 3 elected by the general membership each June. The president is automatically a member of the Executive Advisory Council.

This group meets with the Executive Director several times a year to look at OLLI wide issues.

Financial Liaison oversees the financials for OLLI at DU. This entails analyzing income streams, including the OLLI grants and registration fees, and controlling all of our expenditures. This position, currently held by Bob Armstrong, works closely with the Executive Director and also interfaces with the University College Budget Director. Bob also assists the 3 sites in managing their finances.

Hot Topic Lunch: The Care and Feeding of Brains

Snake oil or sound science? Which brain health interventions offer real benefits and which are ineffective, offer only little benefit, or are even harmful? Dr. Kim Gorgens, clinical Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University of Denver, will be updating OLLI members with her popular ‘Care and Feeding of Brains’ lecture.

OLLI members and guests are invited to this event on April 21 at the Lone Tree Arts Center in Lone Tree at 11:30am. The cost is $20 per person and includes a box lunch. Mail checks to OLLI Hot Topics at the OLLI office.

A Note From Sally

Hello! It’s Spring again so soon! It doesn’t seem possible we just wrapped up a wonderful Winter term and we’re ready to go again. As you enjoy your new lineup of classes, I want to thank everyone at OLLI South for such a tremendous year! I think I speak for us all when I say it was one of the most thought provoking years we’ve ever had! Thank you , thank you , thank you for all the effort and planning that went into such a success! I hope you all have leisure plans for the summer and that some of you are signed up to facilitate in the coming terms. If you have even an inkling of an idea you’d like to explore, please contact me or one of the Curriculum Committee members! See you next Fall! — Curriculum Committee Chair Sally Walling

Memories of Myanmar

OLLI member, volunteer, and renowned photographer Karen Kirkpatrick will present her one woman show: Memories of Myanmar: A Photography Exhibition exclusively for OLLI South. The pictures will be displayed in the lobby of Valley View Church April 24-27.

You will be moved and amazed by an eye-opening journey into a land filled with contradictions and rare beauty, both in its people and in its efforts to survive.

Help for that Drowning Feeling

“Humor saves the day,” Nano Younger told us in the “Help, Help, I’m Drowning” class for caregivers. A chorus of agreement echoed around the room. This small winter-term class, facilitated by Janet Kester and Anne Bennett, began with each person sharing why they were in the class. Some, like Nano, were indeed currently full-time caregivers for a spouse or parent, while others had been in the past, or wanted to be prepared for the role.

With good humor and warmth, Janet shared much that she had learned from her years-long experience of caring for her husband following his debilitating stroke. She described how she learned to organize their lives (lists for everything from medicines to dietary discoveries) to deal with being so physically and emotionally overwhelmed. She explained her need for support and ways she found to get it. The 8 weeks were filled with guidance, support, and practical information from Janet and Anne, from guest speakers, and class conversation. The class may be offered again in 2018. Meanwhile a caregivers support group is forming. To learn more, contact Janet at jkrgarden@comcast.net.

— Cindy DeMoss

MARK YOUR Calendar

Mar 27-May 19 Spring Term
Apr 4 Lunch & Learn—Bob Gaskill: U.S. Immigration Reform: The Quandary
Apr 12 Lunch & Learn—Amy Graziano and Elizabeth Taylor of the Douglas County Land Conservancy: Summer Hiking Program for OLLI South
Apr 21 Hot Topic Luncheon (OLLI South): DU Professor Kim Gorgens: Care and Feeding of Brains
Apr 26 Lunch & Learn—Paul Mauro: Protecting Yourself in the Wild Frontier of Cybercrime
May 4 Lunch & Learn—Jenny Fortenberry and Barbe Ratcliffe: OLLI South Year in Review
May 9 & 10 The Noon Show: Faye Hastings and Denney Fisher: Learn about courses for Fall term
May 18 First of the summer hike series, Dupont Open Space
Sept 11-Nov 3 Fall Term
A second system we have just discovered is the iModules system, also used extensively at DU. This system will replace our current email blast system, allow you to register for special events online and pay for those special events by credit card. Training for that system occurred in March, and we plan to begin using it for communication processes and special events during the Spring term.

Although these systems are unrelated to our on-line registration, they are at least steps in the direction of automation and savings. We will continue to move forward into the electronic age, even if at a snail’s pace.

Part of the University Plan

In January we received great news. OLLI has been approved to be a part of the site feasibility study of the University of Denver master campus plan. University College is also a part of this plan. Deborah Armstrong, Associate Vice Chancellor of University Development, will be working with Dean Michael Maguire, myself, and several other individuals as we move forward in this feasibility study of an on-campus dedicated facility. Vonnie Wheeler laid the foundation for OLLI to be approved as part of the study. As we move ahead, I will keep you apprised of our successes along the way.

This process, IF we are successful at each of the stages, could easily take eight to ten years from this point to completion and into a new structure. And even then we could only expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus we expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus we expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus we expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus we expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus we expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus we expect that structure to house our OLLI Administrative Staff and our OLLI Central classes. OLLI West and OLLI South campuses would continue as would any other campus.

Connecting with the Vail Centre

In January each of you received an email request to complete an online survey regarding the Vail Centre in Vail, Colorado. Thanks to each of the wonderful members who completed the survey. The results confirm that the vast majority of OLLI members are not interested in the offerings of the Vail Centre. Therefore, at this time, we will not be pursuing further partnering with the Vail Centre.

Several individuals did show interest in the possibility of taking classes at the Vail Centre. Todd Wallis of the Vail Centre recommends connecting directly to them via their website. The link for that connection is https://vailcentre.org/.

Spring Lunch & Learn

Between the morning and afternoon classes at OLLI, the learning often continues as members bring their lunch and listen to a speaker from 11:45am to 12:45pm.

For Spring 2017, the following Lunch & Learn sessions are scheduled:

• Tuesday, April 4: Bob Gaskill, OLLI South member – “U.S. Immigration Reform: The Quandary”
• Wednesday, April 5: Amy Graziano and Elizabeth Taylor of the Douglas Land Conservancy – The Activities Committee, present: “Summer Hiking Program for OLLI South.” (Come to learn about and sign up for the 4-session hiking program.)
• Wednesday, April 12: Paul Mauro, OLLI South member and computer system specialist – “Protecting Yourself in the Wild Frontier of Cybercrime”
• Thursday, May 4: Jenny Fortenberry, OLLI South manager, and Barbe Ratcliffe, Executive Director of OLLI at DU – “OLLI South Year in Review”
• Tuesday & Wednesday, May 9 & 10: Faye Hastings – “The Nice Guys” where you can learn more about courses being offered for Fall 2017 term

As you can see, there’s something for everyone! We will provide more information about each event closer to its scheduled date. E-mail Anne Christner (christner.anne@du.edu) with ideas and any questions you may have about Lunch & Learn.

See you this spring with your brown bags in hand!

Cracks, Dots, Dragons and Wildflowers

One of the most exciting and challenging games we have is Dragon’s Cracks. The game was invented by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks to last Spring Term by Joyce Rovetta. She taught 19 OLLI folks. This is a fun game because there are twists and turns. Joyce’s class…at the HR Library as well as at area homes.

Like Bridge, one cannot learn the game in one afternoon, but unlike Bridge it doesn’t depend on a partner across the table; instead one plays to make a Mah Jongg with just their own tiles. Multiple groups are playing as the result of Joyce’s class…at the HR Library as well as at area homes.

OLLI South has started a regular group, meeting Thursdays at one o’clock. Everyone is welcome, no experience necessary, newcomers will be taught this fun game of twists and turns. For info contact Alice Bradburn (achradburn@q.com).

Calling All Cooks

Are you a passionate foodie? Are you looking for a forum that allows you to dream about ingredients, talk about food and actually cook! If so, this is for you.

We’re excited to announce the Cooking Salon for Serious Cooks! What, you may ask, is a salon? It’s a special interest group who meet outside the classroom to share their enthusiasm. Are you fascinated with Victorian cooking? Maybe you want to experiment with meringue? Do you want to talk with a dietician on great ways to make healthy food? Afternoon tea – what do you eat and what’s the obsession all about?

The requirement is that you love to cook, use only the best ingredients (no premade food for this group), want to share your knowledge and are willing to research, cook and talk about food.

The group will hold its first meeting in the fall term. Each member will come with ideas they’d like to delve into further. If you’re interested, contact Sue Bramley (sueanrebamley@yahoo.com) or Anne Bennett (annebennett@yahoo.com).
OLLI Time Travelers

Where were you in 1962? For 66 OLLI participants on Feb. 17, the answer to the American Graffiti film marketing tag was back at the soda shop, milling about candy-colored custom cars, and going for 40 points on a skeeball arcade game. The time portal opened with watching the movie in our OLLI South movie room, snacking popcorn in our paper bags, as Ruth Harthun gave background on the iconic 1973 film by a, then, 28 year old George Lucas.

After the movie the group migrated to Charter Financial’s Memory Lane Museum, a multi-room 50s-60s memorabilia treasure trove, gleaming as if items were fresh off the assembly line. Owner Darren Martin welcomed the OLLI crew and told about his collection of vintage cars bounded by a street with storefront facades, the HO train village, arcade rooms, Harley room, gas station, and diner. Finishing with pizza and ice cream, participants’ faces had dropped off a few years as they stepped back out into 2017.

— Vernetta Mickey

OLLI South Key Info

Advisory Council President
Paul Mauro: pandpmauro@gmail.com

Curriculum Committee Chair
Sally Walling: Mustangsallyw@msn.com

Program Manager
Jenny Fortenberry: ollisouth@gmail.com
720-339-1379

Newsletter Editor
Paul Mauro: pandpmauro@gmail.com

South Website: https://portfolio.du.edu/ollisouth

Mailing Address: 2211 South Josephine St.
Denver, CO 80208

Summer Hikes Scheduled

OLLI South and The Douglas Land Conservancy are partnering this summer to provide four guided hikes (2-5 miles each) on lands managed by the Conservancy. Join us for the Lunch & Learn on April 12 to learn more about the Conservancy and the summer hiking program, then add the following dates to your calendar:

May 18 Birding hike, DuPont Open Space
June 8 Wildflower hike, Dawson Butte Open Space
June 29 Guided hike, Castlewood Canyon State Park
July 20 Geology hike, Hidden Mesa Open Space

Contact Pat Smith (pks9909@gmail.com), coordinator for this new summer program, with questions.