



<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Lyn Gutierrez Irv Lubliner Bill Mansfield	Betsy Gentry Larry Hunter Elisabeth Zinser	Clark Custodio John Ferris Phyllis Fernlund

## Minutes

OLLI at SOU Council Meeting  
February 23, 2021, 3:30 p.m.  
Via Zoom

Present: Council Members – Phyllis Fernlund, John Ferris, Betsy Gentry, Lyn Gutierrez, Larry Hunter, Irv Lubliner, Bill Mansfield, Elisabeth Zinser (Absent: Clark Custodio). Committee Chairs and Director/Assistant Director – Ginny Blankinship, Rob Casserly, Wayne Davison, Cliff Edwards, Peggy Evans, Andrea Gay, Rachel Jones, Sue Sorem, Susan Stitham, Lorraine Vail

1. Call to order – President – Larry Hunter. 3:31 p.m.
2. Adoption of the agenda—Larry Hunter. **m/s/p** (motions deferred until next month)
3. Approval of minutes – Meeting of January 26, 2021 – **m/s/p**
4. Treasurer’s report – Irv Lubliner noted we now have 1263 members, exceeding the budgeted number of 1235, and as a result income from member fees are 101.3% of budget. Year to date expenses are 58% of budget and we are just about 58% through the year. The operating fund balance is \$257,419, or 74% of expenses for this abnormal year. The budget calls for a year-end operating loss of about \$20,000; with increased membership that loss may be reduced. The Annual Fund stands at \$15,395, in line with past years at this time; the Legacy Fund balance is \$31,684.
5. Motions – Deferred until next month

6. President's remarks – Larry Hunter read letters from Christina Sanz (SOU Foundation) and Champ Roberts (the recipient) thanking OLLI for the OLLI Scholarship. The Osher Foundation funded this SOU scholarship when it established the endowment for OLLI at SOU.

Rogue Community College has been the victim of a ransomware attack; everyone is urged to be extremely cautious about unknown emails and/or attachments.

A group of representatives from Council, Curriculum Committee, Venue and Technology Committee, and staff has begun meeting to determine how best to deliver classes next fall. At this point we expect that some will be online, but other possibilities include small socially distanced in-person classes or hybrid classes (on line at the same time as an in-person group). The group will poll instructors about their online experiences and wishes for the fall. At this point there are lots of “known unknowns” and “unknown unknowns,” and we will need to be proactive and flexible.

## 7. Discussion

John Ferris discussed the Strategic Plan and noted that many of the Goals and Initiatives simply have not applied this year. He urged Council members to review the Goals and Initiatives applicable to their committees to see if any can be worked on this year and to look ahead to next year.

Rob Casserly described the micro-credential program being developed at SOU. This program consists of 3-4 regular SOU classes in a particular subject, at the end of which the student would receive a “micro-credential” which could be helpful for professional development or new job training. Regular tuition and fees (about \$1400 per class) would apply. More information is at [sou.ed/academics](http://sou.ed/academics). Rob wondered if OLLI members would be interested in learning more about this program. It was noted that OLLI members might be able to audit such classes, but they wouldn't receive the credential. Rob will set up a Conversation Connection about this program so that interested OLLI members can find out more.

## 8. Committee reports

Curriculum – Ginny Blankinship noted they have been focusing on instructor support, including holding an instructor roundtable and planning sessions for “new to online” and “new to OLLI” instructors for spring term. Proposals for fall courses will be due in May.

Communications and Community Outreach – The Asante community lectures have been well-attended, and thanks to the committee and especially Laura Simonds for the great articles in the *Ashland Tidings*.

Development – The next NewsFlash will begin encouraging donations to the Annual Fund.

Leadership Development and Recruitment – Lorraine Vail reported over 35 people attended the four Team OLLI sessions (75% more than last year). The committee will start phoning participants to see if they'd like to be Council candidates or take on other volunteer roles. Thanks to Lorraine and her committee for a great job!

Member Services – Andrea Gay reported a good set of Conversation Connections is scheduled through May. The women's social event was a success. She is working with a possible candidate to take over as chair of the committee. Particular thanks to Jeff Roberts who has been a great help with technology issues!

Medford OLLI – Sue Sorem noted they continue to recruit instructors but otherwise are inactive as the Higher Education Center is still closed.

Venue and Technology Planning – Cliff Edwards reported the committee has been reconstituted with 9 members who will begin to focus on technology needs for the fall. Phyllis Fernlund is on the committee so she will be the Council liaison instead of Irv Lubliner.

#### 9. Additional remarks

Rob Casserly noted the deaths of two OLLI members who will be missed: Llyssa Deveney and Norman Tresser. Kudos to Pauline Black who has been appointed to a University-wide committee on Equity and Diversity. Rob is continuing to develop partnerships with the SOU Alumni Association, the SOU Retirees Association, the Ashland Y, and the Southern Oregon Historical Society. SOU will be sponsoring the Women's Leadership Conference on-line this year; an announcement will be in the NewsFlash. There were over 500 requests for courses submitted on the first day of the course lottery for spring term.

Coming events:

- February 22-March 5 – Spring course request lottery
- February 23, 3:30 p.m. – OLLI Council meeting
- March 22 – Spring open enrollment begins
- March 29 – Spring term begins

Adjourned at 5:04 p.m.