



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

Minutes

OLLI at SOU Council Meeting
September 22, 2020, 3:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Present: Council Members – Clark Custodio, Phyllis Fernlund, John Ferris, Betsy Gentry, Lynn Gutierrez, Larry Hunter, Irv Lubliner, Bill Mansfield (left meeting before Item 6), Elisabeth Zinser. Committee Chairs and Director/Assistant Director – Ginny Blankinship, Rob Casserly, Cliff Edwards, Peggy Evans, Andrea Gay, Sandy Hansen, Sue Sorem, Susan Stitham, Lorraine Vail

1. Call to order – President – Larry Hunter. 3:30 p.m.
2. Adoption of the agenda—Larry Hunter. **m/s/p** (with note that Rob Casserly’s title is Assistant Director)
3. Approval of minutes – Meeting of August 25 – **m/s/p**

Check-in – Everyone checked in on how they were doing after the fire that ravaged the valley 2 weeks ago. Rob noted that something over 50 SOU people lost homes in the fire. He read the following message from Jeanne Stallman regarding OLLI’s participation in efforts to find housing for those displaced:

“Pauline, thank you so very much for your effort and immediate success with this. This morning I was able to assure the Provost that there was an option for a particular beloved faculty member who is in need of housing.

“It is my hope that OLLI members recognize that they have the ability to make a difference within the university at such a critical time. I know, from various OLLI members I’ve talked to in the past week, how members value both the ongoing classes and the sense of community within OLLI; and, I hope they continue to grow in feeling that is true for the whole university community. We need us all, to be able to navigate these times!

“Jeanne

“Jeanne Stallman
“Associate Vice President, Government & Corporate Relations
Southern Oregon University”

4. Treasurer’s report – There is no report this month because of the current SOU audit, and Paige Jensen (who prepares the numbers for the Treasurer) is currently helping her parents who lost their house in the fire.
5. Motions - none
6. President’s remarks – Larry Hunter. He asked that a NewsFlash be sent out soon emphasizing the connections fostered by OLLI: asking students to contact instructors after classes as they would go up to the podium to thank them or ask questions; letting OLLI members know how Pauline has helped with the SOU housing initiative and sending out Jeanne’s note; urging every OLLI member to develop an evacuation plan. Most importantly, he thanked everyone for keeping OLLI going in the face of the pandemic and now a natural disaster. So many people have worked so hard to get the OLLI term going this fall. THANK YOU for doing this work with grace and respect.
7. Discussion

Calls to members: Peggy Evans reported that about 60 OLLI members live in Phoenix or Talent. 10 OLLI leaders have called 52 people and reached all but 4, and reported that 2 lost their homes. She will continue to follow up.

Membership numbers: Rob reported there are currently 1036 members (83 more than at our last meeting) and 2801 course registrations (2.7 classes per member, almost exactly the same number we’ve had historically for in person classes).

SOU situation: Students are coming on to campus and classes are to start 9/23. There has been one confirmed case of COVID in a student coming back to campus. SOU’s internet connection was down most of today (9/22).

Course proposals: Only 35 course proposals have been submitted for winter term. The Curriculum Committee would like to extend the course proposal deadline so that the printed catalog will list the courses that have been submitted before the current deadline (9/27) and an on-line addendum will be posted listing courses submitted later (perhaps a mid-October deadline). Because fall term classes started a week late because of the fire, instructors are just getting comfortable with Zoom; the committee feels that if instructors have more time this fall they will feel more confident about proposing courses for winter. Rob had not had been able to review the proposal in detail but he noted that the staff is currently very stressed and fragile and the already agreed-upon later deadline for course proposals has been difficult to implement; he asked that the staff not be given another special project. Council members noted that we are having to weigh member satisfaction (and possible member loss) if there are fewer courses than usual against staff capacity and health; perhaps we can find some way to offer other educational opportunities such as lectures or Conversation Connections in addition to traditionally vetted and supported classes. Noting that the current deadline for course proposals is 9/27, the Council agreed to meet on Monday, September 28 at 8 a.m. (via Zoom) to make a decision on the Curriculum

Committee proposal. [**NOTE:** This meeting was cancelled because sufficient course proposals for winter term were submitted by the 9/27 deadline.]

“Winter special” membership pricing: Larry withdrew this idea.

8. Committee reports

Curriculum – Susan Stitham thanked Lorraine Vail and Barb Larossa for getting the “Guide to Teaching on Zoom” on the OLLI website.

CCO – Peggy thanked Susan for doing an interview on JPR this morning (about the Electoral College), and including a pitch for instructors and OLLI memberships.

MOLLI – Sue Sorem reported the committee is doing 4 ConCons this term.

9. Additional remarks

Andrea Gay reminded everyone they can vote even if they are displaced. Irv Lubliner noted there are prowlers looking for cars packed for evacuation. Lorraine Vail noted the President’s letter in the catalog should explain fully any decision made about winter course proposals.

Rob Casserly reported about 34 of the fall term classes have started and that members have been very appreciative of the help and training for Zoom.

Coming events:

- September 27 – Winter course proposal period ends
- September 28, 8 a.m. – Special OLLI Council meeting [**CANCELLED**]
- October 27, 3:30 p.m. – OLLI Council meeting
- November 9 – Winter catalog online and registration begins
- November 24, 3:30 p.m. – OLLI Council meeting
- No December Council meeting

Adjourned at 5:30 p.m.