



Where Curiosity Never Retires



June 8, 2018 OLLI News

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Upcoming OLLI Events

2018 Bloomsday Celebration

Friday, June 22
1:30-3:30 PM

[Register](#)

Book Club

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

Tuesday, July 10
10:00 AM

[Register](#)

July Shorts

Monday, July 16 –
Friday, July 20

Letter from the Chair



Welcome!

Greetings from your new Board Chair. I will try hard to fill the large shoes left by outgoing Chair Myra Barron who led a period of remarkable change and growth as we completed our second year in the Spring Valley Building. From

strengthening ties to American University, managing the transition to a new staff leadership team, and expanding our academic program, OLLI at AU has evolved as a modern, professional nonprofit. I look forward to building on those successes, consolidating recent achievements, and ensuring that OLLI at AU continues to be an intellectually vibrant, financially strong, and welcoming community of lifelong learners.

The OLLI Board joining me in these efforts includes two new members, Alan Hausman and Martha Cutts. Departing are OLLI at AU's stalwart and invaluable Past Chair Stan Newman and our beloved and dedicated Secretary, Katy Adams. Tony Long has stepped up to the helm as Executive Director and Mary Fran Miklitsch as Director of planning. Together, with the support of our members, we are poised for another great OLLI

at AU year.

Compass Report, 5-Year Strategic Plan

Compass, an organization providing management services to nonprofits, recently concluded its eight-month strategic consulting engagement with OLLI at AU. Its final report offers many helpful recommendations, along with stacks of informative analysis and data, and best practices gleaned from comparable OLLIs. ([Click here to see Compass recommendation summary.](#)) Our Strategic Planning Committee is well underway in crafting a five-year plan to guide our future direction based on the Compass findings as well as the views of members and SGLs captured in recent surveys and focus groups.

Lots to Do!

In the coming year we will build on our new connections throughout the American University community. On the fundraising front, we have been deeply gratified by the generosity of OLLI at AU members and friends. We will nurture this culture of giving to support core programs, keep tuition affordable, fund special initiatives, and grow the Friends of OLLI Fund for future needs. We are determined to improve communication with our members, better recruit and deploy our volunteers, and continue to strengthen our academic program — lots to do!

Denise H. Liebowitz

Chair, Board of Directors

OLLI/International Student Partnership Program

This Spring, OLLI's Jeanne Kent and Cindy Jacobs from AU's International Accelerator Program (IAP) worked to pair IAP students with OLLI members for conversation and a cultural exchange. Fourteen pairs were formed and met regularly over 7 weeks. Both students and OLLI members declared the program a great success. You can read the [full report](#) here.

July Shorts

You can now register for the July shorts online at https://olli-dc.org/shorts_courses. July Shorts are 3, 4, or 5 day classes all in one week. You can take up to 3 classes for \$75. Register at https://olli-dc.org/shorts_courses.

OLLI Wide Book Club

If you want to participate in a new OLLI-wide book club, please sign up the book club at www.olli-dc.org/events/book_club. The first book selected is *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. The first meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 10, at 10:00 AM at OLLI, including a panel discussion, followed by a discussion by members. Please register so that we know how many members are interested in participating,

OLLI Bloomsday

Join us for the OLLI Bloomsday Celebration on June 22 from 1:30 - 3:30 PM at 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW. There will be a cast party after the reading. So that we know how many members to expect, please register at https://www.olli-dc.org/events/2018_olli_bloomsday_celebration.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Our Mission:

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University is an association of, by, and for the people in the Washington, DC area who wish to continue to study and learn. OLLI at AU is dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that curiosity never retires.

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