



Where Curiosity Never Retires



JANUARY 18, 2019 OLLI NEWS

OLLI Member: *What is going on?! Why am I getting the Friday newsletter on Tuesday? Why didn't I get a lecture notice today?*

Mary Fran: *I love technology. When it works. Something went awry with our newsletter software last week. So the newsletter was mailed to some people, but not most. In an effort to keep everyone informed, we are resending the newsletter today and we resent the Lecture notice this morning. We have fixed the problem and should be back to normal now.*

A Message From Our Chair



GOOD GOVERNANCE AS WE CHANGE

For many nonprofits, the transition from a small volunteer group to a large professional organization can be perilous. What once was all-hands-on-deck doing jobs as needed grows into an enterprise with substantial budgets requiring sophisticated financial management, a professional staff with competitive salaries and benefits, legal and tax issues that need specialized expertise,

and on and on. Over the years, OLLI at AU Boards of Directors have successfully navigated this growth to meet the changing needs of our organization.

In the same vein, your current Board recently completed a comprehensive review of its bylaws and approved revisions at its December meeting. While many of these revisions relate to organizational “insider ball” issues and are of limited interest to the general membership, the change to our Board nominations and elections process is worth highlighting.

Past Process: the Nominations and Elections Committee solicited and selected from the membership **six** candidates to fill **four** open Board seats in a contested election. In addition, any other member could be on the ballot upon submitting a petition with twenty member signatures. We heard from many members with concerns about this contested election model:

- Some unsuccessful candidates, often some of our most active and talented members, felt discouraged from continued OLLI engagement;
- Some individuals with needed skills declined to be candidates because they did not want to engage in a contested election;
- The committee was not able to ensure that individuals with specific skills needed on the Board would be elected.

New Process: Under the revised bylaws the Nominations and Elections Committee will prepare a slate of **four** candidates to fill the **four** open positions. In developing the slate, the committee will solicit and consider candidate recommendations from the broader OLLI membership. As before, once the Board-approved slate of four candidates is announced, any other member may also be added to the ballot by submitting a petition, but now with just ten member signatures.

In making these changes, the Board affirmed its support of a process that is accessible and transparent while enabling it to better recruit needed expertise to OLLI at AU’s leadership.

You can check out the revised bylaws now posted on the website (tap About, tap Corporate Documents). For additional details on the elections process, see the announcement below.

Denise Liebowitz

Chair, OLLI Board of Directors

Coming Soon: Election of Board Members

The Process. In late spring, members will elect four Board members. Under OLLI’s newly revised Bylaws (December 2018), a five-member Nominations and Elections Committee comprised of both Board and non-Board members will consult with OLLI members, in particular Board members and Committee chairs, and prepare a list of four nominees for Board approval that will be placed on the ballot.

In addition to the Board-approved list, members can self-nominate and run as “at- large” candidates with a petition signed by at least 10 OLLI members. All candidates, whether on the list or at-large, run as individuals, with the top four vote-getters being elected. At-large candidates should contact the Office to obtain the petition form and instructions on how to submit.

Responsibilities. In brief, the responsibilities of Board members are: attend Board meetings (usually no more than ten a year), actively participate in other meetings and activities involving OLLI business, support OLLI’s development efforts, and, although not required but strongly encouraged, support the OLLI committee system by serving as chairs or as members. Members are elected for three-year terms and are limited to two terms except in exceptional circumstances.

For more details, click [here](#).

Timeline. Following is a list of key dates and deadlines in the election process.

- *Mid-January.* The Nominations and Elections Committee begins consultations with members to develop a list for candidates for Board approval. Interested members are also invited to recommend names directly to the Committee along with a brief paragraph on the candidate's background and qualifications and your reasons for supporting them. Send recommendations to olli@american.edu.
- *February 4.* Deadline for interested members to submit recommendations to the Committee.
- *March 15.* The Board's approved list of candidates is sent to members.
- *April 8.* Deadline for at-large candidate to submit self-nomination petitions, complete with 10 supporting signatures, to the Office.
- *April 26.* OLLI annual meeting. Each candidate will be allowed 2-3 minutes to address the group.
- *April 26 - May 10.* Online voting takes place.
- *May 13.* Results of the election are announced.

Books at Politics and Prose

Politics and Prose bookstore (5050 Connecticut Avenue NW) offers OLLI members a 10% discount on books assigned at OLLI. The store carries *all* of the books assigned for the February Shorts and *most* of the books for the Spring Semester. Visit their [website](#) for more information.

Below are books for the **spring** that are either **unavailable** or **available only by pay-to-order** at Politics & Prose:

UNAVAILABLE:

SG 168 - *U.S. Military Capabilities and Forces for a Dangerous World - Rethinking the U.S. Approach to Force Planning*

SG 373 - *How to Get Rich Surely, But Slowly* **Available exclusively through Amazon.com**

SG 631 - *King o' the Moon*

Little Foxes

Familiar (copies of play will be provided in class)

The Last Mass at St. Casimir's

SG 695 - *Not Wanted On The Voyage*

Fifth Business

Tay John

The Tin Flute

SG 805 - *Voluntary Controls*

SG 806 - *Human Energy Systems*

SG 868 - *Hellenistic Philosophy*

AVAILABLE BUT ARE PAY-TO-ORDER:

SG 260 - *The Great War and the Death of God*

SG 695 - *Country of Pointed Firs*

The books above that are unavailable at Politics and Prose can be ordered online. Here are some suggestions for purchasing books online: AbeBooks.com, AddAll.com, Alibris.com, Amazon.com, BookOutlet.com, BookFinder.com, Ebay.com, and Powells.com.

OLLI and IAP Buddy Network

OLLI and the International Accelerator Program (IAP) at AU have developed a partnership program **to connect IAP international graduate students with interested OLLI members to foster understanding about cultures, career, and beyond.** AU-IAP graduate students are paired (matched) with participating OLLI members according to common interests. The pairs are introduced at a Meet-and-Greet event early in the semester. Each pair ideally meets once a week at times and places convenient for both until the Final Celebration at the end of the semester. **Our goal is to promote connection, conversation, and cultural exchange.** We are beginning our third semester of this program and currently have 20 participating OLLI members. Our goal is to expand that number for the spring semester. **If you have experience or an abiding interest in connecting with international students, please contact Jeanne Kent at jeannes.kent@gmail.com for more information.**

Online Discussion: Elimination of Poverty

As a follow-up to the OLLI Human Rights conference in early December, **there will be an online discussion on the "No Poverty" goal of the United Nations**, the first goal of the UN's *Sustainable Agenda for 2030*. **This discussion, open to all OLLI members, will take place from Saturday, February 9 - Sunday, March 3, and** will be led by Anders Zijlon and Bob Kolodney. It will take place in a Google Group. This group discussion is an opportunity to look closely at an initiative of the United Nations designed to help the world survive and thrive. The group is also intended as an introduction to the *17 Sustainable Development Goals of the UN*, and part of an effort to develop a study group on the subject for the 2019 fall term. For more information and to participate in the discussion, please click here: [OLLIHumanRights-OnlineDiscussion](#).

Calling All Study Group Reps!

As you register for your February Shorts and Spring study groups, please consider volunteering to serve as Study Group Representative (SGR) for one (or more!) of your study groups. We need an SGR for each study group - 21 for the Feb Shorts and 98 for the spring! SGRs play an integral role in helping to ensure each study group runs smoothly. **Duties include: taking attendance; making announcements from the class folder; collecting any photocopying charge; notifying the office of problems with technology, temperature, or light; calling members who are absent from class for more than two consecutive sessions; and collecting the class gift/distributing the card.**

OLLI will be having an **SGR meeting for all new Spring SGRs on Wednesday, February 27 at 10:00 AM.** New SGRs are highly encouraged to attend. Previous SGRs are welcome to attend

as well if they would like to get clarification about the role or ask questions. More information will be sent about this meeting once SGRs are chosen for each spring study group. We hope you will consider volunteering to serve as SGR!

Welcomers Needed

After a successful first-ever OLLI Welcomer program in the Fall (over 200 new OLLI members were welcomed!), we've decided to continue it in the Spring semester. We are still in need of a few more volunteers for the program. **Welcomers ensure that each new OLLI member is individually welcomed with a phone call before the start of classes and touch base with new members by email both during the semester and at the end, to see how it went.**

If you would like to be a Welcomer, you can select that volunteer role on the website when registering for the Spring semester or visit our *Volunteer* page [here](#). Or, you can send an e-mail to olli@american.edu. We will review the responsibilities at a meeting on **Thursday, February 14, at 10:00 AM in Room A on the first floor**. We encourage anyone interested in serving as a Welcomer for the first time to attend the meeting. Previous Welcomers are invited to attend as well.

James Joyce Birthday Celebration

Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

1st Floor, Room A, Spring Valley Building, 4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW

At this "birthday celebration" for James Joyce, participants will read the beginning of *Ulysses*.

Schedule

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Reading of First Three Chapters of *Ulysses*

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Complimentary Light Lunch

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Reading of Fourth Chapter of *Ulysses*, and Extracts from *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

3:00 - 4:30 PM Showing of *A Portrait of the Artist* film

There is no cost to attend. Please register at: <https://www.olli-dc.org/events/jamesjoyce>.

Upcoming Events at American University

NOTE: For any AU-specific event, **please contact the sponsoring department directly.**

AU CENTER FOR ISRAEL STUDIES

Israel in the American Mind: The Cultural Politics of US-Israeli Relations, 1958-1988

With Author Shaul Mitelpunkt

Tuesday, February 5

AU Butler Board Room, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

To register, click [here](#).

THE AU MUSEUM AT THE KATZEN ARTS CENTER

Open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Opening Reception For Winter Exhibition

Free and open to the public

January 26, 6:00-9:00 PM

Mix and mingle with artists, curators, and fellow patrons at our Winter Opening Reception. See our four new exhibitions on view: *The Gifts of Tony Podesta*, *Nancy at Ninety: A Retrospective of Form and Color*, *Jiří Kolář (1914 - 2002): Forms of Visual Poetry*, and *Michael B. Platt with Carol A. Beane: Influences and Connections*, presented by the Alper Initiative for Washington Art.

Yoga in the Galleries

January 30 - March 13, April 10 - May 22, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

\$10 per class, \$5 for museum members, free for associate level members

A peaceful Kripalu yoga class. All practice levels welcome. To register, click [here](#).

The Gifts of Tony Podesta

Curated by Klaus Ottmann and Jennifer Sakai

January 26 - March 17, 2019

This first major exhibition drawn from our Corcoran Legacy Collection features strong and provocative photography and sculpture donated by Tony Podesta over the past decade to the Corcoran Gallery of Art, now part of the American University Museum's holdings.

Nancy at Ninety: A Retrospective of Form and Color

Curated by Claudia Rousseau

January 26 - March 17, 2019

This retrospective of seven decades of the work of Washington, DC sculptor Nancy Frankel celebrates her ninetieth birthday in 2019. In addition to her freestanding works in three dimensions, a few of her many graphite drawings and tempera paintings will be represented, as well as one of her large wall reliefs.

Jiří Kolář (1914-2002): Forms of Visual Poetry

From the Collection of Museum Kampa, Prague

Curated by Aneta Georgievska-Shine

January 26 - March 17, 2019

This exhibition is dedicated to one of the most remarkable Czech poets and visual artists associated with Modernism, Jiří Kolář (1914-2002). During the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia, Kolář encountered considerable challenges, including a prison sentence for the critical stance towards the system expressed in his poetry. The selection is representative of the main aspects of his oeuvre as it evolved over several decades.

Michael B. Platt + Carol A. Beane: Influences and Connections

Presented by the Alper Initiative for Washington Art

January 26 - March 17, 2019

This exhibition is a collaborative offering from one of Washington's most prolific pairs; an offering of visibility from one world into another. Inspired by the ancestral stories told by the indigenous keepers of Australia's most sacred grounds, Platt and Beane fuse poetic image with word.

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.

Website www.oli-dc.org | Phone **202-895-4860** | E-mail oli@american.edu

Study Group Location **4801 Massachusetts Ave. NW**

Mailing Address 4400 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

Tony Long, *Executive Director* / Mary Fran Miklitsch, *Director of Planning*

Lesley Diaz, *Academic Programs Coordinator*

Jesse Williams, *Operations Coordinator*

Terri Greene, *Administrative Coordinator*

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