



OLLI @ UTEP

On Campus
Miners Hall 209
(915) 747-6280



Your 2023 OLLI Advisory Board

Karen Fraser
Chair

Elizabeth Farrelly
Secretary

Jessica Arriola
Events

Gloria Barragan
Civic Diversity

Tom Harding
Technology

Helen Schmid
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Sonya Villa-Saenz
EU Advisor

Lynn Provenzano
*Executive Director
Curriculum
Marketing*

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | *Thriving!*



Turning the corner into 2023 took our OLLI onto a journey that has been filled with insights, enhanced relationships, amazing teamwork, and new opportunities. On a personal note, this journey comes with a lot of gratitude for the support in my leave and, importantly, to the caring and commitment of the many Extended University colleagues, the OLLI volunteers, and the OLLI staff who showed us that working together has great value and benefits. Thank you! Our OLLI is thriving with many new insights toward our sustainability and growth.

The future is impacted by our ongoing present responses. Learning never gets old and we simply keep getting better and better at what we do. It's no wonder that we love our OLLI. This is an exciting time for OLLI members and those to come!

Lynn Provenzano

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR | *Aim High*



In December 2022, I assumed the chairship of our OLLI Advisory Board. I moved to El Paso in September 2012 and was introduced to OLLI by a new friend whom I met exercising at Curves. I was seeking social interaction and alternatives to boredom after retiring from my latest work as a registered nurse in an Alabama hospital information technology department. I joined OLLI in 2015 and offered to assist the Board as volunteer coordinator in July 2019.

I now find myself busier than I had planned but feel my life has been enriched working with all of you. I hope to see you again this Fall 2023, as we surge forward with renewed memberships, new members, fresh class content, lectures and tours, and the exciting addition of a new club for Pickle Ball.

As Minnie Pearl used to say, "I am so glad to be here." I hope you feel the same and with me. I will commit to believing in us and aiming high. Thank you for your continued support and participation.

Sincerely,

Karen Fraser

**EXTENDED
UNIVERSITY
(EU)**

is UTEP’s hub for online and other nontraditional academic programs, professional training and education, and community enrichment. EU strives to improve access to UTEP’s outstanding educational opportunities for all who seek them out. EU’s component units provide educational opportunities and services to support both nontraditional students and educators interested in new modes of teaching.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN | Reflection



Dear OLLI Members

As I write this, we are close to 30 days of temperatures over 100 degrees Fahrenheit and on track for more—even El Paso’s dry heat gets to the best of us for this long. At my house, the halfway mark of this summer means getting my youngest son ready to head off to college in San Antonio, which also means a lot of sorting and donating. We spent more time that we meant to looking through more than 200 books that he had in a closet. Books that he and his brother enjoyed from the time they were babies through middle school. Some were easy to place into the donate pile, but others not so much, and thus a rather large “keep these books” pile was also created. I enjoyed watching his excitement when he’d say: “I remember this book! Remember when you used to do the funny voice for this one?” or “There he is, there’s my man Sam delivering the cakes his mom made.” and “You don’t understand, Mom, I still think about some of these—they are like movies that play in my head, and I forgot these are pictures in the books!”

I share this moment with Carter as a reminder to all of us of how much fun—and memorable—it can be to spend some time with a book, to share moments of learning together, and to reflect on it even many years later. I appreciate how OLLI provides our community with these opportunities to pause, to learn, to enjoy, and to reflect. I hope that you are finding enjoyable and memorable ways to keep cool during these hot days.

Dr. Beth Brunk-Chavez

OLLI | OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

OUR VISION

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Texas at El Paso aspires to be a premier membership organization for adults over the age of fifty (50) in an aging demographic through continuing education and social integration - with an expanded reach - to positively enhance mature adult lives in the El Paso Border Region.

OUR MISSION

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) provides opportunities under the umbrella of the University of Texas at El Paso to enhance the enjoyment, meaning, and direction of all adults over the age of fifty (50); to stay connected; and to support their good health and wellness in an aging community through diverse course offerings in continuing education, social activities, volunteerism, intergenerational experiences, and any other special services.

OLLI is dedicated to providing service to the OLLI community and welcomes new members.

EACH ONE . REACH ONE ... Invite friends, colleagues, and relatives to join OLLI.

Enjoy feeding your curiosity together!

The Wellness from Within Workshops

-facilitated by Mónica E. Gómez- have been favorites among OLLI members who are discovering new insights through discussions, creative writing, reading aloud and more. Authors share their creative writings from Spring 2023 sessions.



Mark Benitez

“I would take our most recently named National Monument, Castner Range, here in El Paso as a way to build on creating a most diverse landscape. It is buffeted by the rugged Franklins and as the slopes come down and from the fields, the area is transformed into a diverse array of color and diverse ecosystem.

The wildlife is expansive, the various plants, flowers abound during the seasons. But what defines it best are the beautiful skies that are colored by the days throughout the year. Majesty at its best enhancing of the elements of our senses!”



Randall Harabin

AMERICA'S BEST IDEA

“Inspired by the Ken Burns film and my personal experience as a park ranger.”

“I would create a collage of scenes from various National Park areas using a technique incorporating small mosaic tiles to construct the images. It would feature a range of Park areas such as the "big ones": Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Yellowstone, Zion. Also, historical ones: Mesa Verde, Homestead Monument, John Muir's house.

This would be reaching out to people from around the world to learn about and appreciate America. It would feature our country's natural beauty and historical perspectives for them to have a memorable experience in our parks, National Treasures.”



Andres M. Mendoza

The Aha Poem

“G.M. Hopkins poem titled “God’s Grandeur” finally became clear – a love and respect of Mother Earth and a disdain for what man is doing to it.

This poem resonates with my thinking of Mother Earth and her obvious beauty. The poem had to simmer in my brain before I made the connection to it. Then thereafter I accepted it and agreed with its message.”



Rhonda Whittaker

outside world vs inside world & abstract art

Outside in the Open, on top of the Rim Road Park point.
 Seeing far away. Beyond the known territory, race, or language.
 Feeling cool shade of a black pine, frita-fried with a thousand pine cones.
 Turning around for no apparent reason, I spy a casual desert fox
 Cross the path, jump to the rock wall, and turn looking back.



Carolynne M. Ayoub

Haiku

Wind tickled feathers
 Boastful coos, silver pigeons
 Circle, mate, depart.

*More creative writing from the workshop series by Mónica E. Gómez
presented by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation*



Barbara Lewis

What is art?

“Art is a talent that has many meanings. It can be paint and brush, metal, fabric, words, music, dance, or nature’s elements. Art is both subjective and objective.

We are all artists in our own right. How we share that talent varies from person to person, but doubt not, we all have some form within us.

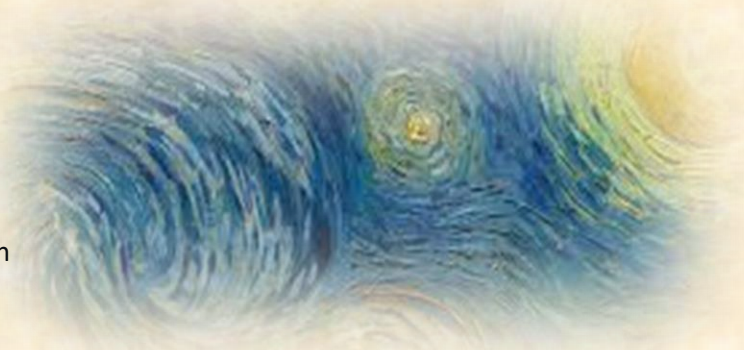
For me, I have just recently found the time and desire to explore the unknown of art through metal design. I’ve been blessed to have befriended an extremely talented artist who has taught me the skill of “repujado” – the carving into metal. A difficult art to master, which I’m sure I never will be able to, but nonetheless, an art form that has brought me pride in my simple accomplishments. And I’m able to say, “I did that!”



Letty Mendez

Return to Starry Starry Night

My mind’s eye returns to the
Vibrant violets and blues and the
Exuberant mood they birthed in me
As I walked through Vincent’s dreamscape
McLean’s soothing voice mesmerizes me
As he evokes memories that envelope me once again
In a moment resplendent with colors that move me
My body transcends the physical world into the
Magic of Starry Starry Night



Tom Shaughnessy

Independence

I come and go as I please. I have no master. No deadline. No stress.

I take the road less traveled by.

My direction is "second star to the right and straight on till morning."

I go where the wind blows. I follow the sun, the moon, and the stars. I walk on water and breathe fresh air. I share the moment with those close to me.

I am in awe seeing the colors of a sunset, white clouds in a deep blue sky, a bird that sings, waves that lap the shore.

Freedom is special to me. I enjoy life.



The Osher Institute Network 2021-22 Annual Survey Data



Osher NRC
National Resource Center
for Osher Institutes



125 OLLIs



116,599 Members*

*151,806 Individuals served, including 35,207 non-members



276 Cities & Towns

BY THE NUMBERS:

OLLI Memberships in the network range from less than 600 to more than 1800 persons over the age of 50. There are 18,743 volunteers across the OLLI network (U.S. Coast to Coast and Hawaii) Only 22% of OLLI's have all-inclusive fees. Others have ala carte class fees.

OSHER INSTITUTES CONFERENCE | October 16 -18 | San Diego

At this three-day invitational conference Osher Institute staff and volunteer leaders from around the country engage in lively discussions and share ideas on how to manage, develop, and expand OLLI programs. All share experiences with resource development and fundraising, leadership, membership and volunteer management, curriculum, strategic planning, marketing, and developing partnerships. One of the greatest benefits of the OLLI National Conference is the exciting dynamic that happens when Osher Institutes get together in one place, at one time. Leaders gather to celebrate curiosity and creativity, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute movement, and its undeniable success in making lives better.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BRING MORE TO YOUR OLLI!

OLLI at UTEP was honored to be selected for the pilot program of the NRC's OSHER ONLINE national courses. Watch for opportunities to take new nationally offered classes in the Fall.



**Available for
all OLLI members
at UTEP**

**WINTER 2023
COURSES**



IN COLLABORATION WITH



SUMMER BOOTCAMP 2023



ALL THINGS ZOOM

LECTURE | MONDAY, JULY 17

Learn about useful Zoom features, whether you are connecting with an iOS, Android, or Windows device.

PROTECTING YOUR PERSONAL INFO ONLINE

LECTURE | WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

We'll cover tips for staying safe in cyberspace, like safe browsing, recognizing online scams, and when it's OK to share your info online.

CLOUD STORAGE

LECTURE | TUESDAY, JULY 18

Use Cloud Storage tools to keep you organized, personally and professionally, so that you can always find what you need.

INTRO TO MANAGING YOUR PRIVACY

LECTURE | THURSDAY, JULY 20

Want to take control of your privacy while browsing the internet?

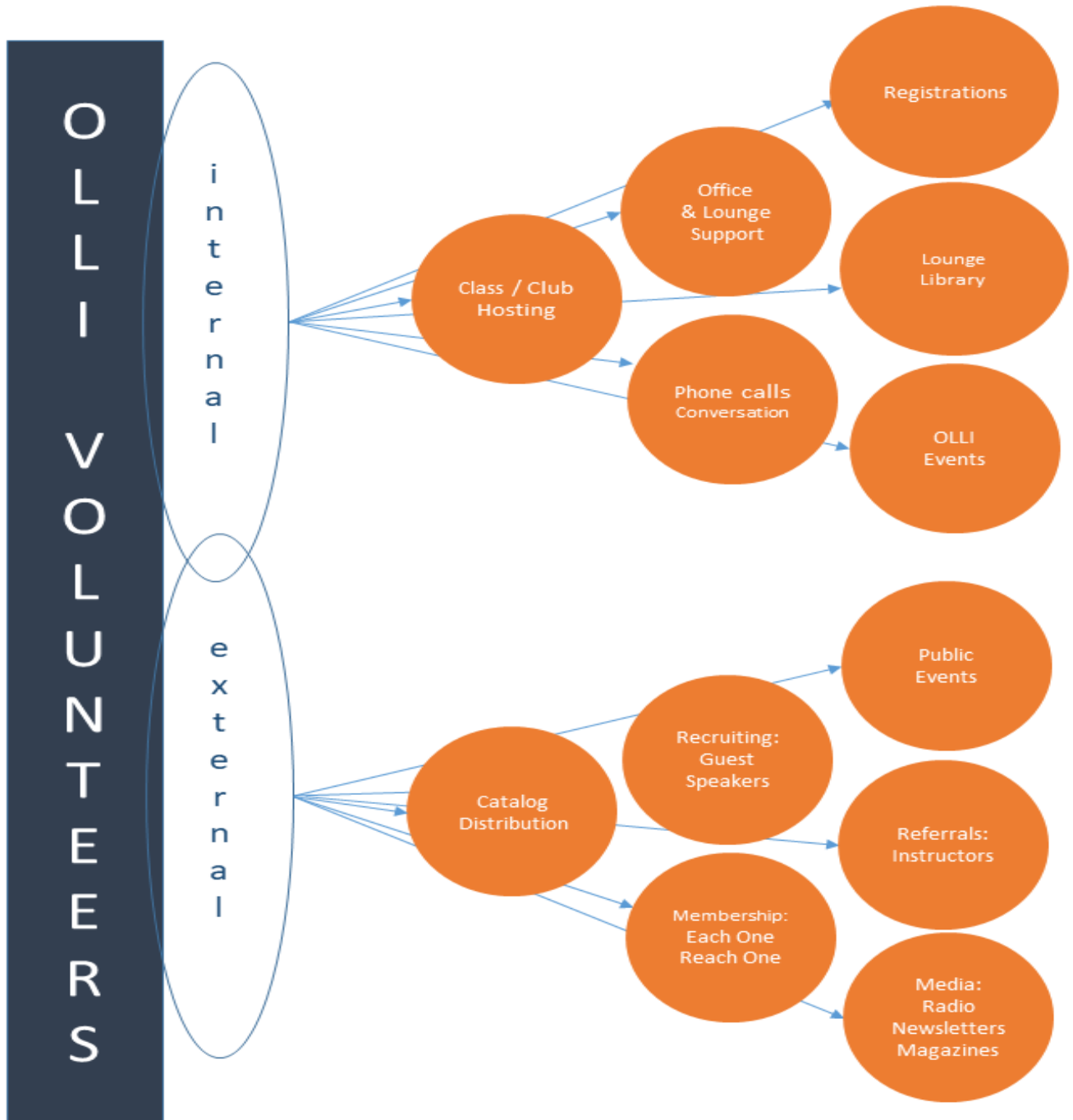
CONNECTING TO THE INTERNET

WORKSHOP | FRIDAY, JULY 21

Learn how to check your Wi-Fi connection and how to use a hotspot.

Thanks to all Volunteers!

...the impactful internal and external network of our community



OLLI VOLUNTEERS | Making the Best

OLLI Volunteers participated in many events and projects which continue to benefit OLLI members and contribute to the sustainability and growth of OLLI's programming and membership. Take a look at these accomplishments.

EVENTS & PROJECTS

Connecting the Community

Stay connected phone calls (ongoing)
Spring and Summer catalog distribution (ongoing)

Public Fairs

Queen of Peace Health Fair | May 2023
City of El Paso Education Fair | July 2023
Aging to Perfection Expo | August 2023

Special OLLI Events

OLLI Auction | Zin Valle Winery | November 2022
OLLI Annual Membership Meeting | First Baptist Church | December 2022
The Mad Hatter Volunteer Meet-up | May 2023
OLLI Mixer and Exhibit: Dressing Ourselves | UTEP Centennial Museum | June 2023

OFFICE & HOST SUPPORT

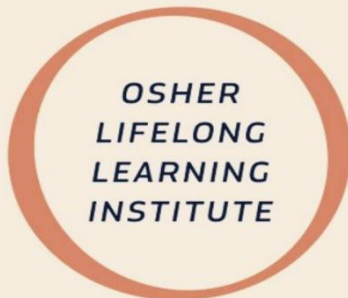
Thanks to those who have given time to support classrooms and/or for being prepared for member calls and service when necessary.

COMMITTEES

OLLI members are welcome to join committees that are committed to the sustainability, growth and social aspects of the OLLI@UTEP community.

Consider being an
Advisory Board Member.

Thanks to their dedication - committee members are hands that help to create awareness and recognition of our OLLI program.



**GIVE THE
GIFT OF
OLLI**



. BIRTHDAYS . ANNIVERSARIES .
. FRIENDSHIPS . JUST BECAUSE .

WE LOVE OUR OLLI!

SHARE & ENHANCE THE MEANING
OF LIFE, LEARNING, AND
CURIOSITY

Call the OLLI office for details regarding gift certificates.
EACH ONE > REACH ONE
915-747-6280

SUPPORT | Volunteer Instructors, Lecturers, Partners & Collaborators

We appreciate our OLLI Instructors, guest speakers and collaborators!

Several instructors and lecturers offered their time as volunteers in support of OLLI's mission during the spring and/or summer terms. Our collaborators work with UTEP's Center for Community Engagement (CCE).

SPRING 2023

Instructors

Adair Margo
 Stephen Ledesma
 Jean-Claude Linossi
 Marie Livingston
 Alfred Reeves
 Silvia Portillo-Koch
 Linda Shubeck
 David Varela
 Eric Kappus

UTEP Intergenerational Projects

Soyean Lee

Guest Speakers

Laura Turón
 Eric Smith
 Andrew Joseph Perez
 Carolina Valencia
 Cecelia Fierro
 Emri Umucu
 Patricia Lara
 Alvaro Gurovich
 Leela Rivera
 Carol Douglas
 Rodd Garcia
 Rhonda Strom
 Doug Pullen

SUMMER 2023

Instructors

Alfredo Arroyo
 Adair Margo
 Jackie Cordova
 Catherine Dickason
 Monica Gomez
 Cristina Jones
 Terrence Johnson
 Kathleen Key
 Jean-Claude Linossi
 Marie Livingston
 Al Reeves
 Linda Shubeck
 Jay Stratton
 David Varela
 Eva Wooden

Guest Speakers

Bob Warach
 Leanne von Mittenwald
 Marie Livingston
 Judge Eduardo Gamboa
 Leoncio Perez
 Dr. Elmo Roach

SPRING/SUMMER 2023 | Club Facilitators

Philip Anderson	Silvia Portillo Koch	Marie Livingston	Stan Deming
Phyllis Price	Janet Dand	Leanne von Mittenwald	Lily Dueñas
Fred Eiland	Bob Jacobs	Catherine Dickason	

SPRING/SUMMER 2023 | Partners & Research

Rio Grande Cancer Foundation
 Rocky Mountain Mortgage Company (new sponsor for Fall 2023)
 Carolina Valencia, Clinical Assistant Professor, UTEP Rehabilitation Services
 Cecelia Fierro, Clinical Assistant Professor, UTEP Occupational Therapy
 Alvaro Gurovich, Associate Professor, UTEP Physical Therapy



Capturing updates and making OLLI registration better!

Meet Maxie Starr Flores and Celina Gandara The QuickPick Mavens of Aceware

Maxie Starr Flores, the Technology Implementation Manager for Extended University, heard your requests



and kept in mind that OLLI members wanted a simple and quick way to register for classes. She worked with her team to set up a simple six-step process.

Celina Gandara joined the Extended University team to assist with technology implementation and administration. Together, Maxie and Celina worked with system updates and processes, tested and trained with OLLI volunteers and assisted with the registrations during the Spring 2023 QuickPick launch.

The NEW OLLI QuickPick simplifies the registration process for current and prospective OLLI members. The QuickPick page organizes the OLLI courses by day of week, just like the catalog does, except better, as it displays all OLLI courses on a single web page. The QuickPick has great features like essential course information displayed with the course description in a pop-up when a member hovers over the title; allows a member to add themselves to a waitlist if the course is full; and it also allows a member to register someone else.

Maxie and OLLI are so excited to have you register for Fall 2023 using the OLLI QuickPick by following these steps:

1. Log in or create an account,
2. Choose your membership and term fees,
3. Choose your courses,
4. Optional make a donation,
5. Agree to the OLLI Membership Code of Conduct
6. Checkout and make payment.

UTEP > [EXTENDED UNIVERSITY](#) > OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE > [USEFUL LINKS](#)

Useful Links

OLLI Catalog

- [Summer 2023 Catalog](#)

Member Forms

- [OLLI Member Participation & Media Consent Form](#)
- [OLLI Member Affiliate Form](#)
- [Parking Permit Form](#)

Campus Traffic

- [Roundabouts](#)
- [Campus Map](#)

Coming this Fall.
“Capturing Opportunities”
Catalog Front Cover photo by R. Craig Williams

Fall 2023 Catalog

Landing in mailboxes in late July

Early Registration Open House

Tuesday, August 15 | 10am – 4pm
First Baptist Church
805 Montana Ave.

New for Fall!

- OLLI Film Fest East
- The Pickleball Club
- El Paso History Tours: People, Places and Progress
- New Lecture Series:
 - The Nature of Art
 - Wellness: The Influencers
 - Wellness: Quality Check
- Intergenerational Opportunities
- MORE OSHER ONLINE courses
- New courses on a variety of topics and in the Solo en Español program



Save the Dates!

July 29, 2023 | 10AM – 12PM | OLLI Mixer and Exhibit

UTEP Centennial Museum – music–refreshments–light fare food–dessert

August 15, 2023 | 10AM – 4PM | Early Fall Registration Open House

First Baptist Church, 805 Montana Avenue
Light buffet – Gift bags for first 50 registrants –Door prize raffle

August 14, 2023 | Fall Registration officially opens.

Register online, by mail, or make an appointment to meet in-person.

September 5, 2023 | Fall classes begin

December 12, 2023 | 11AM – 1:30PM | Annual Membership Meeting

First Baptist Church – Check your mail for the invitation.
Lunch - Free Parking - Door Prizes - Annual Updates

EACH ONE. REACH ONE Bring a new member to OLLI. Receive a \$45 credit toward your registration.

Intergenerational Projects

OLLI members have been fortunate to take part in Intergenerational projects with partners on campus.

OLLI Meets Technology and the Intergenerational UX Project | UTEP Instructor Dr. Soyeon Lee



UX refers to the user experience. Collaboration continued in the Spring Session with Dr. Soyeon Lee. UX students mentored OLLI members with one-on-one tutoring on how to use their devices (tablets and smart phones). The outcomes from previous collaborations have also resulted in valuable feedback and suggestions regarding OLLI's website which has laid the groundwork for future site upgrades. The UX experience returns in the Fall with an *OLLI Meets Technology and the Intergenerational Co-learning/Co-solving Experience* course. OLLI member participation has become a valuable contribution to many UTEP student experiences. Students want to do more with OLLI!

Research Participation: Collaboration Continues

The Spring 2023 Lecture Series, *Rethinking the Challenges in Aging*, featured five guest speakers who are lecturers and researchers in the field of aging. The series was a great success. OLLI members are still invited to participate in their research projects. Members can look forward to more informative lectures in the Fall.

Can we assess your pain experience?

A research study to investigate the difference in pain sensitivity and central pain mechanism between Hispanic Americans and non-Hispanic White Americans. Contact Carolina Valencia, Ph.D. at cvalencia4@utep.edu

The Impact of Aging in Place on Quality of Life for Older

The purpose of this study is to gather data on the older population (65 years or older) to see what factors influence quality of life and to see how it may be improved in our community. Contact adherhandez16@miners.utep.edu or cfierro6@utep.edu

Stroke, Exercise and Blood Flow Research

The purpose of this research study is to determine how blood flows in an artery of the neck during an incremental exercise test to determine the type of internal massage. If you had a stroke more than 90 days ago, you might qualify for this study. Contact Dr. Alvaro Gurovich at agurovich@utep.edu or 915-747-7248 to see if you qualify. A stipend is offered for participation.

More...

Cecelia Fierro, Clinical Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy, offered an **Aquatherapy** class specifically designed for OLLI participants in this past Summer Session. She will present another program called **CARFIT** in the Fall, which is designed to help seniors be safer in their vehicles.



OLLI Members Fight Student Food and Housing Insecurities



...by generously donating to the UTEP Food Pantry and FHAR (Foster, Homeless, Adopted Resources) on the UTEP Campus. Did you know that 19% of the UTEP student participants have experienced homelessness and that 48% of student participants often and sometimes could not afford to eat balanced meals? This data is based on a study on Housing and Food Insecurity at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).

Organizers and students are grateful!

KAREN FRASER, Chair and Volunteer Coordination



During the past six months, volunteers had the opportunity to work with Extended University (EU) business and technology staff as the OLLI office revised staff positions and defined procedures and as class hosts confronted hardware upgrades and enhanced capabilities in the classrooms. I observed tremendous collegial support and efforts to reduce anxieties among not only our team of workers but also other members. I can only conclude that members of our EU and OLLI community are special.

We have a Volunteer Committee that provides advice and counsel, contributes ideas for fundraising and special events, recommends protocols in the classrooms, engages and trains class hosts, initiates staying connected calls to members and collaborates with other OLLI committees.

Near future activities involving volunteers include distribution of Fall catalogs in El Paso first week of August; staying connected phone calls to members second week of August; in-person support for OLLI Open House membership renewal and class registrations Tuesday, August 15 at First Baptist Church, 805 Montana Avenue; and office support afternoons after the open house through Friday, September 8.

We invite you to join our volunteer group of 55+ and help with the Fall activities. We also welcome your call and suggestions for improving and adding to our efforts.

Volunteer Committee Members: Jill Boyea, Lily Duenas, Karen Fraser (Chair), Tom Harding, Liz Highsmith, Irene Medina, Andy Mendoza, Don Smelser and Leanne von Mittenwald (adhoc), Karen Fraser (chair)

ELIZABETH FARRELLY, Secretary



I am Elizabeth Farrelly, Secretary for the OLLI Advisory Board; I have been on the Board since November 2022. I moved to El Paso ten years ago following my retirement from a blood banking career in Dallas/ Fort Worth. I learned of OLLI shortly after arriving. I have enjoyed all classes I have attended and I enjoy the opportunity to continue learning. I became volunteer in 2020 calling OLLI members during Covid reminding members the classes would continue via Zoom, (Zoom is something I learned at OLLI!). My volunteer experience has been very positive and has given me the opportunity to help with different events and help inform others of the opportunities offered by OLLI.

From the Hotel Tour this summer I learned many interesting facts about El Paso and also gave me the opportunity to meet interesting people. I am always eager to learn something new and/or a new perspective

I will continue to be an advocate for OLLI and encourage others to become OLLI members attend interesting classes and volunteer for a wonderful organization.

DON BUESCHER, Finance Chair (former)



The OLLI Advisory Board thanks Don Buescher for his service as the Finance Chair through Spring of 2023. The finance position on the Advisory Board is currently open.

Finance Committee: Lynn Provenzano, Sonya Villa-Saenz and Don Buescher, chair (former)

JESSICA ARRIOLA, Events Chair



"My name is Jessica Arriola, I'm going on my third year as an OLLI student and my second year as OLLI's Events Chair. Last year I was asked to become a part of the Advisory Board as the Events Chair which involved monthly parties and events in the OLLI Lounge. Staying connected with the OLLI members is very important to me. One of my biggest challenges is to insure that we keep the good energy that the OLLI members bring to each event. Some of the big upcoming events I am looking forward to this year are the OLLI Mixer at the Centennial Museum and the City of El Paso Education Fair to be held at El Paso Museum of Art in July. Some big event highlights for me this year that I really enjoyed, was helping with the Senior

Love Conference at EPCC, participating Health Care Fair for Older Americans at El Paso's Queen of Peace Church and organizing the OLLI appreciation lunch for its members at the Mad Hatter on Mesa.

...lots of opportunities for all of you to be part of OLLI. I always welcome input and expertise as a volunteer. I am always looking for new ideas to improve the quality of our program and hope you will join us this year as we continue to learn and grow together."

Events Committee: Jessica Arriola (chair)

Ad hoc participants: Maggie Jackson, Laura Reyes, Susie Currey, Helen Schmid and Elizabeth Farrelly

GLORIA BARRAGAN, Civic Diversity Chair



A former teacher and administrator with YISD, my primary responsibility is to increase the number of minorities at OLLI. I love organizing, and am definitely a people person. I'm happy to have met many good people through OLLI, especially through the various tours we've attended together.

We are thrilled to have secured OLLI's east side satellite location, a substantial donation from Rocky Mountain Mortgage, and a heavily attended class with Judge Eduardo Gamboa of El Paso's Probate Court#2.

Irene Medina and Laura Valladolid, longtime friends, provide valuable input & many ideas in our committee meetings.....LEARNING & LAUGHTER is good for us all, especially in our later years!

Civic Diversity Committee: Irene Medina, Laura Valladolid, Gloria Barragan (chair)

HELEN SCHMID, Membership and Community Advocacy Chair



"Servicing on the OLLI board has enlightened me.

There is so much that needs to be done to keep OLLI going. You have heard '20 % of the people do 80% of the work.' Our board and the volunteers give of their time with a positive attitude and a goal 'Keep OLLI alive and well.'

The membership committee has been loyal for several years and we appreciate them. I am happy to announce our membership has increased. We need every one of you to reach out and spread the word. You. The member, are our best advertisement. Tell your family and friends what OLLI has meant to you."

Membership Committee: Luis Castillo, Suzie Bissell-Currey, Michael Faulkner, Mary Harris, Betty Kennedy, Susan Sobin, Waynene Spradlin, Devon Wall (ad hoc), Helen Schmid (Chair),

TOM HARDING, Technology Chair



“Hello, I am Tom Harding, the Technology Advisor for the OLLI Advisory Board. I have been a member of OLLI since January of 2021 and have been a member of the Advisory board since September 2022. As the technology representative I work on a multitude of issues, some of which are upfront and directly experienced by members; however, many are behind the scenes and not directly viewable by the public.

Prior to the start of each OLLI session, it is important to check all equipment in the classrooms to ensure it is operating properly and ready for the start of classes. Furthermore, during the spring session I was part of a team that evaluated an electronic attendance database that would be used by OLLI personnel.

In addition, I took part and provided input during ad-hoc meetings regarding the update of the OLLI online registration database. I also took part and supplied input during meetings regarding the future update of the OLLI website. I continue to volunteer at the OLLI registration open houses where the volunteers’ assisted members with registering for class online and via hard copy forms.

In addition to working on technology issues, I am also a member of the volunteer committee and periodically assisted in the OLLI office; However, I spend a great deal of my time hosting in-person classes.

It is a pleasure volunteering at OLLI, and I would encourage all members to consider joining the OLLI team. Everyone is welcome. OLLI works hard to ensure you have an enjoyable experience as a part of this unique organization. Also, do not hesitate to reach out to the OLLI office with any ideas or concerns you have.”

LYNN PROVENZANO, Executive Director, Marketing & Curriculum Chairs



“Applaud Margie Brickey and Joe Miller as they have settled into their new positions this past spring. Margie took on the role of office coordinator and Joe is now the administrative assistant. Spring fielded challenging months that have led us to new processes, systems training, and data administration. All of your staff is now certified in CPR and First Aid Response. Reports to the Board continue to be lengthy as we explore our revenue and expenses along with our relationships within the community, here at UTEP and with the Osher National Resource Center (NRC).

Awareness is growing for our OLLI. You may have seen the article in the May issue of the *Thrive After 60* magazine (on stands throughout the city) or heard us on KTEP with Louie Saenz and Focus on Campus. Perhaps you heard a public service announcement over the radio waves. Thanks to OLLI volunteers. Catalogs have been distributed and picked up by potential members all over the border region. Our OLLI is growing and thriving. Wear your t-shirts and EACH ONE REACH ONE. We still need all of you and your friends to build our caring OLLI community. The Marketing Committee continues to explore and connect wherever possible to shout about our OLLI.

The Curriculum Committee has worked to bring diverse offerings to members along with new lecture series and engaging course topics. Building a curriculum from term to term is ongoing. Thanks to the committee for being the brain reservoir to make every term exciting. Let’s be reminded of the great opportunities that have come to us the NRC and the Osher ONLINE series along with the special events gifted to us through UTEP research (Aquatherapy) and collaborators (Student UX Project). We are fortunate to have wonderful programming through everyone’s efforts.

Marketing Committee: Mary Ann Snider, Monica Gomez, Beth Ford, Ira Dodge and Lynn Provenzano (chair)

Curriculum Committee: Marie Livingston, Ruth Bassett, Leanne von Mittenwald, Linda Shubeck, Bob Warach. Tom Harding (ad hoc) and Lynn Provenzano (chair)

Are you interested in what is happening at OLLI? **Consider joining the Advisory Board.**

Contact Karen Fraser. olli@utep.edu

LEANNE VON MITTENWALD, Ex-officio Advisor



"After completion of my term as OLLI Board Chair, I moved into the position as Advisor to the new Board Chair. It is a very easy position; since the board is in such capable hands, but I am there to support and guide as needed. The current board is composed of dedicated, enthusiastic individuals who offer their time and talents to ensure the continued success of our OLLI program. I am excited to see what the future of OLLI holds for all of us!"

SONYA VILLA-SAENZ, Extended University Advisor



"UTEP is in a time of change and transition unlike anything we've ever seen before. The foundations of higher education are being challenged and universities need to adapt. With change comes opportunities across campus including OLLI. It allows OLLI to make room for more of a variety of courses: calling for new paths and a wider array of credentials to further grow and expand the program. Thank you OLLI for all our contributions!"

Highlights | MEET THE TEAM

The OLLI team underwent significant changes early in Spring 2023. Margie Brickey, formerly OLLI's part-time administrative assistant, stepped into the position of office coordinator. Joe Miller boarded as OLLI's administrative assistant in March. Margie and Joe are not just OLLI staff, along with the executive director, they are the OLLI team.

The OLLI staff has been steadily making connections, training, and improving processes in the office to better serve our OLLI community. Here is a quick look at what has been on the office plate:

Ongoing

Registrations
Member Inquiries and Services
Course and Instructor Communications
Class Hosting and Troubleshooting
Aceware Data Entry
UTEP Compliance

Special Projects

QUICKPICK Launch – Spring 2023
OSHER ONLINE Course Administration
Aceware/HTML Training
Standard Operating Procedure Documentation
UTEP Research Project Coordination

The OLLI staff has been trained and certified in CPR and First Aid by the American Heart Association.

OLLI is also part of the Extended University team. Support for each other is valuable.
THANKS to those who have shared their talents, given their time and assisted OLLI in times of need.

MARGIE BRICKEY, OLLI Office Coordinator



Margie joined our team at OLLI on September 1, 2022. She previously worked at The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) as a Chapter Development Coordinator at the Office of Alumni Relations for 16 years and was responsible for coordinating volunteers, developing programming to build academic, geographic, special interest and affinity chapters and networks. She served as the lead liaison for groups across the country, and across the globe. Margie led hundreds of alumni through active planning, coordinating, and executing countless of events during her 16 years of service.

Margie brings a wealth of experience in administrative duties and processes, cultivation, engagement, and volunteer retention. In this role as Office Coordinator, Margie will help OLLI grow, help with connections to the community and provide the best customer service while building long lasting relationships with OLLI members. Margie's vision is to continue to work with the team at OLLI to grow.

In the short period that she has been here, Margie has proven to be a reliable asset to OLLI with high standards and the ability to work well all aspects of OLLI, including the board, volunteers, as well as on campus and off campus community partners. She has stepped up to take on responsibilities under challenging conditions and assisted in maintaining operations and developing routines with a host of other administrative duties. She has been instrumental in organizing and following through on new projects that have led to successful outcomes.

It is clear she has a heart to serve and enjoys giving back. She demonstrates this through her volunteer work in the community helping those with Traumatic Brain Injuries, families, and children. She is also part of the Sunset Heights Improvement Association and Las Comadres. Margie loves to garden and go hiking too. She brings the same enthusiasm, energy, and effort to our OLLI team.

Reach out to Margie if you are interested in volunteering or for any questions or concerns you may have at mbrickey@utep.edu or at 915-747-8848.

JOE MILLER, OLLI Administrative Assistant



Joe Miller was born in Colorado and lived in such varied places since as Oklahoma, Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas, and Montana. He graduated from NMJC in 2008 with an Associate's degree in English Literature and plans on attending UTEP to finish his Bachelor's before going on to get a Master's degree in Library Science with an emphasis on archive science. He recently celebrated his eleventh wedding anniversary with his wife and welcomed a husky pup into his home, rounding out the family. While he is unpublished, he has a passion for short story writing, tending toward speculative and genre fiction; he loves reading those genres as well, collecting a substantial home library. He also, inexplicably, loves running and is currently training for a marathon in late October. If he had an aptitude for biological sciences at all he might have pursued a career as an ursinologist (the study of bears), however since he is not, OLLI and all its wonderful members will be stuck with him for the foreseeable future.

Reach out to Joe with questions or concerns you may have at jbmilller@utep.edu or at 915-747-6280