Established in 1982 as the Institute for Learning in Retirement as part of the Continuing Education Department of American University, OLLI at AU was invited to become an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in 2005. As a member of the larger Osher Lifelong Learning Institute network, we are one of 124 institutes nationwide funded in part by the Bernard Osher Foundation, which is dedicated to educational opportunities for seasoned learners.
The 2018-19 year brought many accomplishments for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University.

- Reached our highest enrollment of 1546 members
- Offered a record 243 classes
- Installed hearing assistance devices in Lecture Hall A
- Collaborated with other organizations to increase our diversity
- Launched the Welcomers program to reach out to new members
- Continued to strengthen our ties to American University, including growing our partnership between OLLI members and International Accelerator Program students

Our vantage point in this Annual Report of our small liberal-arts-college-like organization, is primarily quantitative. While the numbers tell us a lot, they can’t begin to capture what the study groups mean to members. Some of the testimonials included here speak to the delight year after year in learning something new or revisiting material we have loved and been away from for many years. Other testimonials affirm what this community means to us. For some, the academic experience alone suffices; for others the social interactions, in and out of class, are equally important.

Pausing once a year to reflect on all that has been accomplished is worthwhile. It helps us this year to appreciate what Tony Long in his first year as Executive Director and his dedicated staff—Mary Fran Miklitsch, Lesley Diaz, Jesse Williams, and Terri Greene—along with hundreds of hardworking volunteers have accomplished.

I hope that you will be inspired by what you read in the following pages to get involved in ways that are rewarding for you!

Martha C. Cutts
Chair, Board of Directors
BY THE NUMBERS

1546

The number of unique OLLI at AU members in 2018–2019

“...In my years of teaching at OLLI, I have been impressed by the generosity of my students to one another and to me. From the wealth of their years of experience in family and work, in travel and adventure, in joy and sorrow, they offer so much to their classmates—questions and insights, memories and discoveries. It is a pleasure to share stories, poems, plays in an OLLI class. We all learn from each other.”

— SUE WILLENS

OUR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

A record of 243 classes were offered in 2018–19, representing a fascinating diversity of topics ranging from “Aristotle” to “Broadway’s Black Divas of the 1920s” and “Other Minds: The Octopus and Origins of Intelligence” to “Understanding Asia.” There was something for every member. The expertise, love of learning, and commitment that our 241 Study Group Leaders brought to bear made our study groups—the heart of our program—a key reason members appreciate and share their enthusiasm for OLLI at AU.

We also ran two pilot programs with an eye toward innovation. To gauge interest in afternoon classes, we offered one February Short from 3:45–5:15 pm. To broaden our outreach and attract greater diversity, three January classes were offered in Wards 1 and 4.
In 1980, three soon-to-be retirees developed a proposal to create a volunteer membership organization which would hold peer-led, academic study groups and which would also encourage a sense of community.

Their proposal was eventually accepted by American University in 1982. The Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) came into being with 80 members and 11 study groups.

One founder, Tina Fried Heller, remains a member today. Tina has been an indefatigable advocate for OLLI at AU. She served as a Board member for six years, recruited the AU Schools of International Service and Public Affairs and the College of Arts and Sciences to offer study groups, encouraged numerous friends and acquaintances to join, and promoted OLLI at virtually every opportunity. Were it not for her, we would not be here today, nor would OLLI at AU be the very successful organization it is, with more than 1500 members and more than 90 study groups each semester. When you see her in the hallway or in class, please say, “Hello!”
As a lover of American history, I have taken great courses on the Civil War, the American Revolution, Famous American Trials, and the Gilded Age. But I also appreciate the opportunity to expand my areas of knowledge: science—the Big Bang theory and the Cloud, music—19th Century Romantic Composers, and the arts—a great course on American architecture. OLLI is the complete package.

— CHUCK EDSON

The Lecture Committee presented 28 speakers in 2018–19. These titles are just a sampling of the enlightening talks:

- “Chocolate City,” George Derek Musgrove
- “Investigative Journalism: The Best and Worst of Times,” Charles Lewis
- “China’s War on Terrorism,” Justin Jacobs
- “Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II,” Liza Mundy
- “A Museum for African Americans: 100 Years in the Making,” Robert Wilkins
- “How Are American Elections Changing?,” Ron Elving
- “Prisoner: 544 Days in Evin Prison,” Jason Rezaian
- “Mandela and deKlerk: The Miracle,” William Lucas

BY THE NUMBERS

243
The number of study groups offered in 2018–2019, including 117 new ones
I have been a member of OLLI at AU for about nine years and have found it a wonderful opportunity to explore a variety of classes and to meet interesting people. I have taken and thoroughly enjoyed many literature, history, and (surprise to me) science classes, as well as art history and music classes. … I have enjoyed the classes so much that I have been raving about them to friends over the years and a number have signed up.

— DIANE RENFROE

In addition to academic programs, OLLI offered numerous special events in 2018–19, including:

- “Live & About” Music-Theatre Group
- Free Minds Poetry Workshop
- Lecture on health care by AU President Sylvia M. Burwell
- 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Conference
- Special lecture by the Washington Ballet
- James Joyce Birthday Celebration
- French Music for Piano and Strings, sponsored by OLLI at AU and The Palmer Project
- Arlington National Cemetery Tour

BY THE NUMBERS

241
The number of study group leaders in 2018–2019, including 31 new ones
STUDY GROUP LEADER SERVICE AWARDS

25+ YEARS
Sandra Levenbook

20–24 YEARS
Linda Freeman
Irwin Lebow
Arnold Leibowitz
Jenny Pierson

15–19 YEARS
Larry Heilman
Lois Steinitz

10–14 YEARS
Mary Bullock
Bob Coe
Barbara Coleman
Leslie Frantz
Dave Freeman
Susan Goodman
Bob Hausman
Eleanor Heginbotham
Jaleh Labib
Iris Lipkowitz
Virginia Newmyer
Dave Palmer
John D. Peterson
Mary Poole
Helen Schwartz
Nancy Jo Snider
Karuna Srimati
Andrew White
Susan Willens
Peter Wolfe
Michael Yahuda

5–9 YEARS
Ahmed Achrati
Roberta Benor
Josh Berman
Don Bliss
Barry Bortnick
John Bowen
Hanne Caraher
F.T. Clark
Lewis Cohen
Bruce Eisen
Stephen Elkin
Solomon Glass
Elly Greene

Susan Greif
Rita Hadden
Penny Hansen
Carol Hausman
David Hurwitz
Arthur Katz
Erich Keel
Karen Gail Lewis
Carol Light
Jack Lipson
Stephen Litwin
Ellen Moody
Daniel Moskowitz
Rose Mosner
Mark Nadel
Louis Nevins
Stan Newman
Charles O'Connor
Van Ooms
Ronald Parlato
Judith Plotz
John Poole
Jacques Read
Ronald Ridker
Markley Roberts
Mary Schwartz
Betsy Seastrum
Arthur Siebens
Ellen Siegler
Marilyn Smith
Ray Squitieri
Diane Swan
Wendel Swan
John Vorhes
Sarah Whitener
Mark Zweig

UP TO 5 YEARS
Judy Alden
Graham Atkinson
Joe Belden
Brad Bickford
Barbara Bird
Richard Boardman
Evelyne Bonhomme
Monroe Brett
Shelley Brody
Paul Brown
Karen Buglass
Ralph Buglass
Ilsa Bush
Gary Cahn
Joseph Casazza
Albert Cheh
Richard Chipkin
Fredric Clarke
Marion Connell
Joseph Cotruvo
Dan Coyle
Robert Croog
Martha Cutts
William Daney
Jeffrey Drobis
Susan Drobis
Chuck Elkins
Robert Feldhuhn
David Flaxman
Lisa Friedman
Margery Gordon
Mark Gottlieb
P. Lance Graef
Monica Grigera
Frances Grigsby
Lisa Harper
Rabbi Shua Hecht
Heather Heckel
Kenneth Hinga
James Holman
Edward Ingebretsen
Miriam Isaacs
Sarah Kass
Eric Kearsley
Catharine Keatley
Minerva Keller
Al Kilborne
Leonard King
Stephen Klatsky
Alan Kogan
Robert Kolodney
Chuck Lefton
Lisa Leinberger
Arthur Levine
Lynn Lewis
Raymond Maxwell
William Metler
Caroline Mindel

Arrigo Mongini
Betty Monkman
James Nathan
Elsa Newmyer
Harrison Owen
Richard R. Palmer
John Parascondola
John F. Peterson
Stuart Pierson
Frederick Pollack
David Pomerantz
Joseph Reo
Victor Rezmovic
Richard Ringell
Don Ross
Catherine Sandifer
Gene Schaefer
Susan Schneider
Dennis Shaw
Elizabeth Shelton
Dan Sherman
Elaine Showalter
Martin Silfen
Robert Somers
Patricia Spector
Edward Starr
Karen Stewart
James Stone
Susan Strasser
Jonathan Sunshine
Al Taran
Susan Urofsky
Barton Veret
Judith Wagner
Edward Ward
Joan Weber
Carl Weichel
Kimberly Weichel
Vera Wilhelm
Xenia Wilkinson
Peter Wilson
Anders Zeijlon
Developing a budget that is heavily dependent on enrollment numbers can be challenging, but the hard work of the Board Finance Committee and the Executive Director produced a budget that served us well. We completed the fiscal year with a small surplus and a clean audit. Donations from 351 members and friends of OLLI at AU provided $129,389. We continue to have as a primary financial goal keeping tuition reasonable and affordable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2% Osher-AU Endowment*</td>
<td>$18,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% Transferred from Investment Account</td>
<td>$51,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16% Donations</td>
<td>$129,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76% Membership Fees</td>
<td>$641,890</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6% Fundraising and Capital Expenses</td>
<td>$47,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17% Rent</td>
<td>$128,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21% Other Operating Expenses</td>
<td>$166,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56% Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$432,313</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net surplus FY 2018–2019: $44,699.84, which includes net earnings on the OLLI at AU investment account. The balance in the OLLI at AU investment account on June 30, 2019: $1,059,553. *This amount reflects only a partial payment as AU changed its fiscal year in 2018–19. The remaining endowment income was received in the new fiscal year.
Anonymous (35)  
Elisabeth Akhtarzandi  
Virginia Albrecht  
Judy Alden  
John and Judy Aldock  
Carolyn S. Alper  
Kevin Anderson  
Virginia Anthony  
Morris Antonelli  
Gretchen W. Asmuth  
Mary Bailey  
Carolyn and John Bargeron  
Denise Barmak  
Myra and Jerome Barron  
Karen Baynard  
Marguerite Benson  
David Berk  
David W. Berkowitz  
Alan and Joan Berman  
Carole and Henry Berman  
Moira Black  
Donald T. and Nancy Bliss  
Ben and Sue Boley  
Evelyne Bonhomme  
Sidney and Elka Booth  
George Bren  
William Brenner  
Henri Bretaudeau and  
Asimina Caminis  
Andrea Brown  
John and Nancy Bryson  
Frances Burk  
Pamela and Patrick Buzzerd  
The Byers  
James Cafritz  
Mary Ann Carey  
Ruby Carmen  
Dino and Fran Caterini  
Joseph and Margaret Chachkin  
Joseph Chalmers  
Joyce Chandler  
Mary Jane Checchi  
Albert and May Cheh  
Mark Cinnamon  
Robert Coe  
Joanne Cogar  
Edward Cogen  
Lewis and Monique Cohen  
Stanley Cohen  
Marion Connell  
John Cooper  
Roger B. Cooper and  
Doral S. Cooper  
Albert Cover  
Robert Croog  
Sally Cutler  
Martha and Steven Cutts  
Thomas and Annie-Claude  
D'Agostino  
Michael and Nancy Jean  
Daniels  
Ruth Darmstadtner  
Campbell Demallie  
Mary DeOreo  
Charles Doty  
Craig Dreilinger  
Jeffrey and Susan Drobis  
Maureen Duignan  
Peter Durant  
Harriet Dwinell  
Sid Edelmann  
Richard and Isabel Edelson  
The Edson Children  
in celebration of  
Sue and Chuck Edson  
Bruce Eisen  
Duane Ekedahl  
Stephen and Diana Elkin  
Barbara Elkus  
Victoria Elliott  
Linda Engel  
Carol B. Epstein  
Patrice Feinstein  
Gail Feldman  
Naomi Felsenfeld  
Charles Ferris  
Anne Fishman  
Christopher and Lesley Frantz  
Jay Weil Freedman  
Jo Anne and Jack Friedenthal  
Robert Friedman  
Robin Chernoff and  
Stuart Frisch  
Lynn Goldin  
Patti Goldman  
Alice Goodman  
Betty and Mark Greenwold,  
The Greenwold Family  
Foundation  
Susan and Peter Greif  
Monica Grigera  
The Guild of Professional  
Tour Guides  
Rachel and Robert Gur-Arie  
Henry and Betty Guyot  
Rita Hadden  
Sarah Hall  
James Halpern  
Bonne Hammerschlag  
Penelope Hansen  
Sidney Harris and Arlene Stein  
Deb Hastings  
Alan and Shawn Hausman  
Bob and Carol Hausman  
Judy and Joel Havemann  
Fred Hayward  
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Naomi and Jack Heller  
Tina Fried Heller  
Gerry Hendershot  
David and Margaret Hensler  
Jerry H. and Linda Herman  
Sally and Steve Herman  
Judith Herr  
Julie and Don Herr  
Beth Hess  
Catherine Hill  
Kenneth Hinga  
Jim Holman  
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Charlotte Jones-Carroll and Thomas Carroll
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Andrea Klein
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Arlene and Bob Kogod
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Ellen Kolansky
Robert and Inga Kolodney
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Myra Kovey
William Kramer
Gloria Kreisman
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Prudence and David Lake
Richard Lake and Lisa Beati
Steven and Joanne Lamm
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Margaret Leith
Gail Lelyveld
Mary Leonard
John Leslie and Barbara Clarke
Fred and Carol Levison
Lawrence Levit
David Liebowitz and Cristi Carman
Denise and Alexander Liebowitz
David and Mary Ann Lillich
Geralyn Lobel
Tony Long
Stephen Lovett
Sue MacDonald
Anne Mansfield
Herbert Marks
Leslie Zimberg Martin
Susan Martin
Mary Fran Miklitsch
Barbara Marzetta
Daniel and Karen Mayers
Sara M. Mazer
Joanne McCarron
Sarah McCarthy
Kathy McDonnell
Deborah McIlroy
Robert and John McInerney
Paula McMartin
Alan Meltzer
Irene Mendelson
Lee Merryman
Patricia Aycock Mertz
Iris and Lawrence Miller
Susan Miller
Robert and Gregory Milman
Lori Milstein
Lanning Moldauer
Betty Monkman
Adrian Morchower
Anne Morrison
Daniel B. Moskowitz
Natalie Mulitz
James Murphy
Ellen and Jim Myerberg
Donald Myers
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Ninette Reis
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Richard Ringell
Carole Rogentine
Joseph Rogers
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Milt and Lisa Roney
Suzanne and Irving Rosenthal
Thérèse Rousseau
Henry and Anne Reich Family Foundation, Lee and Trina Rubenstein
Arthur Rubin
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Nona F. Shepard
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Kathryn Shore
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Joyce Vialet  
Judith Wagner  
Anne N. Wallace  
Edward Ward  
Robert Watson

C. Weichel and Associates  
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Alice Weinstein  
Robert Weinstock  
Andrea Weiss  
Marvin Weissberg  
Joan Wessel  
Joan Westley  
Betsy White  
Barbara Wierzynski  
Susan Willens  
Peter Wilson  
Christine Windheuser  
Robert and Patricia Wittie  
Mark Wolfman  
Mildred Kiefer Wurf  
Machiko Yoshinaga  
Ellen and Bernard Young  
Sally and Anders Zeijlon

BY THE NUMBERS

351
The number of members and friends who donated to OLLI at AU in 2018–2019

RAYMOND J. RASENBERGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Anonymous  
Nancy Rasenberger  
Eve and Richard Robins  
Ellen Siegler  
Margaret Tutwiler  
Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger

ANNE N. WALLACE FUND FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Betsy Loyless  
Jennifer and Stuart Pierson  
Diane Renfroe  
Betsy Seastrum  
Marianne Soponis  
Machiko Yoshinaga

“OLLI is the continuation of the amazing journey of lifelong learning and personal fulfillment through belonging to a wonderful community.”  
— STAN NEWMAN

We have made every effort to ensure all of the above information is correct. We apologize for any errors. Please contact us if a correction is needed.
The Board of Directors and OLLI at AU staff know that our membership is deeply committed to our program, its offerings, and the vibrant community we all enjoy. This Annual Report provides a detailed overview of the 2018–2019 year. As annual operating expenses increase, please support what you love and help us to:

- Guarantee that we can continue to keep tuition at a level that is affordable to our members,
- Ensure that we can continue to meet our needs for classroom space and technology, and
- Pay for future facility needs, support the development of our staff, and meet unforeseen future expenses.

**SUPPORTING OLLI**

OLLI at AU is academically robust, financially stable, and organizationally sound and professional. The strong sense of community provides for social interactions that keep us connected. We have an excellent Executive Director who has developed a strong, collaborative professional staff of five, a Board of Directors committed to responsible oversight, and scores of faithful volunteers who serve on over a dozen committees. We are proud of our success in providing a program dedicated to the proposition that learning is a lifelong process and that curiosity never retires. We have every reason to believe that the future of OLLI at AU is bright. We encourage those who want to learn more and see our program in action to visit our website at olli-dc.org and to schedule a visit to our campus.

**LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

“Being part of OLLI takes me back to the spirit of my college days (without the pressure of tests!). I savor the readings and the lively discussions during class times. I’m constantly inspired by fellow life learners and wise, generous teachers.”

— EILEEN KESSLER

**BY THE NUMBERS**

| 563 | The number of volunteer roles filled by members in 2018–2019 |

Being part of OLLI takes me back to the spirit of my college days (without the pressure of tests!). I savor the readings and the lively discussions during class times. I’m constantly inspired by fellow life learners and wise, generous teachers.”

— EILEEN KESSLER
OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
AT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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TREASURER
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SECRETARY
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Myra Barron
Sue Boley
Lewis Cohen
Linda Kiser
Denise Liebowitz*
Mark Nadel
John Thorner

*Executive Committee

STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tony Long

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Mary Fran Miklitsch

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COORDINATOR
Lesley Diaz

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Jesse Williams

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
Terri Greene

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