

Letter from the OLLI Director Search Committee

Dear Fellow OLLI Members:

I am glad to be able to share with you this progress report on the search for Susan Morrow's replacement, whose title will be "Director of OLLI."

Please note: Administratively, OLLI is a part of the University of Southern Maine (USM). The search for Susan Morrow's replacement has been conducted according to the regular USM procedures for a new appointment in the employee category in which "Director" falls.

The search committee includes USM administration members Stacy Calderwood, Coordinator, Special Projects, Glickman Library; Catherine O'Bar, Special Assistant to VP of Workforce Engagement and Auxiliary Services; Jeanne Paquette, Vice President of Workforce Engagement and Auxiliary Services; and M.A. Watson, Associate Vice President of Human Resources. Two OLLI Board members, Gael McKibben and Steve Piker (yours truly) are also on the committee. Catherine O'Bar and M.A. Watson serve as vice chairs of the committee.

Stages of the Search

Application deadline was December 18, and there were 67 applicants. The committee judged the applicant pool to be strong.

Stage 1 reduced the number of active applicants to 19. Of the 48 rejected, full committee agreement was obtained for 45. The remaining three were discussed by the full committee, and agreement reached on each.

Stage 2 involved a closer committee look at each of the 19 remaining candidates, eventuating in a long shortlist of nine, each of whom the whole committee judged to be strong.

Stage 3 involved video interviews with each of the nine candidates, following which committee discussion produced a short shortlist of three, about each of whom the full committee was strongly positive.

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Search Committee

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Stage 4 had each of the three finalists visiting USM for meetings with the committee, the OLLI staff, the OLLI board, and Vice President Jeanne Paquette. The OLLI staff and board provided input on each candidate for the committee. The third of the three finalists was with us on February 15.

Remaining to be done as of February 15: Following collection of additional, required background information, Vice President Jeanne Paquette will decide which of the three finalists will be invited to accept the Directorship of OLLI.

Finally, I'm glad to report that the work of the committee was conducted in a spirit of gracious, friendly, and cooperative collegiality.

With best wishes to each and all.

Sincerely, *Steve Piker*

Brown Bag Lunch

Positive Psychology and the Jesus Parables, led by Tom McGovern

Can we integrate scientific psychological research with new historical research on the parables? Let's think about enhancing well-being via a mindful spirituality of virtues and personal character strengths. Creative ideas and an experiential exercise will be presented.

Tom McGovern has offered nine different OLLI courses based on his writing and teaching of religious studies and counseling psychology.

The Brown Bag Lunch will be held on Monday, March 25, from 11:40a.m. to 12:30p.m., room TBD (watch for flyers).

What Should We Hope For in a Presidential Candidate for 2020?

Several people have already declared their intention to run for president in 2020. In the third of three Brown Bag Lunches, Bob Goettel will explore the qualities we should look for — and hope for — among the possible presidential candidates in the next election.

The Brown Bag lunch will be held on Wednesday, April 17, from 11:40am to 12:30pm, room TBD (watch for flyers).

OLLI Singers

If you want to add a little joy to a dreary winter day, you could always join the OLLI Singers. This Special Interest Group meets every Thursday to practice and perfect their musical gifts. Under the dynamic direction of Chuck Hornberger, they are an energetic group of men and women who love to sing, and it shows in their enthusiasm. The group will perform in the Performers' Showcase at the end of the Spring term, so you can enjoy them this May.



Director Chuck Hornberger and accompanist Vicki Swerdlow confer



Singers rehearsing



ADVISORY BOARD

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OLLI members are invited to attend Advisory Board meetings. Check with the Chair for time and place, or if you wish to address the Board.

WEB SITES

Maine Senior College Network
www.maineseniorcollege.org
 OLLI National Resource Center
www.osher.net
 OLLI at USM
www.usm.maine.edu/olli

OLLI STAFF

Rob Hyssong, Program Coordinator
 Linda Skinner, Admin. Assistant I
 Sue Schier, Admin. Assistant II

OLLI NEWSLETTER

OLLI Office:
 Wishcamper Center 210
 P. O. Box 9300
 Portland, ME 04104-9300
 Phone: 207 780-4406 or
 1-800-800-4876
 TTY 1-207-780-5646
 Fax: 207 780-4317
 E-mail: ollinews@maine.edu
 Tim Baehr, Editor
 Don King, Editor Emeritus
 Elsa van Bergen, Contributing Editor
 Mogens Ravn, Layout Editor
 Please send newsletter material to the
 OLLI Office, via our e-mail.

Deadline for the April issue is March 15.

Notes from the History Book Group

OLLI members are invited to join the History Book Group, which meets at 3:15 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, September–June. Book suggestions are submitted by attendees in the spring and voted on. There’s no obligation to read all the books or to attend regularly. To get on the e-mail list, contact: SusanGesing@gmail.com or LelandDM@gmail.com.

Here are the upcoming books through June:

Mar. 13—*Pale Rider: The Spanish Flu of 1918 and How It Changed the World*, by Laura Spinney

April 10—*Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, by John Dower

May 8—*1776*, by David McCullough

June 12—*Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America*, by James Forman, Jr.

Here are recent books we have read:

A Short History of Reconstruction, by Eric Foner; *Dark Money: The Hidden History of the Billionaires Behind the Rise of the Radical Right*, by Jane Mayer; *Grant* by Ron Chernow; *Dead Wake*, by Erik Larson; *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, by David Grann; and *Balfour’s World: Aristocracy and Political Culture at the Fin-de-Siecle*, by (OLLI member) Nancy Ellenberger.

— Dawn Leland and Sue Gesing

Seeking Wooden Dance Floor for Future OLLI Class

I’m an OLLI member seeking a dance space with a wooden floor, which would be available at low or no cost, not too far from USM. I plan to propose a fall dance workshop for OLLI, if I can find a suitable floor that has “give” to it (best for knee and hip joints). The type of dance I propose to teach is International Folk Dance. This involves traditional community dances from such places as the Balkans, Israel, Greece, Armenia, Bolivia, France, Croatia and more. Formations are varied, but include circles, snaking lines, “baskets”, contra lines, etc. I’d certainly appreciate any leads on a dance space with a wooden floor. You can contact me, Kathleen Carroll, at kcarroll2@gmail.com.



Lifelong Learning as a Shared Goal

[This is the third in a series of articles on Standing Committees. This month: Education.]

Investigating programs for adults who had spent their lives learning and teaching and had no desire to stop was the *raison d'être* of our Senior College more than twenty years ago. Just as that USM-based school grew into Maine's only Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, the work of those on our Education Committee has expanded over time. Its formal charge is "to provide a wide variety of educational opportunities for OLLI members in a creative and inclusive learning community." Members of this Standing Committee have dedicated their efforts to exploring new dimensions of their mission.

Senior College initially offered seven courses; OLLI's current spring catalog offered 69 courses and 14 workshops! Clearly, there are keys to pulling this off: reaching out to anyone interested in becoming an instructor, creating orientation workshops for new faculty, reviewing proposals for new courses, and following up to support our volunteer instructors throughout the year. Just as the OLLI website offers all sorts of information about courses and programs currently available, the site offers assistance to our faculty. By clicking on "Courses, Lectures and Faculty Information" you will find "OLLI Faculty Information and Course Proposals," which provides a Handbook and Teaching Tips for First Year OLLI Faculty.

There has been periodic review of course offerings to ensure a breadth of offerings in all categories popular with thinkers, writers, and doers. As with all OLLI Standing Committees, the chairs of this one regularly report to the OLLI Advisory Board.

The focus of OLLI's Education Committee, formerly known as the Curriculum Committee, has gradually shifted. The early Senior College Executive Board needed to help shape curriculum, although it made sure Sunday Lectures and occasional seminars were in the mix. Today one of the Education Committee's main goals is to foster extra-curricular events, lectures, and workshops (such as occasional workshops to bring new technologies within our comfort zones).

The move to Wishcamper in 2008 allowed courses to be held five days a week, morning and afternoon, and so the Committee in 2014 initiated the Brown Bag series of lunch-break lectures. These one-shot presentations, usually by faculty, have explored corners of history, personal travels, insights into current affairs, tastes of forthcoming courses, and much more. Announcements of upcoming Brown Bag opportunities appear in the newsletter, OLLI e-mail blasts, and on posters in Wishcamper.

The first OLLIiversity took place in 2017, with a daylong offering of minicourses led by our own outstanding instructors. When SAGE joined OLLI in 2001 it fell under the Education Committee umbrella but has since become a separate standing committee, which will be profiled in a coming newsletter. Both OLLI and the work of those charged with serving all its members are still evolving.

This year the Education Committee will hold a luncheon talk in the Spring for those interested in developing a course for the Fall, and it continues to support new teachers during the first weeks of any semester. It provides a celebratory luncheon after the Spring term to salute our teaching corps.



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Lifelong Learning

(Continued from page 4)

The Education Committee is chaired by Walt Allan and Betsy Wiley and includes as members Gary Bonderson, Peter Curry, Karen Day, Susan Powell, and Rhonda Wilson. A subcommittee is the OLLI Library, currently headed by Elsa van Bergen; as you know from previous newsletters, books and tapes that can enrich your educational or leisure interests are available for loan. Anyone interested in working with the Education committee or in teaching should contact Rob Hyssong, who will be in touch with Betsy and Walt.

—Elsa van Bergen

Check Out These New Gifts for You

Thanks to the kindness — not of strangers, but of OLLI members — there are now significant additions to OLLI's lending library.

- Through the generosity of Judith Harris, longtime dedicated OLLI volunteer who is moving to Florida, there are now **over 300 CDs of classical music** that had been collected by her late husband, Howard. These include the world's finest masterpieces as well as albums by the perhaps lesser-known composers, from Addinsell and Albéniz to Wieniawski and Wood. All will be kept in the first-floor OLLI library, in the cabinets to the left as you enter. There is a blue binder with lists of all the composers, shelved alphabetically, and a sign-out sheet for the music CDs.
- A **new collection of DVDs of movies** donated by Joan Aldrich is also housed in one of the left-hand cabinets in the first-floor OLLI library. OLLI members can check out up to 2 films, which can be enjoyed during a month. A sign-out sheet accompanies this collection, which is shelved alphabetically by movie title.
- Our collection of **Great Courses DVDs and CDs** (many donated by Don King) has recently expanded. These are shelved within the second-floor OLLI office, in marked categories (VHS formats are downstairs in the OLLI Library). This newsletter has been publishing lists of what can currently be found on the *Great Courses* shelves; an updated, comprehensive list will soon appear on the OLLI website. A sign-out sheet is hanging on the side of the bookcase.



(Photo by Anne Cardale)

The OLLI Library constantly adds donated **hardbound books** to its collection.

How can one participate?

Clearly, by borrowing—and returning—some of these wonderful items, which can open new doors to knowledge and entertainment. But also by donating to our OLLI collections. Each of the above sections has a marked place (a bin, a shelf) where you may place your donation. These receptacles will be regularly checked by OLLI volunteers. FMI contact Elsa van Bergen (ejvanbergen2@gmail.com); she would be glad to hear from anyone interested in joining the Library team, for occasional checking of shelves.

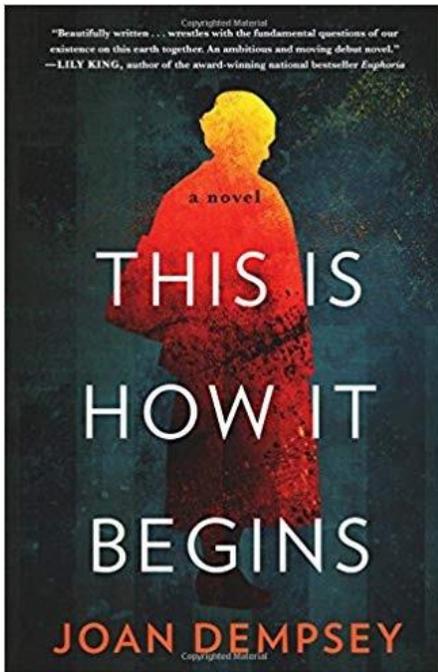
Thanks in advance...and a timely, sincere thank-you to Judith and Joan.



One Book / One Community

March 6, 2019; 9:00–2:30 (Storm Date: March 7)

This Is How It Begins by Joan Dempsey



- Winner, 2017 Poets & Writers Maureen Egen Writers Exchange award
- Recipient of a significant research grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation for her work on *This Is How It Begins*, a grant that took her to Warsaw for a month and to Washington, D.C., for ten days to study in the archives at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.
- “Beautifully written ... Wrestles with the fundamental questions of our existence on this earth together. An ambitious and moving debut novel.”—Lily King, author of *Euphoria*
- “A gripping and sensitive portrait of ordinary people wrestling with ideological passions.”—KIRKUS
- “Dempsey’s fine first novel [is] notable for the evenhanded way it addresses hot-button issues. The result is a timely and memorable story.” — BOOKLIST
- <http://thisishowitbeginsnovel.com/>

Our One Book/One Community event is privileged to open the morning with a keynote address by award-winning author Joan Dempsey.

Following will be four breakout sessions on topics related to her book, *This Is How It Begins*.

After a buffet lunch (included), each of the break-out sessions will be repeated, so you will have the opportunity to participate in two workshops. Workshop facilitators are Paul Doherty, Mike Berkowitz, Kathleen Sutherland, and John Sutherland.

We will come together to conclude with coffee/tea/dessert and a final wrap-up session.



Joan Dempsey

Sign up by phone or in person before March 4.

Price: \$35 for the day

You must be an OLLI member to participate. Dues are \$25 a year.



Submit Your Work to *Reflections* 2019

Reflections is OLLI's annual journal of literature and art created by OLLI members. You can send in your submission between now and April 1. You do not have to have taken a writing or art or photography class at OLLI to submit. You **do** have to be a current OLLI member. Below are the rules and regulations about submitting; be sure to follow them closely.

OLLI *Reflections* Submissions 2019

Send an e-mail with the following required information in the body of the e-mail:

- Your **name**
- Your **phone number** and **e-mail address**
- A **short third-person biography** (“Sam Jones is a writer who...” not “I am a writer who...”) **35-word maximum**)
- The **category** of work you are submitting
 - Art (include the medium — oil, watercolor, pastels, ink, pencil, etc., or photo)
 - Poetry
 - Prose (include genre — fiction, memoir, essay)
- The **title** of your work (same as the file name of your electronic submission; see below)

Attach each submission to a separate e-mail and send it to tbaehr@aol.com with **Reflections** in the subject line.

NOTE: Submissions will be acknowledged starting the week of March 18.

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The rules (Read these carefully. You must follow all the rules.)

General

Deadline is April 1, 2019.

- You must be a current OLLI member.
- You may submit up to two works in each of the three categories. **Each submission must be sent as an attachment in a separate e-mail.**
- Do not put your name anywhere on your submission. All submissions are judged “blind.” If the painting or drawing you photograph has your name on it, cover the name.
- If you submit elsewhere, you must let us know if your work is accepted. If we accept your work, you must inform anyone else to whom you submitted your work.

Written submissions

- Prose: 1,000 words or less, 12-point type, double-spaced, one-inch margins, pages numbered
- Poetry: 12-point type, single-spaced, pages numbered
- Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text format (rtf) **only.** We can NOT process Apple Pages or Adobe .pdf files!
- We cannot accept revisions to your submission after we receive your entry.

Photo and art submissions

- Electronic (digital) file in .jpg or .jpeg format (this is the regular format for most cameras)
- Artwork: Take a digital picture of your non-photo artwork. Include the medium and dimension of your piece.

Make sure that you name or rename the electronic file (written or photo or art) with the **same title** as you list in the actual submission. **If you don't do this, we may lose track of your submission!**

- For a story titled “Joe’s Boat House,” send an attachment with the file name [joesboathouse.doc](#)
- For a photo titled “Sunset at Biddeford Pool,” send an attachment with the file name [sunsetatbiddefordpool.jpg](#)

Don't let this technical stuff stop you! If you have questions or problems, get in touch with our submissions manager, Tim Baehr, at tbaehr@aol.com or 899-1043, after March 18.



Great Courses at OLLI



To enrich your enjoyment of the fine courses offered by OLLI—or to explore something new—we invite you to peruse the shelves of DVDs from the *Great Courses* series, located in the OLLI office (VHS format tapes are shelved downstairs in the OLLI library). Below are the DVDs (and a few CDs) currently available for loan under the History category (some other relevant courses might be found under Religion; this and other categories will be cited in the next newsletter). If “text” is noted, it means either a transcript of the tape or a course guidebook is also available. There is a sign-out sheet by the shelves of *Great Courses*. Please list your name and date. Please return your choice after a few months so others may enjoy it too.

History

The African Experience: From “Lucy” to Mandela	3 parts; text
American Military History	1 part; text
Ancient Greek Civilizations	2 parts, CD; text
The Barbarian Empires of the Steppes	1 part; text
Between the Rivers: The History of Ancient Mesopotamia	3 parts; text
Big History	parts 2, 3, 4 in; text for all parts
Cities of the Ancient World	1 part; text
Civil Liberties and the Bill of Rights	parts 1-3; text
Cosmos (a CD, is shelved under Religion)	
Discovering Your Roots: An Introduction to Genealogy	1 part; text
An Economic History of the World	1 part; text
Europe and Western Civilization	4 parts; text
Fall of the Pagans and the Origins of Medieval Christianity	1 part; text
Five Thousand Years of Chinese History	1 part DVD; CDs
Food: A Cultural History	1 part; text
Foundations of Eastern Civilization	1 part; text
Great Ancient Civilizations of Asia Minor	2 parts; text
Great Battles of the Ancient World	2 parts
The Great Tours: Greece and Turkey	DVDs
The Great Trials of World History	1 part; texts
The High Middle Ages	part 1
History of Ancient Egypt	4 parts; text
History of Ancient Rome	4 parts; text
History of Ancient Rome and Egypt	CDs
History of England	1 part; text
A History of Freedom	CDs; text
History’s Great Military Blunders	1 part; text
How the Crusades Changed History	2 parts; text
Human Prehistory and the First Civilizations	parts 1-3
The Industrial Revolution	1 part; text
Late Antiquity: Crisis and Transformation	1 part; text
The Late Middle Ages	part 2 only
London: A Short History (we have 2 editions of this)	2 parts; text

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Great Courses (Continued from page 8)

Making History: How Great Historians Interpret the Past	2 parts; text
Native Peoples of North America	1 part; text
The Origin of Civilization	1 part; text
The Other 1492	text only
Pompeii: Daily Life in an Ancient Roman City	1 part; text
Privacy, Property, and Free Speech: Law and the Constitution	1 part; text
The Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Rise of Nations	4 parts
The Skeptics' Guide to American History	1 part; text
The Terror of History	2 parts; text
Utopia and Terror in the 20th Century	2 parts; text
Victorian Britain	3 parts; text
War, Peace and Power: Diplomatic History of Europe	3 parts; text
The Wisdom of History	1 part; text
The World of Byzantium	1 part; text
The World Was Never the Same: Events That Changed History	2 parts; text

—Elsa van Bergen

Check Before You Venture Out!

You know the drill: If USM is closed or has modified opening or closing times, OLLI does the same thing. Note that if there's a modified opening or closing time, and it overlaps your class time (even a little), there will be no class that day.

Also remember that closing announcements via TV or radio or diplomatic pouch, or whatever, are not entirely reliable.

So call **780-4800, USM's dedicated Storm Line.** Put it on your phone's contact list, or write it on a sticky note and stick it to the fridge.

You can also arrange to have USM opening/closing notices sent to your e-mail and/or texted to your phone. Go here: <https://usm.bbportal.com/>, click "Sign me up," and follow the instructions. Detailed step-by-step instructions are on the OLLI website: <https://usm.maine.edu/olli/emergency-notifications-texte-mail>.



**Seriously?
Did you call the Storm Line?**

**Remember to pick up a CLYNK bag at the office for your deposit bottles and cans!
Proceeds benefit OLLI.**



Walking Club's Plans for March

On Wednesday, March 13, we will snowshoe or walk at Gull Crest in Cape Elizabeth, where we walked previously one fall and remarked it would be a good place to try in the winter. Let's hope the weather cooperates.

On Monday, March 25, we will be returning to Winslow Park in Freeport. Please realize we may change a date or site if the weather is uncooperative.

You may opt to walk in boots with grippers if snow conditions aren't good for snowshoeing. Call me at 846-3304 if you have a question. We'll plan to eat lunch nearby for both walks, so bring your lunch.

For the first walk, we will meet at the Back Cove parking lot across from Hannaford at 9:50 am to carpool. For the second, we will meet at 9:50 at Exit 17 off Rt. 295 in Yarmouth, at the Park and Ride Information Center.

—Rae Garcelon



Kristina MacCormick chooses the safest way to negotiate the icy hill.



The small but hardy group of walkers who braved the elements and challenging terrain at Riverside Golf Course in February

Dining Out Visits Louie's Grille

Here we go, to the place you have been wanting to try: Louie's Grille in Cumberland Center!

This cozy little joint is in the town of Cumberland, and the locals swear by it. Come for the House Wedge Salad; the burgers, including a vegan, soy free model; and/or the Fried Haddock Basket at only \$12. You won't be disappointed.

This will be a first for us and the last lunch for the season. Next month we go back to OLLI Night Out. So do join us.

WHEN: Wednesday,
March 13, at 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Louie's Grille,
319 Main St.,
Cumberland, Maine.
For directions, go to
www.louiesgrille.com

RESERVATIONS: Call or
write by noon, Tuesday,
March 12.

—Barbara Bardack
bravalascale@gmail.com;
829-1240

