Profile

Jacqueline Bucar

This ‘Franco-maniac’ is both a teacher and student

During her childhood, Jacqueline Bucar’s non-English speaking grandmother lived with the family, so Italian became her own first language. The Connecticut native quickly mastered English, naturally, but in some sense “I didn’t realize I was American till I was nineteen.” That would have been during college at the University of Connecticut, where she majored in French. Jacqui went on to teach high school French for many years and remains a self-described “Franco-manic.”

This OLLI polygot bought a house in Old Orchard Beach in 2003, to which she and her husband Jim moved permanently in 2009. Jacqui has been teaching “Le Francais Intermédiaire” to other OLLI Francophiles for almost five years. She previously taught a multimedia course in which students studied the “poetry” of French lyrics before listening to the songs made famous by French singers such as Edith Piaf. She also offered a course on French film. Needless to say, all classroom discussion took place en français.

The French language and culture are everywhere chez les Bucar. At home, Jacqui watches French television and listens to French satellite radio. She started a French book club (unaffiliated with OLLI) that meets every six weeks to read and discuss French

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Jacqueline Bucar

bestsellers and other literature. This summer she spent five weeks traveling throughout France—from Brittany to Paris to the Rivera.

Jacqui grew up in the New Haven area. After receiving her bachelor’s degree from UConn, she earned a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, focusing on the two fields of history and literature, from Wesleyan University. After 16 years as a French teacher, she began to feel the effects of job insecurity when declining enrollment caused massive layoffs year after year.

An attorney friend suggested that she pursue a legal career. This seemed an extension of her background in history and government, and she thought it would be “interesting and intellectually challenging.”

By this time Jacqui was the mother of three children, the oldest of whom was eight. With the help of her supportive husband, off she went to law school at UConn three nights a week. J.D. degree in hand, she began her second career, with an initial focus on employment law. She became a partner in the New Haven law firm of Tyler Cooper and Alcorn, one of the oldest firms in New England, where she dealt with such issues as age and sex discrimination. About five years into her tenure, she established the immigration law department, then a fairly new specialty in which her work became well known.

The world of family-based and employment-based immigration law, as well as litigation related to deportation (now called “removal”) hearings enabled Jacqui to work with many interesting people at Yale and other institutions of higher learning throughout the country. In 2006 she moved to the New Haven law office of Murtha Cullina. From 2009 until her retirement in 2014, she telecommuted from Maine. Jacqui was active in the American Immigration Lawyers Association and was recognized many times by her peers as one of the best immigration lawyers in America.

Jacqui is a docent at the Portland Museum of Art and president of the Docent Council. As a docent, she gives gallery talks to adults and museum tours to school groups. She is also a guide at the Winslow Homer studio in Prout’s Neck. She loves European art, especially the Impressionists, among whom Van Gogh is a favorite.

Jacqui and her husband have traveled widely—to Italy many times, to numerous other European countries (including of course France, again and again), Tahiti, and Australia. This fall they will visit the Scandinavian countries.

The Bucars have one son, Jason Hammel, who owns a restaurant in Chicago, and two daughters, Alexandra Gildart of South Portland, and Danièle Coté of Lewiston. Each of the three offspring has two children, a boy and a girl. These six grandchildren are Jacqui’s greatest joy.

Jacqui has taken many OLLI courses, starting with Ted Frazer’s “The Religious Novel.” She has favored art and literature—Tan Larrabee’s course on Matisse, John Collins’s offerings on Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky, her husband’s class on Bulgakov’s The Master and Margarita. She also much enjoyed Steve Hrehovcik’s “Drawing for Beginners,” although she took that course with “fear and trembling.”

As a faculty member and a student, Jacqui is impressed by the fact that “OLLI members are interested in a lot of things” and that “here you can explore things you wouldn’t explore otherwise.”

These are familiar phenomena at OLLI—breadth and expansion of learning. Jacqui Bucar has manifested them throughout her life and continues to do so—linguistically and culturally, professionally, and now in the many facets of her retirement.

—Amy Liston
Advisory Board

The OLLI Advisory Board is fresh off its day-long retreat at the President’s house on the Gorham campus of USM. We spent the day finding out interesting things about each other, and realizing what a wealth of experience and interest we have to draw on in our work together for OLLI this year. We examined all the things at OLLI we wanted to continue, and thought about things that we were missing—things that could improve everyone’s experience. Finally we began looking ahead to the 20th Anniversary of OLLI at USM and ways to commemorate and celebrate the occasion. Look for details in the weeks and months ahead. I am left feeling terribly lucky to be working with such thoughtful capable people and optimistic about all we can accomplish together. Let the Fall Term begin!

—Janet Stebbins, Chair; jjstebbi@gmail.com

From the Education Committee

“Investigating Maine History:
The Disappearance of Joseph Griffin”

Jan Eakins Thursday, Sept. 29, 11:45–12:30 p.m., Room 211, Wishcamper Center

Joseph Griffin was a disciplined and hard-working native of Brunswick, Maine, who at the age of 25 took a risk that bewildered his family and friends. We will explore Joseph’s surprising life from two perspectives—first as a research puzzle, and then as a true adventure story.

Jan is a cultural historian and writer who recently taught media history and writing for five years at SUNY Plattsburgh (M.A. Historic Preservation, Goucher College; M.A. Mass Communication, University of Wisconsin-Madison).

She is a trustee of the Maine Historical Society and a docent at Fifth Maine Regiment Museum. She lectures throughout Maine and is writing a history of Mainers in the California gold rush. She teaches history at OLLI.

Fall 2016 OLLI RAFFLE!!

YOU can support the OLLI Scholarship Fund
AND have a chance to win FREE CLASSES!!

Oct. 24 – Nov. 4, 2016, Wishcamper Center Lobby

(What will the funniest hat be this year??)
NOTES FROM SUSAN

It’s Back-to-School time once again. Hope you all had a wonderful summer. As we start the Fall term, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the OLLI faculty, whether they are teaching this term or not. As you know, all of our faculty are volunteers. When I first came to OLLI 15 years ago, I didn’t think the program could survive on volunteers. Boy, was I wrong! Our faculty has grown every year. They are some of the most amazing, dedicated, talented people I have ever met. In addition to the time in the classroom, they have all put in countless hours of thought and preparation. OLLI could not exist without them.

Be sure to thank your instructors this fall, and think about joining their ranks. I can’t wait to see you all when classes begin.

—Susan Morrow, Assistant Director for Program

Welcome (back) to OLLI!

The information below is for both new OLLI members and returning members who may not have memorized all there is to know. The information has been gathered from multiple sources, including the OLLI website: http://usm.maine.edu/olli, and divided into “Need to Know” and “Nice to Know” sections. Pat Walsh and Tim Baehr compiled and edited the information.

NEED TO KNOW

The OLLI Organization and Its Offerings

OLLI Organization

**OLLI Advisory Board:** The Advisory Board oversees and guides all OLLI development and ongoing activity. Meetings are held monthly and are open to all OLLI members.

**Standing Committees:** Board members head various standing committees, which organize and lead OLLI activities. The Board members and committees are listed in the masthead on page 3.

**OLLI Staff:** Paid staff members include Susan Morrow, Assistant Director for Program, Rob Hyssong, OLLI Program Coordinator, and two half-time administrative assistant, Linda Skinner and Sue Schier. All other office positions are filled by volunteers.

OLLI at USM is a member of both the 17-member Maine Senior College Network (MSCN) and the 119-member OLLI national organization. Here are the websites:

- OLLI at USM (our own OLLI, the one you have joined): www.usm.maine.edu/olli
- Maine Senior College Network: www.mainseniorcollege.org
- OLLI National Resource Center: www.osher.net

**Location and Parking** OLLI at USM is located on the Portland campus of the University of Southern Maine. All classes are held at the Wishcamper Center on Bedford Street. The OLLI office is located on the second floor of the Wishcamper Center.

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Need to Know: OLLI Organization and Offerings  
(Continued from page 4)

Free parking is available in the USM parking garage (entrance off Bedford Street.) Push the green button on entering and the gate will open; the exit gate opens automatically when you approach it.

Classes, Lectures, and Workshops

**OLLI classes** typically run for eight weeks in the Spring and Fall terms and six weeks in the Winter and Summer terms. Each class is two hours long, with a short break in the middle. The fee for each class is $50.

*The SAGE lecture series* offers eight weekly lectures on Tuesday mornings in the Spring and Fall terms. SAGE provides academic lecture and discussion programs, chosen by the SAGE committee. The fee for each of the two 8-week series is $50; walk-in seats are generally available for $10.

**OLLI workshops** take place mostly on Saturday in the fall and spring and Friday in the winter and summer and may consist of one to three sessions. The fees vary for the workshops.

Special Interest Groups

Eighteen Special Interest Groups (SIGs) provide OLLI members a chance to meet and explore various topics and activities outside the instructional curriculum. They range from book clubs to walking and bicycling groups to explorers of food and wine. You’ll find a complete list in the Fall catalog and elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Special Events

OLLI offers special events from time to time, lasting from one to three days. These may include the following: “Wrinkle in Time,” which explores a particular era in our history; “One Book-One Community,” which centers on discussion of a single book and its impact; “Writers’ Showcase,” which presents readings from OLLI writers; and end-of-term festivities with an art exhibit and performances of music, drama, and dance by OLLI students.

OLLI also organizes day excursions to museums, gardens, architectural treasures, and so on; and longer expeditions to overseas destinations.

**OLLI Reflections Journal**

In the fall of each year OLLI publishes an art and literature journal consisting entirely of submissions by OLLI members. A volunteer editor and group of volunteers choose among the many creative works of poetry, prose, and visual art. Submissions are blind: the committee does not know who submitted a work until it has been selected. The submission form and instructions are available here: 

http://usm.maine.edu/olli/olli-reflections-magazine

**OLLI Membership**

The annual membership fee is $25 and runs from July 1 to June 30. Your annual $25 OLLI membership benefits include…

- Free access to the USM parking garage
- Access to the USM libraries, computer labs, and the bookstore
- Preferential mailing of course catalogs and SAGE brochures
- Free participation in any OLLI Special Interest Group
- Reciprocal membership within the Maine Senior College Network
- A free OLLI-designated USM student photo ID (see the office to obtain one)
- An OLLI nametag for identification among peers
- Guest access to USM’s on-campus wireless Internet

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Need to Know: OLLI Organization and Offerings  (Continued from page 5)

USM student discounts and special offers are listed here:
http://usm.maine.edu/sullivancomplex/discounts

Class Registration
Registration for classes is on a first-come, first-served basis. Detailed instructions for registering online are included in every course catalog. If you need help registering online, the OLLI staff is available to help you register in the computer lab at the Wishcamper Center.

Dates and times for online registration are included in the course catalogs, as well as the date for mail-in, drop-off, and phone registrations. Online registration is available first and is recommended for a better chance of getting into the classes of your choice before they are filled. Some classes fill quickly the first day of online registration.

OLLI Courtesies

OLLI Nametags
If you don’t already have one, or need a replacement, the OLLI office can provide a nametag for you to pick up at the office. Please be sure to wear it to every class and OLLI function as a courtesy to your instructors and OLLI members.

Scent Policy
As a courtesy to students with allergies, please avoid using scented products such as colognes and aftershaves, fragrances and perfumes, or scented lotions and creams while attending OLLI classes and activities.

Staying Informed

OLLI provides several ways for you to learn about courses and events.

Catalogs
OLLI at USM produces a course catalog for each term. In addition to classes, each catalog contains much of the information found in this Newsletter article. Catalogs are posted to the OLLI at USM website and announced via e-mail. Current OLLI members also receive a paper copy in the mail.

The twice-yearly SAGE catalog is also posted online and mailed to current OLLI members.

Newsletter
OLLI at USM produces the monthly OLLI Newsletter. The Newsletter is available online on the OLLI website. The Newsletter offers informative and interesting articles about OLLI programs, trips, events, and people.

Website
The OLLI at USM website contains everything you need to know about your organization and is updated regularly. OLLI course catalogs and SAGE brochures are also online at www.usm.maine.edu/olli

Weather Notices
If USM is closed or has modified hours due to weather or other circumstances, OLLI will also be closed or have modified hours. Call the USM Storm Line at 780-4800. Radio and TV announcements may not be current.
Need to Know: Staying Informed  
(Continued from page 6)

**Bookstore**

The USM Bookstore is located directly across Bedford Street from the front entrance of the Wishcamper building. Some OLLI classes have required books that are made available at the bookstore.

**E-mail Messages**

The OLLI office periodically sends e-mails to members to announce postings of publications, events, and other information. *Your e-mail address will never be shared with anyone except faculty in whose classes you are enrolled.*

**Literature Racks**

Two literature racks in the Wishcamper Center post material about activities both in the community and at OLLI at USM. You are welcome to take any literature from these racks. They are located on the first floor, directly across from the elevator, and at the top of the staircase on the second floor, just outside room 205.

**OLLI Bulletin Board**

Located across from the elevator on the first floor, one of the black bulletin boards is designated for OLLI use. Instructions on how to post are located on the board.

**Electronic Display in the Wishcamper Lobby**

This display provides announcements of events and is the source for locating classes at the Wishcamper Center.

**The OLLI Library and Glickman Family Library**

OLLI volunteers maintain a library conveniently located just off the Wishcamper lobby. Just follow the posted directions to borrow and return books.

USM’s Glickman Family Library is in the building just beyond the Wishcamper Center (looking at it from the parking garage). Your USM-OLLI identification card can be used for library privileges. This link lists the library hours and services: [https://usm.maine.edu/library/about-libraries](https://usm.maine.edu/library/about-libraries).

**USM News and Events Web Page**

USM departments and organizations post interesting events on their news page. As OLLI at USM members, we may attend many of these events. Check with the event coordinator(s) or leader(s) first: [http://usm.maine.edu/news](http://usm.maine.edu/news)

**NICE TO KNOW**

**About OLLI at USM**

OLLI started as Senior College in 1997 at the University of Southern Maine. It began with a simple vision: to provide a stimulating program for older learners. A generous endowment from the Bernard Osher Foundation in 2000 encouraged expanded programming opportunities. In recognition of the Osher Foundation’s gift, the organization’s name was changed to Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, or OLLI.

In the summer of 2008, OLLI moved into its new home in the Wishcamper Center at USM, allowing the program to expand from Fridays-only to five days a week. Thanks to dedicated community and university leaders and volunteers, our OLLI at USM has grown into one of America’s fastest growing and leading programs in lifelong learning, with over 1800 active members.

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Volunteer Opportunities at OLLI

“OLLI runs on volunteers” is the slogan at the bottom of each page of the Newsletter. Except for the paid office staff, all committees, classes, and workshops are led by volunteers.

The OLLI website has a comprehensive section for OLLI faculty including teaching tips and techniques and how to submit a course proposal: http://usm.maine.edu/olli/information-olli-faculty.

There are many other volunteer opportunities at OLLI. After you familiarize yourself with the organization you may want to consider volunteering for a specific sub-committee. Talk with others who volunteer and contact the chair for more information or to see if volunteers are needed. Remember: “OLLI runs on volunteers!”

Becoming an OLLI Instructor

OLLI instructors are not only retired teachers (though some are), but people from all walks of life who have a passion for a particular discipline, subject matter, skill, hobby, and so on, and who want to share it with others.

You can call or e-mail the OLLI office for a course proposal form. If you have questions, e-mail the Education Chair, John Sutherland (jsuthkarina@gmail.com). The submission deadline for the each term is announced via an e-mail message.

Also: Each spring the Education Committee hosts a Brown Bag Workshop for new and aspiring OLLI faculty. Watch for the date in your OLLI Newsletter.

Bike & Nosh Group September Rides

Two rides are scheduled for September. If you want to participate and you haven’t yet signed up for the group, please write to Shoshana Hoose (shoshanahooose@gmail.com) to get a release form and other information. If you are already signed up, please tell the ride leader that you plan to join us.

Thursday, Sept. 15, at 10 a.m. — York County Coastline, Part II. This 22-mile ride will include coastal Kennebunk and Kennebunkport. We will stop at some scenic spots including the Franciscan Monastery in Kennebunk and the blowing cave in Kennebunkport. Enjoy lunch by the water at Cape Porpoise.

From Portland take I-95 to Exit 25 (Kennebunk). After the toll booth turn left and then left again at the light and continue on Route 35 for 1.4 miles. At the rotary bear right on Storer Street. After 0.3 miles turn right on Berry Court and park in the Lafayette Center parking lot near the river. Please let ride leader, Mogens Ravn, know if you are coming at mravn2@gmail.com (730-1164).

Friday, Sept. 30, at 9:30 a.m. — Deering neighborhood and Evergreen Cemetery loop, Portland. Meet at the corner of Brighton and Bradley Street (ride start/parking/restroom facilities — 201 Bradley — my home). This charming city ride will be a loop of about 11 miles on neighborhood streets and bike byways, and through Evergreen Cemetery past the Wilde Memorial Chapel, Chisholm Mausoleum, and the Ponds. Mid-point stop with facilities will be at the Barron Center.

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Special Interest Groups at OLLI

From September through June, OLLI at USM offers many diverse activities beyond the classroom. To participate in any Special Interest Group, you must be a current OLLI member. **NOTE: Special Interest Groups are free to OLLI members and not intended as ongoing instructional events.**

**Arts and Crafts:** Try your hand at a new skill on the first Thursday of each month at 3:15 p.m. A member of the group will demonstrate and lead an activity (fabric and paper crafts, jewelry making, book arts, knitting, crocheting, mixed-media collage, etc.). Contact Sue Jennings at jensusa10@gmail.com for more information.

**American Foreign Policy:** This group meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 3:15 to 4:45 p.m. to discuss issues selected by members. Discussions are led on a rotating basis. All OLLI members with an interest in American foreign policy are invited to join, discuss, and learn. Contact Betsy Mayberry at betsy.c.mayberry@gmail.com for more information.

**Bike and Nosh:** If you like to bike, how about joining a group of OLLI members for a ride every couple of weeks, with a delicious treat along the way? Contact Shoshana Hoose at shoshanahoose@gmail.com for more information.

**Book Club:** Members meet the third Thursday of each month from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. to discuss readings from a variety of genres, including contemporary novels, classics, biographies, memoirs, short stories, etc. Contact Elsa van Bergen at ejvanbergen2@gmail.com for more information.

**Bridge Club:** Those who enjoy playing bridge for fun are welcome to join this group every Wednesday from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. For more information, contact Barbara Freeman at bhfreewoman@gmail.com.

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Special Interest Groups  (Continued from page 9)

Elders for Future Generations: This is an ongoing, peer-facilitated exploration of the advocacy role seniors can play in shaping policy to promote the well-being of future generations. Contact Fred Brancato at opus3@twc.com for more information.

History Book Club: Members read and discuss one work of history on the second Wednesday of each month from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. Works include social, political, economic, and foreign-policy history as well as biography, autobiography, memoir, and historical fiction. Contact Susan Gesing at susangesing@gmail.com or Dawn Leland at jelanddm@gmail.com for more information.

Mah Jongg: Join players every Friday from 3:15 to 6 p.m. in Room 103 at Wishcamper. National Mah Jongg rules and cards are used. Contact Terry Garrett at terrya@maine.rr.com for more information.

OLLI Night Out: Come enjoy good food and good company with fellow OLLI gourmands who meet periodically at local restaurants. Watch the OLLI Newsletter for upcoming dates and locations.

OLLI Singers: This group, co-directed by experienced leaders and supported by a skilled accompanist, meets every Thursday at 3:15 p.m. to have fun with vocal music and prepare for several performances each year. All are welcome. Contact Chuck Hornberger at ckhornberger@gmail.com for more information.

OLLI Ukes! This group meets on Mondays from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. to share and have fun playing a wide variety of ukulele music. All levels welcome. Contact Cheryl Eling at cfeling@gmail.com for more information.

Outdoor/Walking Club: Outdoor enthusiasts gather twice a month for invigorating walks in interesting places. They meet at the Back Cove parking lot and carpool. Walking schedules for the year can be found in the OLLI office and in literature racks in Wishcamper. Contact Rae Garcelon at raegarcelon@gmail.com for more information.

Photography Club: Shutterbugs at OLLI at USM meet and learn from each other while sharing their love of photography. Contact Sharon Roberts at sharonlh@gwi.net for more information.

Recorder Ensemble: In addition to having fun making music together, the Recorder Ensemble also may perform at OLLI at USM events and venues. Contact Karen Luse at luse.karen@gmail.com for more information.

Science Reading Club: This group is for those interested in exploring science through readings based on members’ interests and recommendations. It meets at 3:15 on the third Tuesday of each month. Contact Elizabeth Housewright at ehouswhright@gmail.com for more information.

Senior Players: Thespians perform staged readings twice a year at USM and off campus on several occasions. Senior Players is open to all OLLI at USM members. Contact Allan Mills at aljeevbr@gmail.com for more information.

Ski Club: A seasonal outlet for downhill skiing enthusiasts, the club welcomes new and returning members. Check the OLLI Newsletter in season for schedules. Contact Lois Winter at lwinter@maine.rr.com for more information.

Wine-Tasting Club: Let a sommelier educate your palate during evening wine-and-appetizer pairings at a local restaurant. The group meets at 5 p.m. every month or so. To join an e-mail list for advance notice of date, price, and venue, contact Jack Lynch at JLynch001@maine.rr.com.
Walking Club Plans Two September Treks

After several successful walks this summer we will start off the fall season on **Wednesday, Sept. 14**, at Reid State Park in Georgetown, just a few miles from Bath. This is a new walk for us along our beautiful coast at a favorite state park after Labor Day.

**On Tuesday, Sept. 27,** we have scheduled the walk on Higgins Beach ([www.hbamaine.com/](http://www.hbamaine.com/)). Please note the change from the original schedule. Because it is after Labor Day, you will be able to park at no cost in the municipal parking lot next to the public bath house right near the beach. Marilyn Reynolds will host and will meet you at the parking area before the walk to give you directions to her house, where we will eat lunch. Call her at 883-4012 if you have questions.

For both walks we will meet at the Back Cove parking lot to carpool at 9:55 a.m.—back to our normal time. Since it takes about an hour to get to Reid State, plan your day accordingly. Please bring a few dollars for your driver to help with gas. Bring your lunch and water. You may need sunscreen and bug dope for both walks.

If you are a new walker or have questions, please call Rae Garcelon at 846-3304.

First OLLI Night Out to Be Authentic Mexican

A new restaurant in South Portland will host the first OLLI Night Out of the year.

**Guerrero Maya** boasts of the best margarita in town, authentic Mexican dishes, including Mayan specialties and fresh, local ingredients. Not part of a chain (yet), the building is screaming orange on the outside, but cozy and comfortable inside. See the menu here: [http://guerreromaya.com/menu/](http://guerreromaya.com/menu/)

All OLLI members are encouraged to join us for one or all of our get-togethers. We order from the regular menu, sit as a group and receive separate checks for our meals. Advance reservations are required so the restaurant can set up for us.

Don’t miss our first time this year. Renew old friendships and make new ones.

**When:** Monday, Sept. 19, at 6 p.m.

**Where:** Guerrero Maya, 449 Westbrook St., South Portland, right next to Pape Chevorlet.

**Reservations:** Call or write Barbara Bardack, 865-2009, lascala2@comcast.net, by noon Sunday, September 18.