# OLLI Insider



## **Greetings OLLI Members & Friends:**

## Rave Reviews on "The Everglades" Web Event



If you missed the lecture, a recording of it is available at OLLI Takes a Virtual Tour of the Everglades.

### Free OLLI ZOOM Lecture/Workshops. Put Them on Your Calendar

#### Viruses and Vaccines on March 15 at 10:00

Dr. Blake Gillespie, Chemistry Department Chair at CSUCI and a past OLLI Instructor will conduct a two-hour free ZOOM lecture on Viruses and Vaccines focused on the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the disease it causes, COVID-19. He will compare the CoV-2 virus with similar viruses, provide an update on COVID-19, and discuss the protection anticipated from the vaccines already approved and those in the pipeline.

### National Park Service Ellis Island Virtual Tour on March 16 at 10:00

OLLI's second National Park Service virtual tour via Zoom will consist of a one-hour movie followed by a one-hour question and answer period on the history and national significance of Ellis Island to America's history.

OLLI will distribute flyers with additional information shortly.

## **Spring Courses and Schedule**

We hope you are enjoying the Spring 1 session. What courses did you take? Please provide feedback on the courses you took or started when OLLI notifies you that the Satisfaction Survey is open. Your input is important as the Curriculum Team needs your feedback to maintain and improve the quality of OLLI courses. The Spring 2 OLLI catalog is available online at OLLI Spring 2 Catalog.

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Spring 1 Schedule													Spring 2 Schedule																

## Who's Who in our OLLI Community – Meet Purna Pai, OLLI Member since 2015



**Purna Pai** is a native of India and came to the United States to do graduate studies in Chemical Engineering fifty years ago. He landed in Michigan and worked there until retirement in 2014, when he moved to Port Hueneme to be close to family, to spend time with his grandchildren, and to enjoy the great SoCal weather. On arrival, Purna didn't know a single soul here. He felt it was important to be physically active, to become socially interactive and to keep his mind active. "As an ardent long-distance runner, I was in good shape, but socializing and learning new things were a definite challenge", Purna admitted.

He fortuitously came upon CSUCI's OLLI program in 2015 and liked that OLLI members shared his social and intellectual needs. Purna said, "I like the

wide range of subjects and the professional instructors. I can absorb as much or as little of the knowledge imparted and not worry about tests."

Purna added, "I am an engineer by profession and my academic career was mainly technical and math oriented and lacked liberal arts and other science courses such as archeology, biology, and astronomy. OLLI provides me opportunities to explore these subjects and expand my horizons." Purna also appreciates the cutting-edge subjects such as artificial intelligence and epigenetics. He looks forward to the resumption of OLLI field trips and he hopes to travel abroad with an OLLI group to explore and learn about different cultures.

Besides OLLI, Purna belongs to the Lions Club and the US Navy League. He volunteers at Food Share, the local food pantry which distributes food to the needy, and at Port Hueneme Historical Society Museum as a docent.

## **Recordings of Spring Courses**

The recorded classes for each course from the two Spring terms will be available three days after the completion of each lesson on the OLLI website at <u>OLLI Spring 2021 Class Recordings</u>. Anyone who signed up for unlimited courses can binge on every lesson for every course. Just remember to use the password(s) used to sign on to the Zoom presentation. If you do not remember the password(s), you can contact OLLI by email at OLLI@csuci.edu to obtain your password.

## **OLLI is YOU -- Start Some CI OLLI Online Social Events**

Do you remember the fun you had being with your fellow OLLI members in the classroom, having lunch after class at the Town Center or going to Yolanda's for a meet and greet? Would you like to bring some of that feeling back with online social events while Covid-19 keeps us apart? Would you please help us make these gatherings possible?

The OLLI National Resource Center newsletter describes some fun programs where members can interact and we wish to build our own CI OLLI online social events. We need your help to plan and execute new online events? Also, if you are on Facebook you can help by discussing the value of OLLI with your Facebook friends.

If you are interested, the Advisory Council leadership and OLLI Program staff will help you make it happen. Just contact Michael Trainor by email at OLLI@csuci.edu. Remember, OLLI is YOU.

