

OLLI Insider

Volume 2



Greetings OLLI Members & Friends,

We hope you had an enlightening and fun Fall 2 session. What courses did you take? Be on the lookout for your chance to provide feedback on the courses you took or started. Your input is important as the Curriculum Team selects future OLLI courses.

New Leadership at CSUCI

Interim President – Richard Yao.

CSUCI will have a new interim president for 18 months. Richard Yao will assume the duties of Interim President of CSUCI on January 11, 2021, following the departure of President Dr. Erika D. Beck, who will become president of California State University Northridge. Dr. Yao currently serves as CSUCI's vice president for student affairs. A hearty cheer for both.



Provost - Mitch Avila

After a nationwide search and a rigorous selection process, Dr. Beck named Mitch Avila, Ph.D as the University's new provost. With an academic career that spans nearly three decades, Dr. Avila is currently the Dean of the College of Arts & Humanities at California State University Dominguez Hills. Dr. Avila officially begins his tenure as CSUCI Provost on Jan. 1, 2021



Spring 1



Welcome back Jennie Luna



Welcome back Dr. Jennie Luna to the OLLI Spring Session. Dr. Luna is an Associate Professor at CSUCI, and her course will be on the Mesoamerican language Nahuatl and the philosophy of its speakers. Born and raised in East San José, California, she is the granddaughter and daughter of migrant of farm workers and cannery workers. She is first in her family to attend and graduate college. She has a doctorate in Native American Studies from UC Davis and a bachelor's degree in Chicano Studies from UC Berkeley. Dr. Luna has studied Nahuatl, an important native language of Mesoamerica, for 20 years and has been an Aztec dancer for 30 years. Dr. Luna's research focuses on

the contemporary history of Danza Mexica/Azteca tradition and its impact on Xicana Indígena identity. Currently, she is writing a book on the history of Aztec dance, which she hopes to complete next year.

Dr. Luna is proud owner of a Xoloizcuintli dog named Yolotzin and enjoys taking her for walks on the beach. She also promotes and centers on a decolonized diet, honoring body, mind, and spirit. She enjoys cooking Indigenous foods and learning about sacred medicines and herbs used for healing. Dr. Luna has been on the CSUCI faculty for seven years and this will be her third OLLI course.



The Everglades

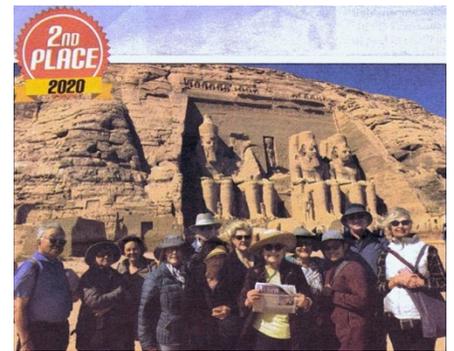
Want to see an alligator up close (hopefully)? Join Ranger Chris Beers as he guides us on a live walking tour of the Everglades. It's free – it's OLLI Zoom. Before the walking tour, we will get an hour video presentation showing highlights of the Everglades National Park. The November tour was postponed to Tuesday January 14, 2021, at 10 AM. If you haven't registered yet, please send your name to Michael at OLLI@csuci.edu.

Recordings of Fall 1 Courses

The recorded classes for each course from the Fall term are available on the OLLI website at [OLLI Fall 2020 Class Recordings](#) until Spring courses begin. You can binge on every lesson for courses you have paid for. Just remember to use your password(s). If you do not remember the password(s), you can easily get them from OLLI at OLLI@csuci.edu

OLLI Travels

OLLI's intrepid travelers conducted a reconnaissance of Egypt in January 2020 in their mighty effort to get their picture into the local ACORN newspaper. Their diligence paid off. They received the Second Place for a photograph of the OLLI travelers holding an issue of the Acorn in front of the Abu Simbel World Heritage Site with its massive statues of Pharaoh Ramesses II.



Osher Capacity Grant for 2021

Your Advisory Council has worked with the Dean and OLLI staff to apply for a \$25,000 Osher Capacity Grant for 2021. If successful, it will help us improve our video presentations with better equipment and newer technology.

You are OLLI and OLLI is you.

How about becoming a class ambassador for a course you are already taking? It is easy. You help the instructor to know how the Zoom presentation looks, or how the video is playing. You turn off someone's noise microphone or annoying video. OLLI needs volunteers like you. Please share some of your precious time with the OLLI program. Please call Michael Trainor at 805-437-1694 or email OLLI@csuci.edu.



From OLLI to You