

OLLI Insider

Volume 4



Greetings OLLI Members & Friends:

CSUCI Happenings



Join us for an intimate OLLI hour with the new Interim President of Cal State Channel Islands – Dr. Richard Yao. We will hear about President Yao’s unconventional background leading to his appointment to this position. He will share his visions for CI and his hopes for the OLLI program. President Yao believes strongly in intergenerational programs and wants to include more OLLI members in ways to help undergraduates. He recognizes the value of OLLI members to the University community. President Yao will take questions from OLLI members in the Webinar. We are extremely fortunate to have President Yao spending a morning with OLLI and hope you will join us on Tuesday, June 8, at 9:30 AM. Please mark your calendar and register for President Yao’s event at [Olli at CSUCI Webinar with President Yao](#)

OLLI welcome Professor Jill Leafstedt as the Interim Dean of Extended University (and Associate Vice President for Digital Learning). Dr. Leafstedt joined CSUCI as a lecturer in 2002 and helped build many School of Education programs. In 2012 she joined CI’s Division of Technology and Innovation -- developing infrastructure, like the Faculty Innovations & Teaching Studio, to improve student learning. She worked to establish a Virtual Reality Incubator in Nursing Education, resulting in improved communication and expanded empathy for future practitioners. She also helped deploy Ekxobot, CSUCI’s artificial intelligence chatbot. If you have the opportunity to meet Dean Leafstedt, please give her a hearty OLLI welcome.



Summer 2021 Taste of OLLI

It’s almost summer and time for the OLLI Tastes – 25 two-hour classes covering so many fascinating topics. Do you want to learn about “The Great Power Struggle: US and China Today”? Then Herb Gooch has a class for you. How about the international crisis caused by water shortages? We have a class. Staying closer to home, Sam Mihara will share his story of living in a Japanese internment camp as a young boy – and comparing the scene to today’s immigration camps. Our own CI Biology professor Nitika Palmar will describe addictions and obesity from sugar and sugar substitutes. Want some music fun, we have Steve Cohen’s “the Legacy of French Opera”, Cary Ginell’s “Neil Diamond’s 80th Birthday Celebration” and Daniel Newman-Lessler’s “Black Composers – Time to Listen”.

June '21							July '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

All courses will be from 1:00 – 3:00 PM each day. Links to the Summer Taste of OLLI catalog will be available in early May and registration will start on May 24th.

Who's Who in our OLLI Community – Meet Al Reeves, OLLI Member since 2018



Our Spotlight OLLI member for this issue of the Insider is Dr. Clarence Reeves, MD. Commonly known to OLLI folks as Al, Dr. Reeves relocated from northern California where he grew up and has called Camarillo home since 1978.

Dr. Reeves went to medical school at UCLA, but Camarillo beckoned. Upon arriving in Camarillo, everyone thought he was going to work at the Camarillo State Hospital (now repurposed as CSUCI) but his actual plans were to join a private practice in Family Medicine. After 27 years in private practice, five years administering various Ventura County clinics, and three years as Chief Medical Officer of the Gold Coast Health Plan, Al retired, but has not cut the surly bonds of employment as he continues as a part-time contractor with Gold Coast Health Plan.

Al credits his involvement with OLLI to his wife. “I became interested in OLLI because my wife, Adrienne couldn’t stop talking about how great the classes were.” This year Al became a member of the OLLI events committee. His stellar achievement so far has been to arrange for the two National Park Service (NPS) virtual tours of Ellis Island and the Everglades. If you missed these virtual events, recordings are available at: [Ellis Island and Everglades Virtual Tours](#).

None of the couch-potato semi-retirement for Al. He regularly walks three miles a day, dabbles in maintaining a garden, and plays bridge (albeit on-line due to Covid restrictions). He also volunteers on the board of Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurses Association and at the Camarillo Farmer’s Market.

Spring 2021 Courses Satisfaction Survey

We hope you enjoyed the Spring 2 session. If you took courses, please complete the Satisfaction Survey for each course you took 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.

Exciting Trip by OLLI Students to Tunisia



Just where is Tunisia? It is on the Mediterranean Coast of North Africa wedged between Algeria and Libya. After attending Bill Garlington’s OLLI class, seven OLLI students took off for two weeks to see and discover for themselves the wonders of Tunisia. Most of them didn’t know what to expect.

The Tunisians love Harrisa, a hot chili paste that comes with every meal. Yikes! You can buy Tunisian Harrisa at Trader Joe’s.

Have you ever visited a UNESCO Heritage Site? The group visited several, including Carthage and Dougga.

Carthage was an important trading hub of the ancient world while Dougga is the best-preserved Roman town in North Africa.

From the town of Tozeur, located in the Sahara Desert, there was a 4-wheel drive to visit mountain oases and a hike to a beautiful waterfall. The drive crossing one of the great salt lakes of Africa was a fascinating experience. After several stops, they arrived at Tataouine. If it sounds familiar, it should be as Tataouine was the setting for the desert scenes in the first Star Wars movie.

A decidedly different experience was an overnight stay in a cave hotel. It was fun as long as you remembered to duck to avoid the low ceilings.



OLLI is YOU

Virtual Event Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

The OLLI Events Committee is pleased to announce a virtual OLLI get-together to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Join us to see how to make the perfect Margarita, how to assemble a dish of Fajitas without burning yourself on the “Careful – This is Very Hot” plate, and numerous other important life skills.

Click below to Register

[Cinco de Mayo RSVP](#)

A vertical poster for the 'Cinco de Mayo Fiesta 2021' event. The background is dark with colorful illustrations of a sombrero, a sugar skull, and a piñata. The text is in white and yellow. At the top, it says 'OLLI at CSUCI and the OLLI EVENTS COMMITTEE PRESENTS...'. Below that, 'CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA 2021' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. The date and time are 'MAY 5, 2021 | 3:00PM - 5:00PM ZOOM'. A yellow box says 'RSVP here!'. At the bottom, there are logos for 'Julio's Agave Grill' and 'Tortillas Grill & Cantina'. The text describes the event as a free Cinco de Mayo fiesta with an informative presentation and a fun Mexican cooking show.

Are You an OLLI Volunteer Candidate?

If you are interested in volunteering with OLLI, 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.