

**OLLI at Northwestern  
Advisory Council Meeting in Evanston  
September 14, 2018**

**Advisory Council Attending:**

Gloria Gleave, Naomi Fisher, Jerry Bernstein, Ann Rusnak, Joe Hinkel, Ron Denham, Philip Zawa , Nancy Worthington, Gail Bartlett, Gordon Mallett, Susan Kay, Laura Mongello, Marcia Lazar, James Roselle, Tom Buckley, John Drodow, Peg Romm, Carole Bass

**Director:** Kirsty Montgomery

**Advisory Council not in Attendance:**

David Anderson, Carol Dietz, Dick Dufour, Gail Miller, Evelyn Shaevel, Candice Dalrymple, Phyllis Handelman, Martha Bills, Willie Shaw

**Handouts from Director:**

- *35 Ideas to Help Improve an OLLI's Relationship with their Host University of College*
- Summary of Membership by Membership Categories
- List of Fall Study Groups including Enrollment Figures

The meeting began at 10 am with Gloria Gleave, as Evanston Campus Chair, presiding. Gloria welcomed the Advisory Council and expressed her appreciation for their service to OLLI. The Advisory Council members introduced themselves.

**Directors Report**

Kirsty introduced her report by highlighting the importance of transparency within OLLI and the availability of information to members.

- **Registration Update:** The change in registration fees was introduced this Fall. The half-year membership option was particularly popular. A 2-page application form was introduced for applying for a scholarship. Having written forms provides documentation for the process of awarding scholarships. The funds for scholarships is provided by the Member Fund.
- **Study Groups:** Evanston has more studies groups than in the past. The Wednesday afternoon New Yorker study group was the only study group that was canceled. The Chicago study groups held even with past years. The two Chicago study groups scheduled for Friday were canceled.
- **Inter-campus Capability:** It is now possible to live-stream sessions between the two campuses, and between classrooms in Chicago. Kirsty commented that some members are excited about the streaming capability and others do not like it. There are two generations of members, newer members who are very comfortable using technology from their work experience and others who are not comfortable

using technology. OLLI needs to be responsive to both groups, but also not to be left behind in introducing technology.

- **University Connections:** Kirsty has been asked to participate in a panel entitled “My University Hates Me” at the upcoming conference of all the OLLI programs. Kirsty suggested that misunderstanding about the financial arrangements between OLLI and NU be discussed at a later meeting. It would be helpful for the Advisory Council members to review the handout on *35 Ideas to Help Improve an OLLI’s Relationship with their Host University or College*.
- **One Book, One Northwestern:** Both campuses are offering study groups on the *Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood, this year’s One Book, One Northwestern selection. Announcements of NU events will be communicated to OLLI members.
- **Building Ties with the Community:** Kirsty would like to extend our ties with the community both bringing new opportunities to OLLI members and offering the experience of OLLI members to the community. The September 26<sup>th</sup> discussion on the book *What Schools Could Be* at Roycemore School is one example. Also, Kirsty is exploring connections with Roycemore to arrange for Roycemore students to help OLLI members in their use of technology.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Academic Enrichment:** The Chicago Comm. has set its speaker programs for October, November, and December. The Evanston Comm. is in contact with several NU professors to line up speakers.
- **Coordinator Development:** The Chicago Comm. is instituting a new schedule to align with Study Groups Planning Week. The workshop on becoming a coordinator is scheduled for a week before planning week and the workshop on how to create a study group is scheduled to follow planning week. The Evanston Comm. has identified two goals for the year: offering a workshop on how to propose a study group and developing a user-friendly workshop on Canvas training.
- **Development:** The Chicago and Evanston committees hold joint-campus meetings. A letter from the Development committees to the membership is targeted for November 25<sup>th</sup>. Giving Week is scheduled for Nov. 12-15; volunteers will visit classrooms to inform members about the Member Fund and encourage them to contribute. There will be an event in April for people who have donated \$250 or more to the Member Fund.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** The Chicago comm. has scheduled a series of events. The Evanston comm. is in contact with Evanston speakers, is considering starting a book group and planning activities relating to Black History Month.

- **Membership Enrichment:** The Chicago comm. is spearheading the organization of the joint Holiday Party. It is scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> at the East Bank Club in Chicago. Kirsty said she would arrange for a bus from Evanston to accommodate Evanston members. The Chicago comm. is also considering organizing a Sunday brunch for 25-30 people. People who are seeking volunteers to help with their activities can contact the comm. The Evanston comm. is organizing OLLI Eats Out and an Inside OLLI Speaker.
- **Study Group:** Kirsty reported that the Chicago Study Group Committee has a meeting scheduled on September 26 to discuss the various working documents that the committee uses. The Evanston comm. is reviewing the on-line process for evaluating proposals, criteria for being a coordinator, the submission review process, and planning week in October.

At 11:15 am, the group re-organized into break-out groups for the purpose of having the Chicago and Evanston committees meet with their counterparts on the other campus.

At 11:45 am, the full group reconvened. Gloria asked for comments from the break-out groups to share with the full group:

- Having a bulletin board with outside events of interest to OLLI members (Kirsty said, this can be done on the Evanston campus, but not on the Chicago campus due to NU policies.)
- The Study Group and Coordinator Development committees should work more closely. Chair of CD should serve on the SG comm. Working together, the two committees might develop a best books list to keep people informed about possible future study group subjects. All four committees should keep in-the-know about one another to allow for cross-campus pollination of ideas.
- There was a question about future possibilities for live streaming.
- There may be over-programming of noontime lectures leading to a drop in attendance at individual lectures. If AE and D&I have two streamed noon-time lectures per term on each campus, this translates to 8 per session which may approach the limits.
- Need for ideas about how to coral people on-site to come to undersubscribed events.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

Chicago, Friday, Oct. 12, 10 am  
 Evanston, Friday, Nov. 30, 10 am  
 Chicago, Friday Feb. 8, 10 am  
 Evanston, Friday, March 15, 10 am  
 Chicago, Friday, April 12, 10 am  
 Evanston, Friday, May 10, 10 am