OLLI @ Furman students shown taking a class using a new 3-D projector and screen. This new technology is being installed in every classroom in the Herring Center as funds come available. To raise the necessary money, all courses using this equipment are subject to an $87.46 surcharge.
Surprising developments have resulted in the installation of new leadership in the OLLI @ Furman program. It all started when Nancy Kennedy and her staff staged an attempted takeover of the Furman President’s office. Ms. Kennedy issued the following statement regarding the initial event:

“In this type of event, timing is everything. We were so close! We chose to act when the president was away from the office. So, when we found out she was taking lunch at the Pala-Den we acted quickly. It’s just astounding to me how loyal her secretary was. We offered her the Dean of Students position, but she fended us off with an electric stapler. We were trying to regroup down the hall, having secured a couple of brooms, when President Davis returned. Having the Provost and the Athletic Director with her spelled our doom. You can see with the president in the middle, law on one side, and physical fitness on the other, we had very little chance. I’m proud of the gals though. They got in a couple of good licks before they were tackled. Those guys were really rude! I’m not sure what I’ll do now. I hear the University of South Carolina is considering a day care program for children. Maybe I could do that. After all, children - old folks, it's all pretty much the same.”

Sources close to the old OLLI staff say the reason for the coup was that as the OLLI membership continues to grow, OLLI members will soon outnumber Furman students. This was seen as an inevitable development, and the OLLI staff decided it was better to act now rather than wait. After the failed coup attempt, the entire OLLI staff was terminated. As their golden parachute they were given vouchers for two free OLLI classes, one basketball ticket, and $8.37.

When Furman students heard about the attempt there was mixed reaction. The student body president said, “We thought about doing the same thing, but we couldn’t generate enough interest. Besides, my parents might be mad and take my BMW away. What would I do then? Ride a bus? Oh, the horror!”

Other students decided to turn the tables and stage their own coup. The OLLI student workers recruited some rugby players to help and took over the OLLI office. The two most senior workers declined the directorship. Laken said she was too busy with graduation and wedding planning, and Sam Kolls felt her class schedule was not conducive to getting up early to go to work. Thus, Sam Hays was installed as Supreme Dictator for Life (or graduation, whichever comes first). Sam has taken hold and instituted some cost saving measures. Chief among these has been the elimination of free coffee. Membership immediately dropped by 72%. Sam stated, “That’s not all bad. Fewer old people wandering lost around the campus means fewer problems for the real students.”

Dictator Sam Hayes
FURMAN CHOOSES NEW MASCOT
PALADIN OUT - OLLIver IN

Even with the animosity caused by the coup attempt, finances overruled prejudice, and OLLIver was chosen as the new Furman mascot. The change was instituted as a cost savings measure. The Furman stable complex has become increasingly expensive to operate with the recent spike in oat futures. Many did not realize that three horses are required because equine illness rates are so high. This also leads to high veterinary bills, and horse enemas are often required. “You wouldn’t believe how hard it is to find people to administer them,” stated Stable Manager Pone E. Buoy. “I’ve had a few volunteers from the biology department, but they never offer to do it a second time.”

Shetland Ponies were considered, but the savings was not enough, and the knight riding into the stadium on a tiny horse just didn't project the Furman image. Thus, OLLIver was offered the position. Food expenses are minimal, although frogs have to be imported in the winter, and housing is really cheap as OLLIver can live in the lake. So far the change has been positive, and the new cheer, “FU - Honk, Honk, Honk,” is becoming popular with the students.

OLLIver Becomes Dean of Old Students

Since the time required to act as mascot is minimal, OLLIver was available to accept the position of Dean of Old Students. As such OLLIver will coordinate the activities of OLLI students with Furman undergrads, working closely with OLLI @ Furman Dictator Sam Hays. “I'm looking forward to continuing my close relationship with OLLI members,” OLLIver said. “I have traveled extensively with many of them and have a good relationship with most of those, although a few of them were a little rough on me, and I was even left alone in a Scottish pub. That being said, most of the old geezers are easy to work with, since they forget what you tell them in a few days. My biggest challenge is making sure end-of-term class treats include more fish.”

Anonymous sources close to the Furman Administration said a key reason for choosing OLLIver for this highly prestigious position was the low salary requirements. “OLLIver may not work for peanuts, but that turns out to be good,” the source said. “Peanuts are actually higher priced than seeds and veggies. Also, he really likes the leftovers from the dining hall, enhancing our sustainability rating.” OLLIver's official cap and gown, to be used during commencements, are on order. Gowns-R-Us expects to deliver them in plenty of time, although they are not off-the-shelf items. Meanwhile, So Ing, an OLLI volunteer, has made an interim set from an old handkerchief.
Previews of Upcoming Courses

GROWING CANNABIS FOR FUN AND PROFIT
It’s back to the 70s in this fun course. Growing weed has many more dimensions than you know. Subjects followed in this class will include: Hydroponic or in-ground growing, genetic engineering pros and cons, food pairings - Twinkies versus Cheetos, and a reefer rolling refresher. During the last class, samples from Columbia will be compared with California stock. The class will be held on the patio where the no smoking rule will be lifted.

Placebo Domingo is a trial coordinator for a major drug company and has been involved in a variety of hallucinogenics since his undergraduate days at Berkley.

AT THE MOVIES WITH QUENTIN TARANTINO
How much blood is too much, or is there any such thing? We’ll explore this director’s early life and how it contributed to his lust for gore. Special emphasis will be placed on gunshot wounds. All plot lines from the movies will be edited out to make time for more violence. This is only expected to reduce the movie length by 10 to 15 minutes. During the class students will have the opportunity to make their own exploding squibs and test them with various blood substitutes. Students will be required to pay a $10.00 fee to pay for the plastic drop cloths used during squib testing and will have to supply their own clothing and gunpowder.

Barry L. Plotz has been interested in macabre and bizarre films since his first job as an usher in his local movie theatre. Recently retired from the family mortuary, he works part time as a night clerk at the Bates Motel.

COMPETITIVE NAPPING
Many students are observed in classes sleeping. Turn this ability into a winner with this new course. Each week new instructors, chosen for their monotone delivery and boring subject, will present to the class. The first ones to fall asleep will be given points, and the student selected as “Super Sleeper” will be announced at the end of the term. A nurse will monitor heartbeat and respiration to reduce cheating.

Boris Oxoff has been putting people to sleep during his OLLI classes for 7 years. His most recent class, Breeding Habits of Mid-Sized Moths, set the record with 57% sleepers.

UNDERWATER SWIMMING AT FURMAN LAKE
Learn the basics of underwater swimming at the lake. The class will learn about hyperventilation, diving, and finding their way in a murky environment. Participants will be required to have typhus vaccinations and supply their own snorkel. Wetsuits are advised for the winter sessions, but optical prescription face masks are not required because the lake visibility is approximately zero. Goggles are recommended to reduce the chance of parasitic eye infections. People with compromised immune systems are not encouraged to attend this class.

Isaiah Olchap is a British swimmer, who took seventh place in the Thames River Crawl.
HIKING THE LOT
Your penchant for losing your car in the parking lot can be turned into an asset in this class. Students will learn how to systematically walk the parking lot, one row at a time. Electric door lock keys will be confiscated. At the end of the class the keys will be returned first to those who haven’t yet found their vehicle. Comfortable shoes are recommended. Two classes will take place after dark to add an extra challenge. An optional class trip will visit the downtown Richardson Street Garage. Class meets rain or shine.

Ima Walker has been loosing her car for years and wants to share her new-found enthusiasm for wandering a variety of parking venues with OLLI students.

CHARIOOT RACING FOR BEGINNERS
Intended for our devoted history buffs, OLLI has decided to bring back the original NASCAR experience: chariot racing. Using specially designed chariots pulled by miniature horses, OLLI charioteers will run three thrilling laps around Furman Lake. No prior experience driving a chariot is required. Students will be given two pounds of sugar lumps, a whip, and two weeks to get acquainted with their team before harnessing them to their chariots and taking them out for a trot. Students must provide their own togas, helmets, shin and elbow protectors, steel tipped sandals, and a doctor’s permit. Grandstands will be set up near the band shell for spectators.

Internationally known professional charioteer Caligula “Speedy” Trotter, seven time winner of the 12 Hours of Pompeii, will provide guidance.

BORING CHARACTERS IN HISTORY
There are many more boring people than interesting ones. Thus, this class is planned to be continuing each term and will be offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 1:00 to 6:00. As there is not much to present about each boring person, 12 people will be highlighted each afternoon. Examples of the people that will be discussed are: Harold Jones, the corporal that shined General MacArthur’s boots after he waded ashore in the Philippines; Mary Ann Douglas, a housewife from Missouri who washed clothes every Monday for 18 straight years; Madeline Fisher, the maid responsible for cobweb control at President Coolidge’s summer home; and Jordan Bishop, a newspaper reporter in Creston, Iowa, whose most important by-line was “Record Number of Bullfrogs in Omar Peterson’s Farm Pond.”

Presenters will be selected from the current OLLI member roster using a random number generator. In order to insure adequate class attendance, students will also be selected at random. Attendance will be taken. Unexcused absences will result in registration for all other classes being terminated.

ECOLOGICAL COLLAGES
Be ecologically correct, and learn a new art form. Utilizing paper towels from the bathroom wastebaskets and left overs from the cooking class for dye, students will create singular works of art suitable for any decor. Latex gloves, disinfectant spray, and glue will be provided for the $6.66 class fee.

I. D. Weaver, best known for using old bedsheets for making show-horse halters, will act as the instructor. Weaver previously taught “Fun With Plastic Water Bottles.”
SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE ADOPTED

As part of OLLI @ Furman’s commitment to the environment a sustainability initiative has been put in place by the OLLI Council.

Electricity will not be used in any of the classrooms to lower our carbon footprint. Students are requested to bring their own candles and teachers may need to bring a small headlamp to read their notes (please use rechargeable batteries, and plan to charge them at home). Hamster cages supplied with generators will be provided for teachers that need to show a power point presentation on their own laptop (BYOH - bring your own hamster). Classes will also be shortened to 40 minutes so the thermostat can be adjusted lower than the new standard of 42 degrees to save more energy earlier in the day. This will not apply during warmer weather, as the air conditioning will not be used until further notice.

The recommended winter term attire is shown at left. Long sleeve outer wear over thermal underwear is suggested. The down coat has an optional hood, but a heavy knit cap should be sufficient for all but the coldest days. The warm lined boots will be necessary with the cold floors. A heavy scarf and gloves round out the ensemble. The protective goggles should keep tears from freezing.

Class handouts will be limited to one sheet of paper per term, but both sides of the page may be used. Coffee will be provided if monetary donations permit, but will not be heated after it is brewed and disposable cups will not be available after the present supply runs out. Parking passes will cost $44.75, and people who do not purchase a pass will be given priority during registration to encourage walking or bike riding. For students attempting to game the system, the impound fee for towed cars is being increased to $268.00.

BOARD BORED IN BOARD ROOM

Notice of the Sustainability Initiative was out only a few minutes when the OLLI @ Furman Council (formerly known as the OLLI Board) was besieged by angry OLLI members. For protection they locked themselves in the board room. An anonymous source says they have occupied their time watching a left behind copy of a Care Bears DVD. “The chairs are comfortable, but you wouldn’t believe the whining you hear when the DVD starts up,” said the source. Some leftover Halloween candy was found to ease their hunger. “The sugar high has some of the members dancing on the table. That wouldn’t be so bad, but there is no other music, so they are twisting to the Care Bears soundtrack,” our source reported. Old copies of meeting minutes are being taped over the windows, apparently to darken the room for sleeping. One irate OLLI member outside the room told us “We have made arrangements for them to have coffee, tea, water, and hot chocolate. We’ll see how long they last with full bladders! Besides, with the thermostat set so low they can’t hold out long.”
FUND RAISING STARTS FOR NEW BUILDING

Although the Herring Center is adequate for the time being, the time is coming that it will be too small. The OLLI @ Furman President, George P. Burdell, has announced a new fund raising effort leading to a new building. President Burdell said the need for the new building can be delayed for a short time by evicting Continuing Education staff from their downstairs offices and converting the space into classrooms. When asked where the Continuing Ed staff would be located, Burdell mumbled something about the Timmons Arena locker rooms. Even less clear was information that OLLI members will stage a takeover of the Younts Center in the near future. Rumors are that it will house the physical activities classes, such as yoga and dance, and host OLLI on Stage.

Even with those two actions the eventual need for a new building is apparent. Projections are that OLLI membership will top 87,000 by 2027. Plans are underway to launch a fund raising campaign. Naming opportunities will be available for the rooms, domes, reflecting pool, and for each of the four minarets, which will house the special interest groups.

Although the new building will cost considerably more than the present facility, funds can be conserved by shredding the huge number of used paper coffee cups and using the fluff for insulation. OLLI members will also be required to perform several hours of labor on the building for each class they take.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY - GOWRIE, IOWA

Join other OLLI members for this once-in-a-lifetime chance to spend a week in exciting Gowrie. See corn, alfalfa, and soybeans growing in large fields (two hours sitting beside each field). Walk through the Piggly-Wiggly on a guided tour, and learn how to pick out the best ears of sweet corn. Visit the amazing school system, where all grades are housed in the same three-story building, and witness a third-grade class taking a spelling test. Other highlights include the local grain elevator, the out-of-business skating rink, and the town’s only gas station. On afternoons at your leisure you can stroll the main street and see remnant stumps of trees that perished from Dutch Elm Blight. The extremely reasonable price of $13,476 includes round trip airfare to Des Moines, bus transportation, and double occupancy at the luxurious Jefferson Super 8 motel, 17 miles from Gowrie. Note: The previously planned side trip to Ames has been cancelled as it was deemed too stimulating. A trip to the Wednesday night livestock sale in Fort Dodge will be substituted. Air fresheners and a free corndog will be provided.

Sue E. Hogg will lead this trip. Sue has lived in Gowrie for the last seven years. “Equivalent to a lifetime,” she says. Being the custodian at the city hall gives her a unique perspective of the workings, people, and attractions of this enchanting Iowa community.
In a nod to nostalgia, OLLI @ Furman will change from on-line registration to the proven and ever-popular time card process. Many OLLI members fondly remember using this system during college registration. One member said, “This is great! I remember getting a 2:00 card. We went to a bar the night before, slept in, and strolled into the gym the next afternoon to register for a whopping 9 hours of non-major electives. I was late graduating, but the student deferment came in handy.” Time cards will be issued based on a points system that will include the number of membership years, number of classes taken in the past, number of classes being registered for, and hours of volunteer work. The effort to secure IBM cards and card readers was futile, despite a comprehensive search of Craig’s List and eBay, so, as members go to curriculum sub-committee desks, their names will simply be added to a class list until it is full. The number of issues that are anticipated using this new system has led to hiring a registration ombudsman until students are fully adapted to the process.

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**THE LAST WORD**

**huh** | hə |
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exclam.
used to express scorn, anger, disbelief, surprise, or amusement: “Huh,” she snorted, “Over my dead body!”

• used in questions to invite agreement or further comment or to express a lack of understanding: pretty devastating, huh?

ORIGIN natural utterance: first recorded in English in the early 17th cent.

This word is used a lot during the OLLI experience.

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This publication does not reflect the views of Furman University, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute @ Furman, or any members of those groups. It is strictly a work of humor and no implied or assumed purpose is intended. We hope you enjoy this work and take it in the spirit in which it is offered.

Gary & Judy Aten