

President's Message

Dear Lifelong Learners,

This is an exciting time to be part of Baylor's Lifelong Learning Program and I'm glad you are one of us! Together we can continue to learn, grow, and contribute to our families and communities. Many of you have participated in the planning for the Spring 2021 Semester through the Committees: Curriculum, Special Events, Course Hosts, Publicity and History. It's amazing to see what a group of volunteers can do to put together such an incredible set of offerings and events.

Our Interim Program Administrator, Sandy Bennett (Assistant Vice Provost for Professional Education), has been filling in since Audrey Yadon was reassigned within Baylor to a new position. Dr. Bennett shared with the Lifelong Learning Advisory Board a few weeks ago that our program will be joining the Mayborn Museum in the coming months. What a great relationship that will be since both groups are sincerely interested in the concept of lifelong learning. Stay tuned for more information about the transition and what's to come!

Our next Special Event will be the LLL Coffee on December 4th at 10:00 am. Our speaker will be Dr. Roland Goertz who spent 22 years as CEO of the Heart of Texas Community Health Center, better known as the Waco Family Health Center. His presentation will cover those aspects of healthcare he believes will forever be changed as a result of the Covid-19 epidemic, as well as the new and significant changes that are likely in healthcare delivery in the near future. ZOOM meeting information will be distributed through local publicity and can also be accessed at baylor.edu/lifelonglearning where you can find information about special events and courses. Our LLL Coffees are free and open to the public. Please share this information with friends who might not be aware of all that Baylor Lifelong Learning has to offer.

Immediately following the LLL Coffee on December 4th on the same ZOOM session, we will hold our semi-annual membership business meeting for approximately 20-30 minutes. We'll be updating you on progress toward our transition, upcoming courses, special events, and shared interest groups. You will want to be present to hear lots of exciting news!

With Thanksgiving and Christmas just ahead, we want to wish you a happy and healthy season. We look forward to ZOOMing with you again soon as we continue to exercise our curious minds and enjoy doing it together!

Sincerely,
Judy Staples, LLL President

Your Lifelong Learners Advisory Board

The LLL Advisory Board has been meeting via Zoom this semester. It has been a very successful experience—just look at all those smiling faces.



Top row (left to right): Judy Staples, President; Elaine White, Past President; Sherry Cragen, Course Host Committee Co-chair; Rick Moss, Special Events Committee Chair

Middle row (left to right): Doug Baldwin, Member-at-Large; Jin Surovik, Course Host Committee Co-chair; Terry Wright, Vice President; Stan Wilkes, Member-at-Large

Bottom Row (left to right): Linda Howell, Secretary; Dorothy Schleicher, Curriculum Committee Chair; Mary Gerecke, History Committee Chair; Sandy Bennett, Interim Program Administrator

Not pictured: Jane Winston, Member-at-Large; Diana Ramey, incoming Publicity Committee Chair.

Scholarship Recipients

Remember that 50% of your membership fee for Lifelong Learners is used to provide scholarships for Baylor students. All recipients must be from the Central Texas area. This year we were able to offer three scholarships to the following students:

Juan Castellanos is a psychology major from Harlingen, TX. He carries a 3.87 CGPA and is active in Alpha Lambda Delta, Psychology Club, and the Latino Pre-health Student Association.

Ashley Barnes is from Belton, Texas and carries an impressive 3.82 CGPA. She is a sophomore elementary education major who is involved with Baylor Buddies and Sing Alliance.

Kylie Espiritu graduated in the top 10% from Belton High School where she participated in Young Life, Key Club, NHS and volunteered with Love of Christ food pantry. She plans to major in health science studies at Baylor.

The Work of the Course Host Committee

Who are these Course Host people who facilitate our Zoom meetings? Well, they are just what their name suggests. They are the face of Baylor Lifelong Learners, volunteers who share the responsibility of welcoming class members, introducing our lecturers, and evaluating how things are going. This is one of the entry points to Lifelong Learning participation. Course Hosts are recruited from the roster of enrolled students, so the responsibilities are assigned to people who have already committed that time to LLL. This year since we are Zooming, we were able to even enlist folks who have moved out of our area. What a wonderful surprise!

Jin Surovik and Sherry Cragen head up the Course Host Committee. They work together to compile information about each class, glean hosts from rosters, train the hosts in their responsibilities and the use of Zoom, and make sure everything comes together smoothly. Even with the challenges of Covid-revised programs, they have done stellar work.

If you are interested in serving as a Course Host, contact Jin (jinsurovik@gmail.com) or Sherry Cragen (sherry.cragen@gmail.com). They will be glad to give you more information.

The Work of the Publicity Committee

We know you miss having a stack of Lifelong Learner brochures to share with your friends. However, in spite of that adjustment to this year's program, the Publicity Committee has continued working in creative ways to get out the word about our programs and events. You may have noticed an increase in newspaper notices. It has been great to learn that there are people joining our coffees as a result of those notices.

Terry Wright accepted the role of Baylor Lifelong Learner Vice President this past summer. He has served as chair of the Publicity Committee for two years and the increase in last year's membership is a direct result of the work of Terry and his committee. This fall Diana Ramey has transitioned into the role of committee chair. As we plan for the spring semester, feel free to contact her if you would like to be part of their work. (diana_ramey@baylor.edu)

Sneak Preview of Spring Courses

The Curriculum Committee has completed work on the courses for our spring semester. Thank you to Dorothy Schleicher and her committee for developing these opportunities. Take a look at what we have in store for you. Remember that registration will open in December on the LLL Website (baylor.edu/lifelonglearning).

Lynn Tatum – Current Middle East Issues

Vivian Rutherford – Creative Basic Storytelling
Brad Livingstone – History of the War in the Vietnam
Gretchen Schwarz - Today's Media and Christianity
Mandy McMichael – Miss America's God
David Oulaalou – The Dynamics of Russia's Geopolitics
Gerald Cleaver – For God So Loved the Multiverse
Rosalie Beck – American New Religious Movements
Ashley Bean Thornton – Waco Walking Highlights
Kenneth Hafertepe – Historic Homes of Waco

Contacting Baylor Lifelong Learner Office

At this time, it can sometimes be difficult to reach office personnel by phone. Instead of calling the office, it may be easier to use email as a means of connecting: lifelonglearning@baylor.edu . You may also check our website for information: baylor.edu/lifelonglearning

December 4 Zoom Coffee

Our speaker for our final fall semester coffee will be Dr. Roland Goertz who has spent 22 years as CEO of the Heart of Texas Community Health Center, better known as the Waco Family Health Center. During his tenure, the Center grew to fifteen sites across McLennan County and cared for an unduplicated patient population of 67,000. The Center's missions are to provide high quality primary care services to all and to educate family medicine physicians of the future. He received his MD from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and an MBA from Baylor University. He is recently retired from the position and is spending time with his 7 grandchildren along with catching up on topics and areas of interest he enjoys (lifelong learning).

His presentation will cover those aspects of healthcare he believes will forever be changes as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic and will review new and significant other changes that are likely in healthcare delivery in the near future.

Our Fall Zoom Coffees have been great. More than 50 members have joined us at each one, and speakers have been excellent. December 4 will be our final coffee for the semester. The program will begin at 10:00, but you are welcome to log in early to spend time visiting with your LLL friends. Enjoy the presentation by Dr.

Goertz and then stay a bit longer to participate in our fall semester's general business meeting.

Baylor Lifelong Learners Core Values

Purpose of Core Values: They identify both who we are and who we are not. They serve as guidelines to access and direct the working of our organization.

Safety

We value our program participants and will strive to provide an environment where members, instructors, and staff can feel that their safety and health are a priority. As a program, we will follow the Baylor guidelines for social distancing and cleanliness and will encourage our participants to do so as well.

Instruction

We value high quality instruction from strong instructors. We welcome courses that inform and challenge us, offering intellectual stimulation and broadening our world view. We welcome member input on course offerings.

Involvement

We value member involvement in our learning community. We encourage participation in two ways:

- Involvement in the LLL Community through *collaboration* in planning events, *networking* between members and the greater Waco community, *involvement* in leadership roles within the group, and *participation* in opportunities to socialize and develop friendships.
- Involvement in the communities where we live by *using* print and digital media to inform communities about LLL, *encouraging* word-of-mouth efforts to engage friends and acquaintances, *disseminating* information to businesses and public places in our areas, and *seeking* ways to include a diverse population.

Affordability

We strive to make our organization financially accessible to a wide range of the Waco community by keeping participation fees affordable. Membership fees include a contribution to scholarships for Baylor undergraduates. The additional

costs for courses and group activities are used to provide resources for the group, not for generating a profit.

Newsletter editors: Elaine White and Diane Hamilton