

A note from the Baylor Lifelong Learning Administrator

You've heard me say this several times this spring and summer, and you'll hear me say it again: the health and safety of our Lifelong Learners is our top priority. It is that priority that has led Baylor to make the decision that all of LLL's classes, events and gatherings will take place exclusively online this fall.

We do not make this decision lightly – we're taking into account the recent spike in COVID-19 cases in McLennan county; recommendations from university, local and national health officials on at-risk populations; and insight from cousin-organizations from around the state and country.

We will reassess the situation and make a decision about our spring plans at a later time.

I hope you'll consider participating in our online offerings, even if it will be a new experience for you. I think about you often when I hear advice for people over 65 to stay home – I think about your curiosity, your friendships, your active minds and lives, and the vast experience and knowledge you bring to our group. I want you to be safe, but I imagine the isolation and boredom could be driving you a little crazy! So please know – LLL still needs your participation and your enthusiasm even if you're stuck at home. LLL is a place where you are valued – you can help us adapt to the “new normal” everyone keeps saying is coming so that LLL continues to be the place of learning, activity, and friendship you love.

Hoping to see your faces soon on Zoom!

Audrey Yadon, Baylor Lifelong Learning Administrator

A Message from Acting President Judith Staples

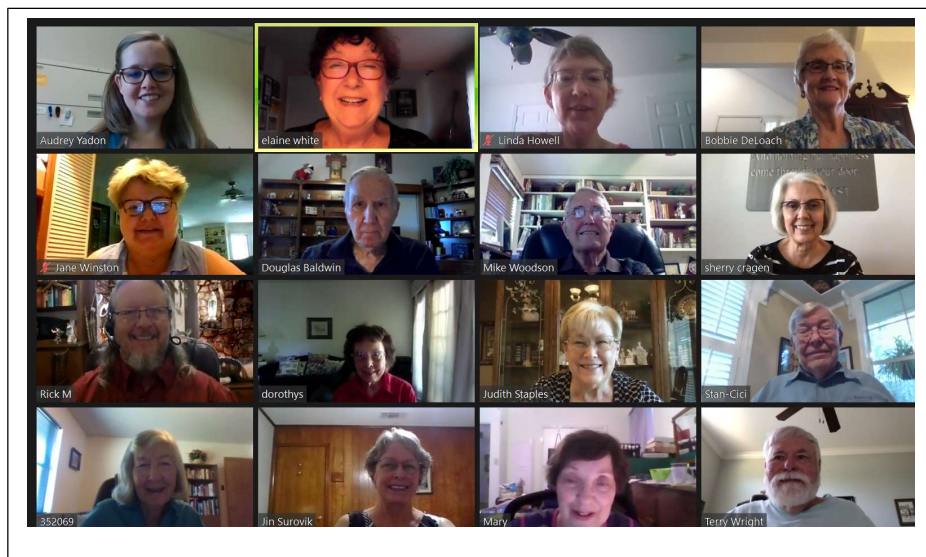
Dear Lifelong Learners,

Our world is an ever-changing place these days, but Lifelong Learning is moving ahead with plans for an exciting fall program. We've been following the Baylor directives regarding health and safety, plus making adjustments delivery systems for our courses. I hope you are excited to see the fall line-up and will get involved in whatever ways work for you.

When our Curriculum Committee established the courses for Fall 2020, it had no idea that they would need to be offered online! But here we are at an exciting time to learn new things in slightly different settings! I want to thank Elaine White, our immediate Past President, and Audrey Yadon, our program administrator, for leading the way in adapting to this new environment!

Mike Woodson had intended to serve as President this year but found it necessary to resign. I will preside through the transition until the Lifelong Learning Advisory Board fills the positions of President and Vice President.

We have a very strong sense of community among our members. The board has met over Zoom and the various committee chairs have continued to address the challenges we face with Covid-19. We hope that all of our members will be interested in the fall online course offerings.



Baylor LLL Advisory Board's Zoom Leadership Retreat June 4, 2020

We anticipate that the brochures will be mailed in early August to all of our members and our mailing list. Our former pattern of distributing brochures to waiting rooms and offices has been curtailed, so we encourage you to share your brochure with others or send interested persons to our website (baylor.edu/lifelonglearning) for more information and registration.

In addition to our course offerings, we will be adding two new shared interest groups (SIGs) this fall. **Lifelong Readers** will begin on Friday, September 4th, at 10:00 am via Zoom. **Travel Experiences** will begin on Friday, September 11th, at 10:00 am via Zoom. Check our website (baylor.edu/lifelonglearning) for updates and Zoom connection information.

Since many of our members are new to Zoom, our Lifelong Learning program will offer **Zoom Practice Sessions** for our members to be ready for the fall courses, events and shared interest groups (SIGs). The practice sessions will be held on August 17th at 10:00 am, August 24th at 10:00 am, and August 24th at 2:00 pm. Check our website (baylor.edu/lifelonglearning) for links to the session that best fits your schedule. We hope you take advantage of these opportunities.

Be sure to join us for the **Fall Convocation on Friday, August 28th, at 10:00 am** via Zoom. Mark Childers, Associate Vice President of Public Safety and Security at Baylor will be speaking. He is also a former member of the U.S. Secret Service. We hope you will participate in the online crowd!

We look forward to seeing you online this fall at the various courses and activities. Please contact any of our LLL Board Members to share your ideas for the future!

Judith Staples, Acting President

Working for You

Baylor Lifelong Learners is a volunteer-based organization. Without the help of committed members, we would be unable to offer the wide range of courses and activities that feed our souls. These are the people who are helping make things happen this year, 2020-2021.

Curriculum Committee

Dorothy Schleicher, Chair
Incoming Vice President, Vice Chair
C.C. Adams
Carl Cox
Vicky Kendig
Dick Kettler
Jan Purdy
Bob Anne Senter
Larry Smith
Susan Stephens
Elaine White, ex officio
Audrey Yadon, ex officio

Publicity Committee

Terry Wright, Chair
Diana Ramey, Vice Chair
Frank Levy
Gail Herring
JoAnn Simpson
Louis White

Special Events Committee

Rick Moss, Chair
Nancy Moore
Jane Winston
Bob Cragen
Stan Wilkes
Mary Ann Jordan
Paul Dreisezun
Sara Moore

Course Host Committee

Jin Surovik, Co-chair
Sherry Cragen, Co-chair
Janine Duncan
Mary Sue Ferry
Jan McCaig
Linda Wright

History Committee

Mary Gerecke, Chair
Bob Kinney

Diane Hamilton

Elaine White

Committee Spotlight: Curriculum

The courses offered by Lifelong Learners are central to the work of our organization. After all, we want to LEARN! Each semester members have exciting choices to make. Some of us have to control the urge to sign up for everything offered because all classes sound so interesting. Also, Baylor Lifelong Learners have the reputation of providing interested and engaged audiences for all of our presenters, and some folks wait in line for their turn to teach a class.

So what is the magic involved in making classes happen? The magic is our Curriculum Committee. Work for one semester begins in the preceding semester. The committee meets to examine suggestions from members, course proposals submitted by members and presenters, lists of classes that have been offered previously, and subject areas that members seem to enjoy. When Joe Falsone served as Curriculum Committee Chair, he established a voting procedure that established a way to prioritize and honor requests. No idea is dismissed lightly although sometimes course requests are postponed due to conflicts with presenters' schedules or limitations on how many courses can be offered in a semester. Last year an additional course was added each semester because of increased membership and availability of both presenters and venues.

After courses are prioritized, each committee member chooses one or two courses to develop. The member contacts people to provide instruction, helps them complete the proposal forms if they haven't already been submitted, and serves as a liaison between the LLL office and that person as the semester planning moves forward. Many friendships between our presenters and our curriculum committee members have developed over the years because of member involvement in making the courses happen.

The final responsibility for each committee member is to attend the first session of the class or classes they have helped develop. At that session, the member introduces the presenter and then explains how the course was developed, giving other LLL members a snapshot of how the process works.

As our organization has grown, this committee has moved from a process where the chair does all (or most) of the work to one where each member of the committee takes part in developing the year's work. If you have more questions about the work of the Curriculum

Committee, or if you think this sounds like something you would enjoy doing, contact Dorothy Schleicher, Curriculum Committee Chair, and let her help you make it happen (Dorothy_Schleicher@baylor.edu).

Committee Spotlight: Special Events

Lifelong Learners enjoy socializing, and our organization offers several opportunities for that each semester (even in these days of Covid-19). When we are in full swing, we have two coffees, one bus trip, and an end of semester luncheon each semester. Right now, in order to provide socially distanced opportunities to “get together,” we are offering online Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) and Zoom Coffees.

Members of the Special Events Committee plan each of these events. They ask members for input; they research venues and presenters who are available in our community; they seek out interesting places for group meetings or day-long trips, and they constantly look for things that will pique the interest of our members. You will see members of this committee at the sign-in table at our events, and in various spots throughout each venue, working tables, greeting guests, and putting up or taking down light-weight equipment. All of them will have smiles on their faces, ready to answer your questions.

This committee meets formally once or twice each semester and then members carry out the work on their own after volunteering for specific duties.

If this sounds like a committee that fits your interests or expertise, contact Rick Moss, chair of the Special Events Committee (rick.moss@rocketmail.com). He will find the perfect fit for you in their work.

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 scholarship for Baylor undergraduates. The additional costs for courses and group activities are used to provide resources for the group, not for generating a profit.