Welcome to the first issue of CONTINUUM, a news magazine designed specifically for OLLI members. UM provides us with all sorts of information and news about this great institution, but OLLI — an innovative, relatively small part of the sprawling university — has its own needs, its own interests and its own goals. Here’s a publication aimed directly at all of you. Each issue will spotlight popular classes, provide profiles of professors and presenters—and fellow students, too— who catch our eye. And there’s an extensive calendar of events we hope you’ll want to attend.

Please join us with ideas, photos—anything you would like to suggest for the next issue. We could use the help! Let George Wendell or Joe Falowitz, who spearheaded this publication, or any member of the editorial staff know what you have in mind.
WHY OLLI?

I’m into my seventh year of retirement and having the time of my life. When I retired, friends would invariably ask, “What are you going to do all day?” Understandably, people who haven’t retired yet often fear they’ll have nothing meaningful to do. It’s the void beyond. But as most retirees know when the time arrives, there are so many interests and activities one can pursue beyond golf and fishing (not that there’s anything wrong with either). And, of course, for many of us, there will always be family, maybe travel, or cycling, or gardening. For myself, I decided to kick it up a notch. And the rewards have been spectacular. I decided to take classes at OLLI.

OLLI stands for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. It’s part of the University of Miami. You have to go through its catalog just once to appreciate the vast list of courses available and how wide-ranging they are: art, literature, music, foreign languages, history, government, science, photography, tai chi, current affairs, and so much more. There are even classes that help us catch up on skills that may have passed us by as modern technology raced ahead—computers, smart phones, tablets, and all the rest. Some classes are given by students—remember these are people with decades of work behind them—sharing their expertise in any number of fields. Looking for a canasta class? It’s here. Always wanted to speak Yiddish? That’s here too. And it goes on….

Beyond OLLI, there’s the great university itself. As an OLLI member you’ll be able to audit many of the undergraduate courses that attract your interest.

Classes are offered throughout the year in six-week cycles. Typically, I’ll take one or two each cycle. I especially enjoy learning in the relaxed atmosphere here. No tests, exams, or homework. It has become so important to me. It’s that invaluable chance to keep my mind sharp and to learn, as the name suggests, for life.

Joe Falowitz

CARMEN MUNERO, D.M.D

“Welcome to Paradise!” is Carmen Munero’s jubilant description of her first experience with OLLI. “It was a long hard journey to get here, but I felt I had finally found people I could relate to.” Many years before, Carmen and her husband fled turbulent Cuba for Miami. She was 28, broke, spoke no English, and 8 1/2 months pregnant. Two weeks later she gave birth to a healthy child, began to study English at the local library, and eventually resettled in Puerto Rico. Retirement in 1994 brought her back to Miami where she joined the Institute of Retired Professionals, a precursor of OLLI. Now a widow, she basks in the OLLI friendships she’s made, and marvels at the many courses available for her choosing. “It’s all here,” she says, “and I’ve never been happier.”

For more about OLLI, check out our website: http://miami.edu/osopher

Editorial Staff: Lee Clark Joe Falowitz Rick Flaste
Penelope Arango Elaine De Leonards Linda Grant George Wendell
AROUND CAMPUS

The Otto G. Richter Library

Although every university has a library, it’s hard to imagine one more extensive in its collection, more accessible to students and more useful in every way than the Richter Library.

This great resource is available to OLLI members. Obtain a permit by showing your OLLI card at the main desk, get your Richter permit, and enter a world of one million bound books, 910,300 digital books and 104,330 current subscriptions to academic and professional journals. And so much of all this can also be obtained on your home computer or on your phone.

The Otto G. Richter Library is almost 24/7. Ordinary hours are from 7:30am until 2:00am Monday through Friday, 9:00am until 10:00pm Saturday, and 9:00am until 2:00am Sundays.

It is located at the center of the campus. You can park at the Pavia Street Garage, at credit card metered parking in front of the library, or take the shuttle from OLLI, or directly from the Metrorail. All involve about a five-minute walk except library meter parking.

The library offers revolving exhibits, art and historical, as well as lecture series given by internationally acclaimed professors from Universities such as Berkeley, Harvard, Yale, and Oxford as well as our own outstanding staff.

The glass-walled first floor houses world newspapers and magazines, new acquisitions (selected by U of M professors for their research) as well as open table workstations with computers linked to the U of Miami system, a wall of free books, popular books, and a well thought out reference section.

On the glass-walled second floor you will find the Cuban Heritage collection, extensive scholarly journals bound and on microfiche, study tables with ergonomic chairs, and the elevators to the stacks.

The next seven floors contain the heartbeat of the library, some hundreds of years old, bound in vellum, most state of the art. Each floor offers study tables near the windows, and a computer accessing the card catalog for easy researching.

Water fountains are copious, washrooms spotless, and a Starbucks is conveniently located at the ground floor.
HAVE YOU MET?

Kathleen Touby

If you pass by either of the beginning Spanish classes, there’s a good chance you’ll hear “Carlota” — her assumed Spanish name — responding in her ever-improving Spanish with “tengo un gran rancho con vacas,” her “tongue in cheek” initial response to almost every question posed by the professor. The whole class invariably gets a kick out of it. Carlota always has fun at OLLI. About a year ago, Kathleen Touby enrolled in her first Spanish immersion class at UM and has continued with multiple classes each session at OLLI.

Born in Miami Beach, Kathleen has an impressive family history. Her father and grandfather started Touby Painting, which grew into one of the largest painting companies in Florida. And then came her father’s construction companies, which had a profound impact on Miami — think of the Dinner Key auditorium or the first Baptist Hospital building.

Meanwhile Kathleen’s career was evolving dramatically, from nursing to vocation rehabilitation, and finally — after marriage and children — it was on to law school and a job with the U.S. Attorney’s office. She became an expert in environmental litigation, an author, lecturer and college instructor. Her students learn the intricacies of product liability, the art of interviewing, counselling and negotiation.

Eventually Kathleen opened her own law firm specializing in civil litigation. Belying the stereotype about this branch of law, she says she never took a case unless she first believed it was valid and legal. If a client ever lied to her or misrepresented events, she dropped the case. “It was never about the money.”

Throughout her impressive career and since her retirement in 2014, Kathleen’s primary love and concern has been family. She met her husband Joe Woodward, a now retired attorney and artist, by chance on a ski-lift in Snowmass. They eventually became law partners and have been married for over 25 years. Today, her son Mark and his wife Keri are successful lawyers in Miami. Her son Judson is currently a professor of mass communication at Sam Houston University in Texas. Before that he won 4 Emmy Awards as a TV producer for daytime talk and court shows. Four years ago Kathleen and Joe moved from Bay Point near the Design District to the Kendall area to be closer to their grandchildren, Heather, 16, and Jack, 13.

When you get to know Kathleen, you will appreciate her earnest and welcoming smile, dry wit, and keen interest in others. She finds OLLI to be “a tremendous social source of nice people.” Although her studies at OLLI have been focused on Spanish thus far, she is eager to take a class in playing Bridge. Until recent shoulder surgery got in the way, she loved tennis and riding horses. Any conversation with Kathleen reveals her eagerness to learn about others and willingness to share her experiences. So go ahead and ask — especially about her many travel

SAM DANZIGER

“I was retired and I was bored,” said lawyer Sam Danziger. “I was looking for something that would stimulate my brain.” Last year a friend described OLLI to Sam, telling him about the great variety of classes offered, the UM affiliation, and the many interesting people he had met. Sam liked the sound of it and decided to give it a try. Last Spring he signed up for the Basic Computer Course and found it was helpful, and interesting; exactly the things he’d been looking for. Now Sam is enjoying the International Action discussion group, trying to make some sense out of today’s political scene. And he’s checking the 2018 Catalog to see what’s next for him.
SPOTLIGHT ON TECHNOLOGY

Some of us remember Dick Tracy and his wrist-radio. It was the science fiction for its day. Well, enroll in I-Phone classes with Joan Valdes and Josie Zomerfeld and put on your seatbelt to enter the new time warp as you learn to use your incredible pocket computer. There’s so much more to it than phone calls and email.

Get directions? Old hat. GPS. Got it. How about ordering groceries and paying with the phone instead of your credit card when you pick up the bags? Pocket scanner? Pocket compass? How about a pocket Administrative Assistant, to keep your calendar, ask to find and dial a friend’s number, locate the best restaurant in Paris near the airport, make a reservation — along with recommending hotels nearby. And there’s a pocket translator for the language you may need — French, Tagalog, Portuguese. All of this with barely a glance at your phone — and no typing. You knew this phone was a first-rate camera too, right? Now learn to be an Expert.

Team taught, the two instructors offer a great class because the stuff they know how to do is plain amazing. The students’ faces are grinning when they learn to use Google maps — the new walking talking Yellow Pages, complete with reviews, directions to avoid traffic problems, and even point to available parking. The there’s Siri. “Hey Siri, call my husband.” With the assistance of artificial intelligence Siri says, “Okay Millie, calling Arthur.”

So, you don’t have an I-phone. No worries. OLLI is home to a fantastic computer and smart phone whiz: Joan Nurse. Her computer sessions are invaluable, but so are her smart-phone classes designed for everyone who prefers Android to Apple, two different systems with many of the same features.

Joan is incredibly accomplished. Her training positions in corporate America over 17 years have taken her to Japan, the Philippines, and most every state. She holds two masters degrees and University of Miami certification in computer-related training.

Joan uses technology to teach technology—with clear, easy to follow demonstrations. Her classes are small, which allows her to offer one-on-one guidance.

Why is she so enthusiastic about teaching at OLLI? “I like to see the excitement that lights up the faces of students when they learn all the new things they can do, like taking photos, creating videos, installing applications, even voice texting and voice e-mailing.”

Spring I and Spring II: Class Days and Times
I-Phone Basics and Intermediate
Tuesday, 10:00-11:45

Introduction to Android Phones
Spring I and Spring II: Class Days and Times
Thursday, 1:00-2:45
HAPPENINGS AROUND CAMPUS

February 2 - May 27: The Lowe Art Museum, in conjunction with History Miami, presents ANTILLEAN VISIONS: Maps and the Making of the CARIBBEAN featuring nearly 200 rare, beautiful and historically significant maps of the Caribbean produced by some of the most famous mapmakers of the past five centuries. OLLI members are cordially invited to attend the Exhibition Preview on February 2nd, from 7 to 9 pm.

February 3 - 7:00pm: *Books & Books, reading and book signing from Beyond My Window - a collection of memoirs, short fiction and poetry by members of Miami Sunshine Writers Club of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Julia Cayuso, Director of Olli, will introduce the twelve authors who will read excerpts from their own works.

February 5 - 4:30pm: ** Phi Beta Kappa Lecture: Thomas Laqueur, Helen Fawcett Professor of History, University of California, Berkeley, Why Do We Care for the Dead? Shalala Student Center, Third Floor, Activities Room North.

February 6 - 6:30pm: **** Rosensteil School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, SEA SECRETS presents Jon White, President of Consortium for Ocean explores how our ocean research can provide answers to the basic needs of humanity and enhance global security. Free. RSVP required: call 305-421-4061.

February 7 - 6:30pm: *** Jorge Perez Architecture Center, Tecnoglass Lecture Series, Momoyo Kajjima / Atelier Bow-Wow.

February 8 - 12:30 – 1:15pm: Lowe Art Museum workshop ART OF MINDFULNESS. Recharge, refocus and relax with a brief discussion on mindfulness and a guided mindfulness meditation. Sessions led by UM Prof. Scott Rogers and Alice Lash, founder of Mindfultime. Free. RSVP required. Call 305-284-5587.

February 15 - 7:00pm: ** Henry King Stanford Distinguished Professor Lecture Series: Vincent Brown, Charles Warren Professor of History, Professor of African and African-American Studies, Harvard University. The Coromantee War: Charting the Course of an Atlantic Slave Revolt.

February 16 - 12:30 pm: Stanford Lunch Seminar: Vincent Brown (For UM Humanities Faculty & Grad Students). School of Nursing, Conference Room. Atlantic Slavery and the Digital Humanities.

February 20 - 6:30pm: **** Rosensteil School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, SEA SECRETS continues with a conversation between acclaimed environmental writer Jeff Goodell and Miami Herald environmental reporter Jenny Staletovich about his new book The Water Will Come: Rising Seas, Sinking Cities, and the Remaking of the Civilized World. Goodell is a Contributing Editor at Rolling Stone and has appeared on NPR, most major networks and the Oprah Winfrey Show. Free, RSVP required: call 305-421-4061.

February 21 - 8:00pm: *Books & Books: Pamela Geller, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, The Bioarchaeology of Socio-Sexual Lives: Queering Common Sense About Sex, Gender, and Sexuality.

March 1-3: **The Many Fourteenth Amendments**, Symposium, Shalala Student Center, Third Floor Activities Room (Cosponsored by the Center for the Humanities).

March 1 - 7:00pm: **Henry King Stanford Distinguished Professor Lecture Series**: Dylan C. Penningroth, Professor of History & Law, University of California, Berkeley. **Shalala Student Center, Grand Ballroom East, Law for a Gospel Church: African American Religion and Legal Culture, 1865-1970**.

March 7 - 6:30: ***Jorge Perez Architecture Center. Tecnoglass Lecture Series Yolande Daniels/ SUMO.***


March 28 - 8:00pm: BookTalk at *Books & Books*: Karen Mathews, Assistant Professor of Art History, Conflict, Commerce, and an Aesthetic of Appropriation in the Italian Maritime Cities, 1000-1150.

April 4 - 6:30pm: ***Jorge Perez Architecture Center. Tecnoglass Lecture Series Nasrine Seraji / Atelier Seraji.***

April 5 - 7:00pm: **Edith Bleich Speaker Series**: Ingrid D. Rowland, Professor of History, University of Notre Dame. Two Renaissance Magnates: Agostino Chigi and Jakob Fugger. Location TBA.

April 6 - 2:00pm: Cognitive Studies Interdisciplinary Research Group Lecture: Joshua Knobe. Location TBA.

April 11 - 8:00pm: *Books & Books: Rebecca Doran, Assistant Professor of Chinese, Transgressive Typologies: Constructions of Gender and Power in Early Tang China.

April 11 - 6:30pm: ***Jorge Perez Architecture Center. Tecnoglass Lecture Series, Spela Videcnik / OFIS.***

* Books and Books, 265 Aragon Avenue, Coral Gables, 33134

** The Center for the Humanities complete calendar is at: [http://humanities.miami.edu/humanities/calendar/](http://humanities.miami.edu/humanities/calendar/)

*** Jorge Perez Architecture Center - Tecnoglass 18 series focuses on new housing technology, expanded outdoor living, accessibility features in homes, home office growth, residential projects integrating mixed-use facilities, infill development for smarter homes, and an increased focus on a healthy home environment. [https://www.arc.miami.edu/news-and-events/lecture-series/index.html](https://www.arc.miami.edu/news-and-events/lecture-series/index.html)

**** Rosenstiehl School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Sea Secrets: [events@ramas.miami.edu](mailto:events@ramas.miami.edu). Rosenstiehl Auditorium, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway on Virginia Key; Reception at 6:30, program at 7:00 pm. Lecture series is designed to provide insight and information to a non-scientific audience. No charge. RSVP Required: call 305-421-4061.
Spanish Inspiration

Luis Carlos Fallon has led a life so diverse and creative that, when you first learn about him, it can be difficult to wrap your mind around it all. He’s a scholar, a writer, a poet — and, most fortunately for us, an instructor at OLLI.

Trained as a doctor of law and political science, he has held a number of major positions in Colombia, and now he’s here. Most recently he’s been serving as Professor of Spanish Language and Culture at the University of Miami.

Carlos, as he is known to his students, has devoted much of his time to writing on major international topics, and he was honored by the Asociación Colombiana Pro-Naciones Unidas in recognition of his writings on international peace over many years in a series of essay collections.

His poetry publications include: Canto Interior 'Inner Song', Los días olvidados 'The Forgotten Days', Mientras mueren las horas 'Meanwhile the Hours Pass Away' and Festejos y quebrantos en la egregia Babel, 'Festivals and Celebrations In The Extraordinary Babel.'

At OLLI Carlos teaches the grammar and structure of the Spanish language. He conducts his classes entirely in Spanish. How can he do that? He taught Spanish in Spanish in China for many years. No problem!

He is that rare instructor who has the power to inspire as he teaches, and classes with him often are life-altering. He tells the story of one of his students, who came to feel so empowered by the language and the people of South America that he moved to the alta plana of Bolivia where he now lives and writes — in Spanish.

Whether his students are in the Beginning class or the Intermediate, most will tell you as they file out smiling and chatting that it was the highlight of their week, as they learned, relearned, practiced, and reviewed.

Carlos loves to use anecdotes to demonstrate his point. The class is very interactive, individual questions and answers for each student, help when at a loss, and very often a demand for aplausos, ‘applause’ for a correct answer! Even the fresh novice learns easily because Carlos returns to topics frequently, in what he calls repaso, ‘review,’ — for reinforcement.

From Ancient Persia to Modern Iran

Dr. Marsha Cohen

Spring session, 10 to 11:45 A.M.

Think of Iran today and you’ll most likely think of an adversary, a supporter of terrorism and a nation aspiring to become a rival nuclear power. To a large extent, all that is true. But as Dr. Marsha Cohen teaches, it’s an extraordinarily limited view.

In her six classes, Dr. Cohen takes us back to the days of a sprawling Persian empire. Through the centuries it has always been a place of great diversity in its language, culture, art, literature, and religions. Even the overthrow of the shah in the revolution of 1978-79 creating the Islamic Republic, she explains, did not result in a monolithic nation. Dr. Cohen discusses the factions existing today, especially those that lean toward a less restricted more economically open society and those that hold firmly to insular economic nationalism.

Dr. Cohen draws upon on her extensive study of Israeli-Iranian relations, the subject of her doctoral thesis. When she speaks, her expertise is obvious but not overbearing. She is both detailed and clear. Your view of Iran will be immeasurably broadened.
NEW PURPOSE

Scientific studies on how a mind stays sharp abound. *The Wall Street Journal* reports that a large research study indicates that cognitive decline is slowed dramatically, by 30 percent, when retirees find true purpose in life. Dr. Patricia A. Boyle, a neuropsychologist and researcher for the Rush Memory and Aging Project, describes purpose in life as “things that energize and motivate you and that you think are important on a broader level, beyond just yourself.”

Philanthropic activities are one way to find purpose. So are mentoring, learning a new language, taking courses, and maintaining family relationships. Dr. Boyle suggests that the first step is to decide what really matters to you, something that gives you the sense that life is meaningful. Retirement should not mean withdrawal.

In this issue we offer what we hope will be one of many suggestions to come from our OLLI members.

It’s a community program designed to serve underprivileged children in public schools: **The Backpack Program at Caring for Miami.**

Every day 300,000 children--many of them living in motels and cars--go to sleep hungry in South Florida.

Each weekend, the **Backpack Program** provides more than 1,300 children with 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, 2 snacks, and a handwritten note of encouragement. You can help feed children by:

- giving of your time to pack or deliver food (the next event is Feb. 7).
- or by donating financially.

The program is completely free to these kids because of donations from people like you. **One hundred percent of every penny you give to this project will be used to feed hungry children** of all races and religions. For more information, go to: [www.caringformiami.org](http://www.caringformiami.org)

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**CAROLANN AND TED BALDYGA**

What do an Educator and a City Planner do when they retire? They join OLLI. Originally from Connecticut, Carolann and Ted settled in Miami in 1973. Carolann built a career of teaching and administrative work at Florida International University and at Miami Dade College while Ted lent his expertise as a City Planner to projects in Florida, Michigan, and many other states across America. Retirement arrived, giving them the leisure time to explore new and old interests. This is their first year as OLLI members, and they are stimulated by their Global Perspectives Course, and their second class, the Worldly Travels Program, has brought them an exciting view of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Now the 2018 Course Catalog has arrived and the Baldyga’s are checking out more options for future fun.
SPRING II 2018

The Great Decisions Program, sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association of the United States, is America’s largest education program on world affairs. Schools and universities throughout the U.S. conduct these programs annually. OLLI at UM has proudly participated in the Great Decisions Program for a decade. This year there will be a series of six presentations during the six week Spring II Session. Every year the U.S. Foreign Policy Association selects current topics on world affairs. These detailed presentations are made by OLLI students, usually with either direct life experience or expert knowledge of the topic.

Beginning on Thursday, March 8, at 10am, and every Thursday for the following five weeks this year’s topics and presenters include:

- Obama to Trump, Changing Currents in the Middle East: Shifts in US Foreign Policy & Traditional Alignments
  - Joe Falowitz
- U.S. Global Engagement and the Military
  - Steve Caine
- China and America: The New Global Equation
  - Jo Anne Bander
- Media and Foreign Policy
  - Tom Santoro
- Russia’s Foreign Policy
  - Ulrich Merton
- 6th Session: TBA

Come join these insightful presentations and discussions.

Registration is now open.

HELEN JACOBSTEIN

“I’ve been an OLLI member since 2005,” Helen Jacobstein says. “My husband retired first and quickly became an OLLI fan and supporter, so as soon as I retired I joined him.” A Brooklyn native, Helen moved to Miami in 1945 and began her career as an Educator, teaching Political Science at St. Thomas University and at UM. Her courses at OLLI reflect her wide range of interests, ranging from Current Events, Classical Music, Art History and Investments. As a writer, a teacher and an eternal student, Helen has contributed to the growth of Adult Education in Miami. She and OLLI are a perfect match!”
RICK’S CAFES by Rick Flaste

It’s almost noon and you’ve just finished an OLLI class. You’re famished. But unlike the kids who spend most of their day roaming all over campus and its environs you really don’t know where to go for that quick bite or a complete lunch. So here are a couple of real easy suggestions:

The first is Sebastian’s (presumably named after the school mascot). You’ve probably gone right past it 50 times. It’s a charming little soup, salad and sandwich place just steps away from Founder’s Hall in the Newman Center. The umbrella covered seating outside or the comfortable tables inside are perfect for a chat with a friend over an espresso ($1.35), maybe a chicken Caesar salad ($7.09) or potato soup that’s a meal in itself ($3.55). The menu is more varied than you’d expect in such a little place, the offerings more satisfying. A basic breakfast—eggs, bagels, muffins, and the like—is available all day. Sebastian’s is just steps away from OLLI, at San Amaro and Levante. Just walk through the parking lot toward Brescia and you’ll see it.

Around the corner, at 5813 Ponce de Leon Blvd., is a venerable restaurant and brewery (they produce a lot of their own beer) called Titanic—you’ll see the back of it from that same parking lot. As lively and even raucous as it can be late at night, lunch time and happy hour are more inviting for quiet conversation. Go for the BBQ pulled pork on brioche ($9.50), one of the many inventive burgers ($8.50 to around $10), the seared tuna ($12.95) or whatever else on this terrific, often playful, menu suits your fancy. And if you’re in the mood, order one of those fascinating home brews.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

- What topics would you like to see in upcoming issues of CONTINUUM?
- Have a favorite local charity?
- Which courses or professors would you like to see highlighted?
- Do you have photos of colleagues enjoying OLLI and its activities?
- Please send us any info you think others would love to read...a good joke, food for thought, a cartoon.

George Wendell: wcountbasie@aol.com