



Academy for
LIFELONG LEARNING
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

www.aikenlearning.org

The
Spiral

February, 2012

President's Message

The Academy's spring semester courses got off to a great start with four interesting and pertinent subjects. The first was "A Road Map to Healthy Living", taught by Mila Padgett, Wellness Center Director at USCA. Most of us need a little guidance down the road to healthy longevity, and the course is helpful. Next was "The Met at the Movies in HD", taught by Dr. Maureen Simpson. Maureen's opera courses have always been very popular, and "Faust" was no exception. Next was "The Aging Brain" taught by Dr. Echo Leaver, associate professor of psychology at USCA. Dr. Leaver described basic neuroanatomy and brain function. The class discussions were very interactive and many had questions and stories to relate. Following this course was "The Constitution and Bill of Rights", taught by Dr. Steven Millies, associate professor of political science at USCA. The topic is particularly timely with 2012 being an election year. As expected, there were many questions and discussions during and after the session.

There are still 15 courses and 2 special events coming up., so it should be an interesting and informative semester.

On Friday, March 9 at 2:00 pm, in Penland 106, Dr. Tom Hallman will review the current status and projected future of USCA, with a presentation entitled "USCA - 50 Years of Setting the Pace.". Dr. Hallman is retiring from USCA, so this is our last opportunity to hear from him.

Reminder.. The Academy is still looking for a Curriculum Chair-Elect and a Publicity Chair. Contact any of the Curriculum or Board members if you wish to participate. We encourage you to help.

Dick Baxter, Academy President

Mark your Calendars for the March 9 General Meeting

The March General Meeting of Academy members will be held Friday March 9 at 2:00 pm. USCA Chancellor Dr. Tom Hallman will bring us up to date on USCA status and future plans. Dr. Hallman, who is retiring at the end of this term, has been a staunch

supporter of the Academy throughout his tenure. Let's have a good turnout to show we appreciate his efforts on our behalf.

The March General Meeting is also when we elect Academy officers for next year.

Courses Starting In February

Please see the published course catalog for full course descriptions and additional information. (The Spring 2012 catalog is available on the web at <http://www.aikenlearning.org/catalog/Catalog.php>). To enroll, return the form in the catalog along with any required payment. For questions, contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / lauraa@usca.edu).

Psychology- Why?

3 Wednesdays, Feb 1, 8, 15
Instructor: Ken Brace

Mastering the Moderns

Monday, Feb 6
Instructor: Dr. John Elliott

The Roman Empire

4 Tuesdays, Feb 7, 14, 21, 28
Instructor: Dr. Walt Kubilius

Contemporary Irish Poetry

4 Mondays, Feb 13, 20, 27, Mar 5
Instructor : Mike Lythgoe

History As A Political Weapon

4 Mondays, Feb 27, Mar 5, 12, 19
Instructor: Dr. Jim Farmer

Academy Board Meeting, January 13

President Dick Baxter called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Those present were Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Glenn Knowles, Gerry McDonald, Kathy Schulz, and Wesley Sloan.

Marcia McDonald, Faculty Liaison Dr. Kathleen Kalpin-Smith, and Doug Wilson were not in attendance.

Motion to approve the minutes of November 11, 2011 carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Anne Cavanaugh, who currently holds the position of Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report.

The Academy has paid its indebtedness to USC Aiken for last semester.

As of year end we have \$18,067.57 in the University Account. There is a Purchase Order outstanding for Great Decisions Materials. Because of USC regulations and the unique nature of the course, there are "extra hoops" for Great Decisions Materials. These materials include a set of topical DVDs, a Teacher's Guide, and 31 copies of the Great Decisions 2012 Briefing Book. As of the Board Meeting Great Decisions Materials have not been received. There are 22 people registered for Great Decisions 2012, but additional students may register for this course. For the past several years this class has always been full, sometimes with a waiting list.

\$3,290 is owed to USC for membership and \$2,700 to USC Aiken professors. The amount owed for membership may increase depending on the final membership figures.

Including non USC Aiken instructors that leaves approximately \$8,500 after expenses.

In large part because of the resignation of the previous Treasurer and the Board decision to move treasurer responsibilities to USC Aiken Continuing Education personnel, the Academy does not have a budget for the Spring semester. Mary Anne is to work up and put some structure into a budget for the February Board Meeting.

There is approximately \$2,100 in the checking account. Previous Treasurer Norb Denil still has signature authority.

After the end of the Spring semester, Mary Anne is to work up a tentative budget for 2012 – 2013 beginning July 1, 2012.

Committee Reports

Curriculum – The next meeting is February 3rd. There are tentatively 16 to 17 classes currently listed for next semester. The goal is to increase the number of classes to 20 for Fall 2012.

Publicity/Marketing – Dick Baxter is submitting monthly articles for Mature Times. There was a Mature Times article on December 28 and one scheduled for January 25.

There is a Board concern that Academy Business Cards not be in so small a font as to need a magnifying glass in order to be read. The card will include the Academy logo, the Academy website, and USC Aiken contact information. There will be between 500 and 1000 printed depending on pricing breakpoints.

Membership – There are 185 members registered for Spring 2011. There is a slight increase of "Spring Only" members from 2010.

There are four classes with waiting lists. Either the instructor or passenger limit determined the number for two of these. The remaining two were limited by space available.

The Aging Brain was filled the first day registration forms were received. The Curriculum Committee should encourage the instructor to offer the course in the future with a larger class size and/or additional sections of the same course.

The class with the most registered members is *The Roman Empire* with 86. The class with the least registered members is *Wine Tasting with 11*. Both of these numbers are surprises.

Old Business

Elections are in the near future. The Academy still does not have either a Curriculum Chair Elect or a Publicity Chair. All current Academy members should be encouraged to volunteer to be Curriculum Chair, Curriculum Chair Elect, or Publicity Chair.

Given the available amounts in the University and checking accounts, the Board considered what should be done with the funds. The options presented were: reduce membership fees, increase instructor compensation, or provide undergraduate scholarships. Given past experience where encumbered funds were NOT available, the Board decided to hold the accounts without changing either income numbers or expense numbers. A minimum of \$2,700 needs to be kept as a "safety net."

The Kauffman Award will be on April 20th. Bruce Capers, basketball coach at Aiken Technical College, will be the featured speaker. He should bring a lot of excitement. The award winner was selected, but naturally, the name is not listed in these minutes.

There will be a special award for outgoing President Thomas L. Hallman.

New Business

The menu, invitees, and location of the Kauffman Award luncheon should be determined by the mid-February meeting.

It should not be expected that all members will use the Academy website. Since we expect it to be utilized at a greater extent in the future, efforts should be made to publicize the Academy website address.

A Nominating Committee needs to be selected for the 2012 – 2013 year. Emphasis should be placed on positions, which were not filled for the current year.

The next Board Meeting will be February 10th, 9:30 am, in Business & Education room 102.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20.

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Academy Officers: Richard Baxter, President; Glenn Knowles, Immediate Past President; Gerald McDonald, President Elect; Wesley Sloan, Secretary, and Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Treasurer.

Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:
Board of Directors: Marcia McDonald, Curriculum Chair; (Vacant), Curriculum Chair-Elect; (Vacant), Publicity Chair; Kathy Schulz, Membership Chair.

Non-Members: Dr. Kathleen Kalpin-Smith, Faculty Liaison; Dr. Deidre Martin, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.

Academy on the Web: <http://www.aikenlearning.org>

ACADEMY CALENDAR – FEBRUARY 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>Constitution & B.O.R.</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 106] <i>Psychology – Why?</i> 3:30 – 4:30p [CC]	2 <i>Economic Scene</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 106] <i>S. App. Geology</i> 2:00-2:55p [P 106]	3	4
5	6 <i>Healthy Aging</i> 10:00-10:50a [P 110] <i>Met at the Movies</i> 11:00a-12:30p [P106] <i>Master the Moderns</i> 2:00 – 2:50p [P 106]	7 <i>Roman Empire</i> 9:25 – 10:40a [P 106] <i>Old Testament</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 106]	8 <i>Psychology – Why?</i> 3:30 – 4:30p [CC]	9 <i>Economic Scene</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 106] <i>S. App. Geology</i> 2:00-2:55p [P 106]	10	11
12	13 <i>Contemp. Irish Poet.</i> 1:00 – 1:50p [P 106]	14 <i>Roman Empire</i> 9:25 – 10:40a [P 106] <i>Old Testament</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 106]	15 <i>Psychology – Why?</i> 3:30 – 4:30p [CC]	16 <i>Economic Scene</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 106] <i>S. App. Geology</i> 2:00-2:55p [P 106]	17	18
19	20 <i>Contemp. Irish Poet.</i> 1:00 – 1:50p [P 106]	21 <i>Roman Empire</i> 9:25 – 10:40a [P 106] <i>Old Testament</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 106]	22	23	24	25
26	27 <i>Hist As Polit Weapon</i> 10:00 – 11:00a [P 110] <i>Contemp. Irish Poet.</i> 1:00 – 1:50p [P 106]	28 <i>Roman Empire</i> 9:25 – 10:40a [P 106]	29			

[Location Codes] B = Business & Education Bldg @ USCA RP = Ruth Patrick Science Center @ USCA
 N = Nursing Bldg @ USCA P = Penland Bldg @ USCA CC = Cedar Creek Community Building