

The Spiral

aikenlearning.org

FEBRUARY, 2019

President's Message

SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN

Our Spring Semester has just started-- there were so many interesting classes this time, I really had a hard time limiting the number I could fit into my schedule!

All these classes are the result of the hard work of the Curriculum Committee members. They gather ideas, weigh them so the best topics make the cut, find a suitable instructor for the course and work with the instructor to schedule the class at the right time. Then they work together to put out a catalog twice a year that makes available to us the types of classes we are enjoying this semester. Without the Curriculum Committee, there simply would be no classes!

BUT THE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP. We need new members, new ideas, and suggestions on how to improve. We need individuals who can meet once a month from August to May to keep this wonderful flow of classes and events moving ahead. The next curriculum Committee meeting will be February 15, 12:00pm at B&E room 102. Drop in and see how you can help. You can also let Committee Chair Kathy Rachick know you are interested by emailing her at curric@aikenlearning.org.

Be sure to check your email for occasional time/location changes for any classes. And you can always go to https://aikenlearning.org/ to check on class changes—all changes are recorded on the website. I know you really don't want to miss a single class!

Harriet Haynes, Academy President pres@aikenlearning.org

Spring Semester in Progress

Registration for the Spring semester went very smoothly. The growing pains from the Academy's introduction of online self-registration a year ago now seem to be behind us. At this writing, 230 seniors have registered for this semester, with 180 of them doing so when registration opened on December 10.

Catalog Error Reminder

Initial releases of the Spring catalog contained the fol-

lowing error. Please make sure your copy contains this correction:

Live From The Met – first session is Feb 26, not Feb 2.

Courses Beginning This Month



Please see the published catalog for full descriptions and additional information. (You can download the current catalog from the Academy website at aikenlearning.org/

Catalog.php).

To enroll, register online at campscui.active.com/orgs/UniversityofSouthCarolinaAiken1#/selectSessions/2481806, or return the form in the catalog along with any required payment. For questions, contact USCA Department of Continuing Education at USCA (803-641-3756 / info@aikenlearning.org).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Do NOT attend these classes or events unless you have pre-registered AND have received written confirmation of your registration from USCA.

WORLD RENOWNED BALLET COMPANIES AND THEIR STYLES OF DANCING

Dates: 4 Fridays, February 1, 8, 15, 22

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Location: Business and Education Building, Room 122

SECRETS OF THE DEAD: A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE ON

WORLD HISTORY

Dates: 4 Mondays, February 4, 11, 18, 25

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Business & Education Building, Room 122

CULTURAL AND NATURAL ATTRACTIONS IN CHILE, SOUTH AMERICA

Dates: 1 Tuesday, February 5

Time: 2:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Location: Business and Education Building, Room 124

SRNL: PROTECTING OUR NATION AND WORLD Dates: 3 Wednesdays, February 6, 13, 20

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

Location: Business and Education Building, Room 124

KNOW YOUR WATERSHED - HORSE CREEK

Dates: 2 Thursdays, February 7, 14 Time: 2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Location: Penland 106

TAI CHI

Dates: 6 Mondays, February 18, 25; March 4, 11, 18, 25

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Location: Business and Education Building, 2ndFloor Gym

Enrollment Limit: 50

LIVE FROM THE MET OPERA

Dates: 6 Tuesdays, February 26; March 5, 12, 19, 26; April

2 Note first session date correction

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Business and Education Building, Room 124

AGING AND THE BRAIN

Dates: 4 Wednesdays, February 27; March 6, 13, 20

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. Location: Penland 106 Enrollment Limit: 50

CHOCTAW INDIANS YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Dates: 3 Tuesdays, February 28; March 7, 14

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Location: Penland 106 Enrollment Limit: 50

November Board Meeting

[Note: The Board did not meet in December. These minutes were approved at the January 14 Board Meeting.]

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by President Harriet Haynes.

Present: President Harriet Haynes, Past President Jan Van Slyke, Secretary Doug Wilson, Treasurer Joel Aitchison, Curriculum Chair Kathy Rachick, Publicity Chair Jeanmarie Bronson

Guests: Director ContEd Karen Edgington, Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Darren Timmons, Vice Chancellor for Advancement and External Affairs Mary Driscoll

Dr. Timmons replaces Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Dr. Jeff Priest, who recently retired. He sat in on our meeting to become acquainted with the Academy and its operation.

Ms. Driscoll attended at our request, to review our endowment accounts and to assist is setting up our scholarship commitments for this year.

MINUTES

Minutes of the prior Board meeting, held October 18, 2018,

were approved.

TREASURERS REPORT - Joel Aitchison

Our operating account balance is sufficient to cover all anticipated expenses.

We have received the second payment of registration fees from Active, which should pretty well cover all of this semester's registrants.

We are still waiting on several W9 forms to get the balance of our non-faculty instructors into the vendor list so that they can be paid.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT - Kathy Rachick

For the upcoming spring semester we'll have 32 short courses and 3 events.

Kathy has redrafted the membership recruitment letter. When and how to distribute this will be addressed in future meetings of the committee and board.

Police Chief Kevin Liles responded to a request originating in the Committee for more handicap parking spaces, especially in lot C, by allowing those displaying a valid government-issued handicap parking permit to park in yellow Staff/Faculty spaces when no designated handicap spaces are open. The number of handicap spaces needed will also be reevaluated.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT - Jeanmarie Bronson

Jeanmarie will explore advertising rates for the Aiken Standard, and see if there is any discount for having both the Academy and McGrath placing ads. Kathy will provide Jeanmarie with information she has obtained from the Aiken Chamber of Commerce regarding placing an ad in their Aiken promotional brochure.

OLD BUSINESS

Finding Board Member Candidates

A communication with the Curriculum Committee members seeking new Board candidates generated zero response.

Steeplechase

Steeplechase incidental expenses (table coverings, cups, tableware, ice) totaled \$50.17. The board authorized payment via the Academy checking account.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarships and Endowments

Mary Driscoll reviewed our endowments and provided useful information to help us plan our our scholarship commitments for this year. This was handled at the beginning of the meeting so that Mary could do her part then leave.

Endowments

The current "spin-off" set by the Board of Trustees in Columbia is 4.25% annually. This is, in essence, the interest rate at which the endowment funds grow. Only the interest portion of the endowments may be used, the principal must be preserved.

Operationally, if we wish to allocate endowment funds to pay for a specified allowable expenditure, we would need to invoice the Aiken Partnership Foundation which manages these endowments.

Some of our endowment funds specify that they may be used for scholarships.

Julie Thurlow Watson Endowment (1B1210) has a current spendable balance of \$2521.54. This account does not specify scholarships as a permitted use. Mary indicated \$191 had been spent from this account this year. We could not think of any recent expenditures of this amount so Mary committed to check her records to see what it was spent for. After Mary's departure, Karen located a report showing the \$191 was ADDED to the account, not deducted.

Earl Kauffman Memorial Leadership Fund (1B1509) has a current spendable balance of \$2905.99. Scholarships are one of its specified possible uses. In practice, we apply these funds toward the annual Kauffman Luncheon expenses. Now that we invite all members to this luncheon, the annual interest covers less than half the luncheon costs, so we have not spent from this account in several years. We discussed adding an amount to the principal so that the annual interest would be sufficient to fully cover future Kauffman luncheons, but Mary thought, since this was an endowment from the Kauffman family, the family would need to give their approval for us to do so.

Academy for Lifelong Learning Program Endowment (1C1727) has a current spendable balance of \$6544.85. Scholarships is one of the items this can be used for.

The Academy for Lifelong Learning Scholarship Fund is not an endowment, but rather a non-interest bearing "holding account" where scholarship moneys can be placed prior to dispersal. It currently contains \$1050, which has been sitting there untouched for several years. It is our intent that we spend this \$1050 as the first part of this year's commitment, and then close out this account. The balance of our commitment will come from our normal operating account.

Scholarships

USCA tuition is the third lowest in the state, at around \$10,000.

The scholarship commitment we make in this academic year will be used to fund scholarships in the following academic year. The Advancement Department typically designates scholarships in February or March for the following academic year. For Advancement's planning purposes, they'd like to be notified of our scholarship plans for this year by December or January. We can designate our scholarships as "renewable", such that they can automatically be given to the same

students in subsequent years. We specify our scholarships go to "non-traditional" (i.e. not-straight-from-high-school) students and Mary indicated that veterans and nursing students make up most of these.

Karen said that recently Veteran and Military Student Success Director Robert Murphy suggested it would be beneficial if we could split our scholarships into several smaller ones. When we increased our commitment from \$2000/year to \$3000/year a year or two ago we were told that fewer larger scholarships would be preferred as opposed to more smaller ones. Mary mentioned that veterans are charged a \$500-750 fee such that an additional number of smaller scholarships could help more veterans cover this fee. This is an issue we will need to consider as we address our commitment in upcoming board meetings.

Holiday Drop-In Reception Food Selections

After studying the available options from Aramark, the following selections were made:

Item	Cost/person
Wild Mushroom & Goat Cheese Crostini	\$3.99
Cheese Tray	\$3.29
Spanikopita	\$3.49
BBQ Meatballs	\$1.99
Cookies	\$1.79
Beer & Wine (based on last year's consumption)	\$2.33
Total variable expense	\$16.54/person

There will also be fixed costs (linens, bartenders) anticipated at around \$66. For an estimated 85 attendees (last year's count) this adds about \$0.78/person, for a total of \$17.32/person. With 8% sales tax, this comes to \$18.71/person.

We will be giving anticipated attendance figures to Aramark a week or so before the event. To date, prior to the RSVP cutoff date, we have around 65 commitments.

Kauffman Luncheon Date

Thursday April 25 was selected. There are no conflicting classes scheduled that date.

Rack Cards

[Editor's note: Rack cards are the promotional cards we place in public places such as the Aiken Library and Visitor Center.]

Although we submitted the Fall rack card file to USCA in July, they never got printed. As a result, our only promotional item out in the community was out of date all this term. When this was discovered we submitted an updated file to USCA in early October, which again never got printed. Doug will explore the cost of having these printed outside USCA.

There was a suggestion from the Curriculum Committee that the back of the card be more generic, indicating general types and subject fields normally offered instead of listing specific courses for the semester. This would prevent the card from becoming obsolete each semester. Doug will update the card, but asks the Curriculum committee to supply the replacement text for the back of the card.

Catalog and Registration Dates for Spring Semester

Having just scheduled our tentative classroom assignments, we know the initial class will be held Wednesday, January 16. These assignments must be entered into 25Live to become official.

Target date for catalog issuance is first week of December, so the target for submitting to the printer is November 25.

The date for opening registration will be December 10. This gives the USCA staff ten days before the holiday break to get everything entered into the system.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 pm. The next meeting, if needed, is scheduled for December 17 at 2 pm.



The Spiral is published monthly during the academic year by the Academy for Lifelong Learning at the University of South Carolina Aiken, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801. 803-641-3756. Doug Wilson, Editor

Academy Officers: President: Harriet Haynes; Past President: Jan Van Slyke; President Elect: (vacant); Secretary: Doug Wilson; Treasurer: Joel Aitchison (USCA)

Committee Chairpersons: Curriculum Chair; Kathy Rachick; Curriculum Chair-Elect: (vacant); Publicity Chair: JeanMarie Bronson Ex-officio Members: Dr. Tim Lintner, Faculty Liaison; Karen Edgington, Director Office of External Programs

Academy on the Web: aikenlearning.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Wood, Steam, Iron 9-10a [B 122] Ballet Companies 10:30-11:45a [B 122]	2 Live from the MET No class, catalog error
3	4 Secrets of the Dead 11a-12p [B 122] Thoreau 2-3:15p [B 124]	5 Four Arts 11a-12p]B 124] Rock 'n Roll Heaven 1-2p [B 124] Chile 2:30-3:50p [B 124]	6 Meditation 10-10:50p [B 116] Beg. Line Dancing 11a-12p [B Gym] SRNL 3-3:50p [B 124]	7 Manhattan Project 12-1p [P 106] Horse Creek 2-2:50p [P 106]	8 Ballet Companies 10:30-11:45a [B 122]	9
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