



Academy for
LIFELONG LEARNING
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

The
Spiral

THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA AIKEN

aikenlearning.org

JUNE, 2021

President's Message

The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new - Socrates

Today is a goodbye to the **Academy for LifeLong Learning**, but a grand 'Hello' to the **Center for Life-long Learning!** We hope you will continue to enjoy the bit of the sameness of the previous organization, while learning to embrace the changes that have been made.

The classes offered will continue to be the lecture type classes you have grown to enjoy, taught by many great instructors, just as before. But the merger with McGrath Computer Learning Center will also allow you to take hands-on technical classes that stretch your understanding and add clarity to your use of the communication tools we all sometimes struggle with.

Together we will build on the foundation of the old, toward the improvement of the new. We remain a self-supporting and self-governing organization --- one that is run BY the students FOR the students. We will continue to need your personal involvement and support in the day-to-day operation of the **Center!** We'd love to hear from you about any changes you would like to see happen, and about any ways that you would like to be a part of the new organization.

Together we will make it happen! We'll see you in the fall.

Welcome to the **Center for LifeLong Learning!**

Harriet Haynes, Academy President
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The NEW Center for Lifelong Learning – What You Need to Know for the Fall Semester

Two organizations involving adult education operating in association with the UofSC Aiken Department of Continuing Education are merging. Effective July 1, The Academy for Lifelong Learning and the McGrath

Computer Learning Center will begin a combined operation as the Center for Lifelong Learning.

How is the new Center organized? Although operating under the auspices of the UofSC Aiken Continuing Education Department, the Center for Lifelong Learning is managed and operated by a dedicated group of volunteers from the ranks of Center membership.



New logo A new logo for the Center has been designed, taking elements from the logos of its two parent organizations: the lantern from the Academy and the electronic power button symbol from McGrath.

What classes will be offered? With a single membership you will be able to enroll in all offered classes and activities. The Center will continue to offer both the general interest courses traditionally offered by the Academy in addition to the technology-oriented courses that have been offered by McGrath.

Where will classes be held? As in the past, classes primarily will be held on the campus of UofSC Aiken, although occasionally there may be field trips or sessions held at off-campus locations. Hands-on technology classes will be held at the former McGrath Tech Center located by the campus tennis courts. As Covid restrictions relax, UofSC Aiken is returning to full in-person classrooms in the fall, so there will be no University support for online participation.

What will it cost? The new organization brings with it a new fee structure. In order to enroll in activities at the Center, a membership in the Center will be required at an individual cost of \$35 per semester. Each course or activity will have an enrollment fee, according to the number of sessions in each. General interest courses, typically having 1-hour sessions, range from \$5 to \$15, while technology courses with 2-hour sessions will range from \$15 to \$28. Some offerings may have additional fees for materials, etc. If you compare these rates with those of similar adult education programs in other areas, you'll find them to be very reasonable.

What is the timing? The printed Fall 2021 UofSC Aiken Continuing Education catalog will be available around the first of August, and will be sent to a combined mailing list assembled from the lists of both former organizations. Registration opens Tuesday

August 17 at 9:00 am. The first classes begin right after Labor Day, on Tuesday September 7.

How can I enroll? Online registration will be available as well as manual registration via mail or in person. A Registration Open House will be held August 17 from 9:00 am to noon in Room 134 of the Business and Education Building on the UofSC Aiken campus.

How can I find out more? The new organization will have its website up on July 1, at the same address as has been used by the Academy: aikenlearning.org. The latest information about the Center for Lifelong Learning will be found there.

Karen Edgington Leaving UofSC Aiken

Karen Edgington, Executive Director of the UofSC Aiken Office of External Programs, Continuing Education, and Conferences, recently announced that she will be leaving the University to pursue other opportunities.

During her tenure, the Department and the Academy initiated online registration, coped with the Covid health crisis by implementing online classes, and saw significant growth in membership. Karen also spearheaded the upcoming merger of the Academy with McGrath.

The University has not yet named a new Director for the Department.

The Spiral Going on Hiatus

This is the last issue of *The Spiral* for the 2020-21 Academic year. We'll be returning next Fall as the newsletter of the Center for Lifelong Learning.

May 3 Board Meeting

[Note: This was the final Board meeting of the Academy for Lifelong Learning before the transition to the Center for Lifelong Learning this fall. Board approval was obtained via email.]

Present: President Harriet Haynes, Past President Jan VanSlyke (virtual), Curriculum Chair David Tavernier, Curriculum Chair-elect Steve Gordy, Publicity Chair Nancy Hughes, Webmaster Doug Wilson, Continuing Education Director Karen Edgington, McGrath Board Member Wayne Rickman, Secretary Ellen Wood, new webmaster Jim Brown (virtual).

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

The meeting began with a presentation of a framed certificate and small gift to Karen Edgington for her "dedicated and unwavering support of Academy and Center programs during a period of unprecedented demands" due to COVID. Dr. Daren

Timmins, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, attended briefly to offer his and the college's kudos.

Karen is leaving her position as director but assures that she will be around and available to assist with the upcoming transition period and for the summer rollout of our new Center.

The minutes of the 4/5/21 Board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Handed out. Accounts have been combined but can also be seen separately. General Ledger account format used.

There is currently a hold on the permanent treasurer's position pending the outcome of new hires to fill open positions in Continuing Education department.

Curriculum Committee: David Tavernier

The fall catalogue is 99% prepared. It will go to the printer on July 7 and be released in July/early August.

NOTE: August 17 is date for Open House at college and online registration. The first class is **Tuesday, September 7**.

Publicity: Nancy Hughes: Nancy reported that she has created a mission statement and a listing of the responsibilities of the PC.

New Business:

1. A re-designed membership card with the name of the Center and its new logo was handed out.
2. The Center's Bylaws were signed by all in attendance. Jan and Jim gave verbal approval for their names to be signed.
3. Candidates for the Center's transitional board of directors were approved as follows:

President – Wayne Rickman

Vice President – David Tavernier

Immediate Past President – Harriet Haynes

Secretary – Ellen Wood

Treasurer * – open until college fills open positions within Cont. Ed.

General Interest Technology Chair – Steve Gordy

Technology Interest Chair – Raleigh Daniel

Publicity Committee Chair ** – Jim Tisaranni

* Discussion about filling this position with a volunteer; no decision.

** Discussion about need for people to write the PR materials. Karen will check out possibilities of both staff and students from the college's Writing Room or journalism programs.

4. The Board designated Jim Brown as Webmaster and Doug Wilson as Spiral editor.
5. Website: Discussion about announcing the merger on the website, including a series of FAQs, in late June.

Decision to put up the new Center website on July 1 or shortly thereafter.

- 6. **Publicity:** Rollout to occur in last two weeks of July. The college's PR department will offer three dates and will prepare press releases and contacts with media and dignitaries. The Center will set the time and venue. There will be a photo-op with Chancellor and Center president and past president. Karen will follow up.

Wayne recommended that a public meeting be held in early August to explain the new Center (programs, costs etc).

- 7. Discussion of payments to instructors. No action taken.
- 8. Reaffirmed that liaisons for General Interest lecture classes will not be charged for the class for which they are the liaison, but they must register for that class. Technology 'coaches' do not pay for the classes they coach. Important that liaisons and coaches work directly (not online) with Cont. Ed to facilitate this.
- 9. **Holiday Social – Thursday, December 2 from 2 to 4 pm**
Rooms 116 and 122

This is a membership 'perk', with no charge.

- 10. Book Fair (Indie Author Day)– November 13

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Wood, Secretary

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: Ellen Wood; Treasurer: TBD (UofSC Aiken), Web Master: Doug Wilson

Committee Chairpersons: Curriculum Chair; David Tavernier; Curriculum Chair-Elect: Steve Gordy; Publicity Chair: Nancy Hughes

Ex-officio Members: Continuing Education Director: Karen Edgington; Faculty Liaison: Dr. Tim Lintner

Academy on the Web: aikenlearning.org