



Learning Institute for Elders

March, 2014

www.life.ucf.edu

DAFFODILS

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and
hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the
breeze.

--William Wordsworth



March 20 – First Day of Spring!

MEMBERSHIP

DUES

DEADLINE

March 16 – in class

April 8 – in class

April 15 – in class

**All renewals must be
postmarked by**

April 20, 2014

\$125 per person

**Happy
St. Patrick's
Day**

Proposed

By-Law Change

The LIFE Board of Directors has proposed the following By-Law change that moves the establishment of Standing Committees from the By-Laws to the LIFE Policy:

STANDING COMMITTEE

7.1 The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint chairpersons for Standing Committees. Standing Committee Chairpersons may serve ex-officio on the board. The number and types of Standing Committees will be established by LIFE Policy.

The board recommends the change to reduce the administration of Standing Committee changes. This change will be voted on by the membership at a special business meeting during the class session on March 18, 2014.



Highlights of Board Meeting

February 4, 2014

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Secretary – Alice Reinhardt

January minutes approved as distributed. Alice reported mailing 19 thank-you notes to Al Dallago Scholarship Fund donors. LIFE has received individual acknowledgements of each 2013 grant from UCF Fdn. as well as notes from UCF Libraries, College of Nursing and Departments of History and Music.

Treasurer – Pat Fluno

\$2275 has been received for the Al Dallago Scholarship Fund thus far. Treasurer's reports were approved. Discussion followed on the proposed budget for the next year.

Vice-President – Vonnie Bradbury

Vonnie reported on attending the "Champions of Change" luncheon sponsored by the Beacon Network. LIFE has made a small contribution to this group which promotes diversity and inclusion. A job description for a part-time assistant has been drafted and is being finalized. It was announced that former treasurer and board member, Kermit James, is seriously ill. A card with enclosed notes will be sent. The Spring Membership Awards event is in the planning stages—UCF alumni cards will again be presented to 10- and 20-year members.

President – Judy Thames

Judy announced that Dr. Wang is offering \$1400 from our Fall 2013 grant to the Honors College to fund a part-time assistant. Hewie Poplock presented his ideas regarding live or online classes to improve LIFE members' computer skills. A committee of Hewie, Steve Hall, Phil Easterling and Lee Cross was appointed to investigate how to proceed. They will report back at the next board meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

By-Laws/Policy – Ray Jones

Ray explained the organization of our committees—Standing, Ad Hoc and Special. It was suggested the by-laws be changed to make the naming of standing committees the responsibility of the board and not subject to a vote. Ray will draft the proposed change; it will require approval by the membership.

Membership – Clay Craft

Clay proposed April 15 as the date for current LIFE members to begin renewals for next academic year. Approved. Reminder phone calls will not be made—only e-mail and Powerpoint notices. Also, Clay reported that CarFit was a resounding success and the campus police were especially helpful.

Curriculum – Lee Cross

Lee announced that the last LIFE class of Fall 2014 semester will be the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. A committee will study when to hold Awards banquet since attendance may be poor Thanksgiving week.

Grants/Awards – Doug Garner

No report.

Gerontology Award - Ray Jones

There are eight applications remaining from the fall grants/awards process. Ray will double check to insure notices and application forms have been received by UCF departments. Board agreed Ray will ask the Dallago family if the LIFE undergraduate research awards could be named for Al Dallago.

Special Events – Carol Parker

Arrangements for the Spring Membership Recognition are underway.

WebMaster – Burt Blau

Burt still needs an assistant.

Audio/Tech Master – Steve Hall

Updates needed re: requests from UCF students for research volunteers.

Attendance – Luc y Pulido

January attendance: 311, 313, 349 and 359.

Veterans Oral History Project – Marty Wiener

Good response for volunteer interviewers. Training dates will be posted soon.

Safety – Paulette Geller

Paulette is looking for some kind of accessory to identify safety committee members at Tuesday's LIFE meetings. She is also checking the possibility of having

UCF maintenance paint curbs yellow on streets around the SU.

Newsletter – Vonnie Bradbury

May need assistance with March newsletter due to upcoming surgery.

College Visits – John Ciesko

Board members will be assigned to meet with UCF deans and unit heads to update UCF administration about LIFE activities and our grants/awards programs. John brought up the idea of providing business cards to board members and curriculum committee.

Diversity – Ian King

An announcement will be made tomorrow re: upcoming LEGACY program on February 11.

Knights Helping Knights – Judy Thames

Everything is going fine with this group.

Medical School Liaison – Aaron Liberman

Aaron is waiting for response from Medical School re: scheduling a tour.

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Yesterday I was clever . . . so I wanted to change the world.

Today I am wise . . so I want to change myself.

–Rumi

Let's Talk

Notes from A LEGACY/LIFE DISCUSSION February 11, 2014

LIFE Members – Beverly Bressart, Alan Finfer, Ann Funk, Ian King, Roy Scherer, Judy Thames, Kimmy Trivett, Lynn Trivett

LEGACY Scholars – Naike Cadet, ZakiyaMcGhie, Erin Pearson, Elizabeth Santiago, Ericka Simmons, Demetrious Watts.

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Each of the Scholars briefly described what benefit LEGACY has provided them: increased confidence and self-esteem, broader social network, more involvement in campus life, improved leadership skills and benefits derived from the Mentoring Program.

The Mentoring Program received high marks from each of the students, recounting specific instances when their mentor provided invaluable help and guidance. Mentors come mostly from the faculty and staff of the university. All agreed that LEGACY felt like a home to go to and that it taught many of the fundamentals needed in college such as social interaction, leadership, career development and money management.

Judy Thames, LIFE president, gave an overview of LIFE@UCF and its members interest in lifelong learning.

A panel of six, three LEGACY students and three LIFE members entertained the question how to bridge the gap between the different generations. A spirited discussion followed.

It was generally agreed that communication between the current generation and their grandparents or other elders was easier to initiate than the one with parents, and that the skip generations could learn much from each other. Grandparents tend to have more time than parents to listen to the younger generation. With both parents often working, mentors offer valuable guidance through life's transitions.

LIFE panelists offered some insights to the students: the difference in how the older generation got its information, the effect of the parental social environment on morés, the importance of listening skills, and the need to find additional funding for the LEGACY program.

More discussions are planned. LIFE expressed a desire to attend one or more of the LEGACY events and invited LEGACY students to attend some LIFE classes.

[The LEGACY Leadership & Mentoring Program supports the retention and graduation of ethnic minority students who are sophomores, juniors or seniors at UCF.]

New Technology Class

The Technology Discussion Group meets as a third class on LIFE@UCF class days for a 4 week trial and evaluation.

Each of those meetings will be themed with a short presentation followed by Questions & Answers.

The schedule includes:

03/04 ~ Web Searches – Tips & Tricks to help find information

03/11 ~ Computers – Mac or PC? XP or Windows 7 or Windows 8/8.1? Other Tips & Tricks

03/18 ~ Why is it called a Smartphone? The land of Android, iPhone/iPad & more

03/25 ~ Digital Cameras – Easier than a Kodak Brownie – Cameras & Smartphone Cameras

The presentations and links are posted on <http://lifeatucf.hewie.net> as well as other help and information.