Article I
MISSION

The Mission of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware in Dover (OLLI) is to provide opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation, personal growth and social interaction for people 50+ in an academic cooperative run by its members who volunteer their time and talents. The program is centered on classes developed and led by fellow members.

Article II
RELATIONSHIP to UNIVERSITY

OLLI is a unit of the Division of Professional and Continuing Studies.

The Division serves as the fiscal agent of OLLI and assumes responsibility for all fiscal matters of the program. The fiscal year is that of the university and runs from July 1 to June 30.

The Division provides the paid staff as its representatives at OLLI. While staff are employed by the University of Delaware, OLLI is responsible for the salaries and benefits of such employees.

Article III
MEMBERSHIP

Members must be at least 50 years old or a spouse of a member of that age. Potential members under the age of 50 may attend with approval from the program manager. Members
complete the registration form and pay the membership fee. Members may participate in courses and activities of the program and are encouraged to be involved in its continued growth.

Full year memberships are offered at fall registration and include the fall and spring semesters. Single term memberships are offered during a designated registration period for the respective term (fall, spring or summer).

Instructors who have been accepted to teach, but who do not pay the membership fee, are not eligible to participate in courses. They may serve on committees or as non-voting council members with approval from council.

Article IV
COUNCIL PURPOSES

Council manages the program to maintain high standards and good experiences for the members in the present and in planning for the future.

Council represents the membership and works with the University of Delaware through the program manager and with the other Lifelong Learning programs.

Council sets the schedule for the program each semester. Special programs, curriculum, and program expansion are approved by council.

Council establishes and provides oversight for the volunteer committee structure.

Council establishes various forms of continuing communication and exchanges with the membership and the University. No later than April 30 of each year, the Council shall publish a written Annual Report, briefly describing the current health of OLLI including enrollment, financial status, significant changes in long-range and academic plans and such other matters as the Council deems to be of interest to the general membership. The Report shall be sent to all members electronically or by US mail.

Article V
COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Nine voting members will serve three-year terms on council with three elected each year by the Council. No council member may be elected for more than six years. If a Council member cannot complete a term, the chair will appoint and the council will approve a member to complete the term. The chair may also appoint Community Liaisons who participate in council meetings but are non-voting council members. The paid staff and other University Staff are non-voting participants in Council meetings.
Council will elect annually from its membership a chair, a vice-chair and a secretary. The chair, vice-chair and secretary may be re-elected but may serve no more than two consecutive terms.

The chair presides at Council meetings. The agenda is developed by the chair and program manager and communicated to Council members. The chair will appoint committee leaders for one year who may be reappointed for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

The vice-chair assists the chair and performs all duties of the chair if the chair is absent.

The secretary publishes and maintains records of Council meetings.

Article VI
COUNCIL TIMELINE

In January, the chair appoints the nominating committee leader who appoints two additional committee members. At the March meeting, the nominating committee proposes three nominees to Council. After the March meeting, the slate of nominees is posted to the membership. At this time, additional nominations may be accepted from the general membership until the election in April. Nominees must have been members for a minimum of one full calendar year prior to the election. An official nomination form, endorsed by two additional members, is required for a nomination to from the general membership to be considered valid. The proposed council nominees must be willing to serve as a committee chair or a liaison to a committee.

At the April meeting, Council elects three new Council members. The May meeting is opened by the outgoing chair. The first item of business is the election of the new Council chair who then presides over the election of the vice-chair and secretary, making further appointments and conducting the remainder of the meeting. Council terms begin and end at the May Meeting.

Article VII
MEETINGS

The council meets once a month at least nine times per year. A quorum consists of a majority of voting council members.

Article VIII
COMMITTEES

In accordance with both the University’s outreach goals and the Osher Foundation’s endowment criteria, the institute provides opportunities for volunteer engagement and leadership.
The council leads several committees devoted to specific areas of program development including but not limited to course development, faculty relations, member relations, travel, special events, community relations and diversity and inclusion. Committee leaders are appointed by the Council chair after gaining counsel from member leaders and staff. Committee leaders then appoint additional committee members. Committee leader and member appointments last for one year, but may be renewed as appropriate. The council will maintain a document, entitled “OLLI Dover Volunteer Opportunities,” which outlines specific roles and responsibilities of greatest need to the institute.

Article IX

AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended from time to time as appropriate and deemed necessary. Bylaws are changed by action of Council. Written notice of the proposed changes must be given at least a week in advance with the notice of the meeting.

Adopted by a vote of the Founding Committee on April 11, 2012.
Revised by a vote of the Council on November 2, 2015.
Revised by a vote of the Council on May 2, 2016.
Revised by a vote of the Council on September ??, 2016.
Revised by a vote of the Council on August 7, 2017
Revised by a vote of the Council on May 7, 2018
Revised by a vote of the Council on October 8, 2018