



FALL NEWS WINTER 2019 NEWS 2020

Two Study Leaders Compare Notes

Two relatively new Study Leaders, Richard Neugass and Steve Tofel, sat down to compare notes on their recent experiences as OSHER@Dartmouth Study Leaders. Below are excerpts of that conversation.

Q: What was the subject of your course?

Richard: Discussion of reactions to films shown at the 2019 Telluride@Dartmouth Film Festival.

Steve: Our eight *One-Term Presidents*; those who were elected once and then defeated when they ran for reelection.

Q: How did you decide on the topic for your course?

Richard: Audience reaction to the Telluride Festival's films shown at



Richard Neugass



Steve Tofel

Dartmouth in 2018 made me realize that many people wanted to talk about the films they'd just seen. I thought that there was something missing in the discourse, and that Dartmouth's Department of Film and Media Studies might be able to provide expertise that could be useful to OSHER@Dartmouth members.

Steve: The institution of the presidency has always interested me. Since our

current president is in his first term I thought that it might be fun and somewhat topical to consider what factors in the past contributed to these presidents' one-term experience.

Q: Did it take more time to prepare than you expected?

Richard: Not for me. The bulk of my efforts were spent earlier this year finding the right presenters and structuring the classroom experience. The three faculty presenters, Mark Williams, Samantha Davidson-Green and Joanna Rapf, who also helped organize the course months before it started in September, were instrumental in its success. It never would have happened without them.

Steve: Yes! A friend warned that it might

Continued on page 2

President's Corner



When I was busily engaged as an Osher Study Leader, a member of the Curriculum Committee, and also involved in the last four Summer Lecture Series, I had not given any thought to what else I might like to do to get more broadly involved in OSHER@Dartmouth. I did know this was the best educational, dynamic, and social organization anybody over 50 could ever hope to find to enrich the second part of their life. Thus when I got that phone call from John Sanders two years ago asking me

to be his Vice President, I knew what the next step was. To get the call from John was an honor, to have the opportunity to lead OSHER@Dartmouth two years later was frosting on the cake.

As the new President I have been asked to discuss my hopes for OSHER@Dartmouth. Most important on the short-term list has been finalization of all the negotiations and planning that have been done over the past year in the Planning Committee to find an interim home for our organization once we lose access to the DOC House in April 2020. All that work came to fruition on October 1,

2019, when, on behalf of OSHER@Dartmouth, Dartmouth College signed a lease on second and third floor spaces in the building at One Court Street in Lebanon.

What will take place now is the remodeling of those spaces to house four classrooms accommodating 82 students and all four members of our staff. Working with the manager and co-owner of One Court Street, we hope to start the move into the leased spaces in January 2020 and, in accordance with the terms of the lease, house the majority of our classes and staff offices there until June 30, 2026.

Continued on page 2

Study Leader Profile (cont.)

take longer than I expected and he turned out to be absolutely right. Gathering the information and putting it into a useable format was challenging, but I learned a great deal about the subject, AND I'm better on PowerPoint than I ever was; sort of a win-win. My guess is that it takes about five times longer to prepare for a course than to finally present it, at least for this type of class.

Q: What was the most rewarding part of leading the course?

Richard: I think that the real payoffs for all of us in the class were gaining new insights into the incredible art of film making and learning to appreciate films on a deeper level.

Steve: Iain Sim told me that half the joy of leading an Osher course is presenting it; the other half is preparing it. He definitely got that right! I now know so much more about the subject than when I started. When you prepare for a course you end up learning so much more about the background of the subject. Of course, it's tremendously rewarding when students enjoy it.

- Richard Neugass; Steve Tofel



OUR NEW HOME: One Court Street in Lebanon, NH. Osher@Dartmouth will occupy space on the second floor (above Three Tomatoes), and on the third floor (above Scratch).

President's Letter (cont.)

High on the long-term list is the return of Osher@Dartmouth to Hanover in 2026. That goal was stipulated in our MOU with Dartmouth College regarding our 2020 move to Lebanon. Where we return to in Hanover will depend on the outcome of several planning studies currently underway at Dartmouth. We will stay in close contact with the Dartmouth Provost and Real Estate office to jointly examine the outcome of those studies to determine where Osher@Dartmouth will fit in.

I believe Osher@Dartmouth should strive to develop a membership of around 2,000, which would add about 400 to our present size. Our Marketing & Communications Committee will play a major role in attracting new members. When we add new members we also add new Study Leaders and a greater breadth of course offerings.

Our Curriculum Committee has done a magnificent job of recruiting new Study Leaders and courses. We all need to remind ourselves that our curriculum is what we are all about, and more of us need to volunteer to lead. I know I will resume developing courses once I adjust to the new job. Continuous learning is essential to continuous growth.

Having said all of the above, I freely confess I do not plan, read, or study continuously. Lois and I live in the Upper Valley because we love the outdoors and hate air conditioning. When we fully recover from broken bones and other maladies of aging, we hike, cross-country ski, walk the dog, chase the deer away, and enjoy the great northeast. We still dream of the days when we delighted in sailing the Maine Coast through the fog as well as under sun and stars.

- Bill Sullivan, President

EVENTS

OSHER@The Movies:

Meet Me in St. Louis

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

1:00 PM

Nugget Theaters,
Hanover, NH

Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

DOC House,
Hanover, NH

OSHER@The Movies:

The Man Who Knew

Too Much

Monday, January 13, 2020

1:00 PM

Nugget Theaters,
Hanover, NH

For more information on these and other events, check our website: osher.dartmouth.edu

Behind the Scenes: Creating “Summer Lecture Series 2019”

It was September 28, 2018.

It had been just six weeks since the Summer Lecture Series 2018 had ended with a closing lecture by Susan Dentzer on the partisan subject of the way forward on Healthcare. But it was time to begin the planning for Summer Lecture Series 2019.

Pete Bleyler and I convened a meeting that day of the Planning Committee. We started that meeting by reviewing the feedback from the online survey we had conducted among the Series 2018 attendees, with the objective of improving Series 2019. Individual members of the Committee had also been asked to propose ideas of what might be a compelling over-arching theme for Summer Lecture Series 2019. One idea stood out. It was based on the premise that Americans had become so polarized on so many important issues that most refuse even to listen to or consider opinions that differed from their own. The idea was to base Series 2019 on the need for more objective, open-minded thinking, focusing the Series on timely and controversial constitutional issues.

Pete and I had already met with Jaci Allen to finalize the Series 2019 budget, which included the decision not to raise the Series or Session ticket prices, but at the meeting we discussed how we might increase the Underwriter/Sponsor support for the Series, and thus our revenue.

On the agenda for the following Committee meeting, on October 26, a more detailed preliminary description of the agreed Series

Critical Thinking for the Preservation of Our Democracy

theme was reviewed, including how it might be broken into six sessions. Certain very timely subjects stood out: Free Speech, Gun Rights, Affirmative Action, Free Press, Individual Privacy, and Voting Rights. Bill Sullivan added that the thoughtful resolution of these polarized issues required the use of critical thinking. He then suggested this wording: “Critical Thinking For The Preservation Of Our Democracy.” Unanimous agreement!

It was also decided to reinforce the “critical thinking” objective by making the Series a group of six debates, each one demonstrating critical thinking “in action” and featuring a moderator and two speakers with contrasting viewpoints on the issue. This would be the first time we have ever offered debates instead of lectures by individual speakers. We hoped debates would provide the audience with a fuller, more objective understanding of each issue.

Pete, Lisa King, and I then met with Professor Don Pease and Cheryl Bascomb (Dartmouth VP Alumni Affairs), the Co-Chairs of Dartmouth’s 250th Anniversary Celebration throughout 2019, and discussed how we might integrate some of our efforts with theirs. Pete followed up that meeting with more contacts, resulting in our Summer

Lecture Series 2019 becoming the summer component of their year-long program of events. Pete also secured their commitment to become a donating Underwriter for Series 2019.

Sarah Chamberlin created a timeline for when she needed input from Pete and me, and from Committee members, on speakers and sponsors for the marketing/PR pieces, the Series mailer, the Series program, and the advertising pieces she had to produce. She had to create graphic design components too, incorporating the Series logo. We had many deadlines to meet in the coming months!

Laura Belback needed to incorporate the Series 2019 writeups on our OSHER@Dartmouth website and in promotional email blasts to our membership about the Series as it developed. More deadlines for us to meet!

Two years ago we live-streamed our six lectures to the Osher Institute at the University of Vermont as an experiment. They loved it! Granite State College joined for Series 2018. And for Series 2019 Lisa was able to expand the live-feed to include, for a fee, the Univ. of Kentucky, the Univ. of Georgia, and UMass Boston.

Ann Hargraves began the process of lining up hosts for the weekly Wednesday night dinners in honor of the arriving Speakers. We needed homes that could seat a minimum of 14-16 people. Some wonderful people agreed to be hosts. Ann kept track of which speakers were

Continued on page 4

Summer Lecture Series (cont.)

bringing their spouses to these dinners, whether they had any food allergies, and who would be bringing them from the Hanover Inn to the dinners.

Steve Tofel, Bruce Macdonald and others began to put together a marketing/PR/advertising plan for promoting Series 2019 to our members and the public. Many decisions. Other than emails and our website, how broadly should we advertise? How often? To whom? Of course we had to stay within our budget.

Meanwhile, the prospection of potential Sponsors continued. Pete and our assigned Committee members kept up their pursuit. The good news is that when the dust had cleared, sponsorship commitments of \$41,000 had been confirmed, well over our budget target!

I had the task of identifying potential speakers and moderators for the six sessions. That's eighteen people, twelve more than in past years. I received some speaker suggestions for each session from Committee members, and then augmented them from some extensive Googling and from YouTube (which also revealed how well some potential speakers communicated). Of course each speaker needed to be a prominent authority on their debate issue.

I had learned not to pursue active politicians because they can't commit to participate way in advance since their plans change often. Both Kamala Harris and Corey Booker, who I tried to recruit for the Gun Rights debate, said they could not confirm until one week before their talk. I also

had learned not to contact Speakers Bureaus for speakers. They are very difficult to work with.

My initial task was to prioritize the speakers for each session, with the objective being to contact the most desirable speaker first and bringing the Series "alive" for them via YouTube clips from our Series 2018 sessions.

Given our budget and the fact we had eighteen speakers, it was decided not to offer any of them an honorarium. We already knew we would have to reimburse the travel expenses for all eighteen speakers.

Since Series 2019 included constitutional issues, it became apparent that our best speakers would come from the large pool of law school professors and practicing litigators. My first two priority prospects were Prof. Owen Fiss from Yale Law School (and considered the foremost constitutional law expert in our country) and Neal Katyal (former U.S. Solicitor General who has argued 37 cases before the Supreme Court). Fortunately, both accepted. Securing these two renowned people upfront was huge because it meant I could use their names when recruiting others.

The pursuit was on, with some disappointments and frustrations (unanswered emails and phone calls) along the way, but eventually (by late-March) the full roster of eighteen participants was confirmed. And we didn't have to commit to an honorarium for any of them!

Sarah could now finalize the marketing materials with photos and bios on each speaker, and I could proceed to get them to sign releases to have

their debate filmed by CATV.

I could also contact Phil Hanlon, President of Dartmouth, to see if he would attend one of the sessions and welcome everyone and thank OSHER@Dartmouth. He agreed, choosing to attend the opening Free Speech session.

Soon C-SPAN called our office to ask if they could come to Dartmouth (from DC) and film the Gun Rights debate. We said yes since it would enhance OSHER@Dartmouth's national stature, but we had to solve one problem. Dartmouth's tech people are all union employees, C-SPAN's are non-union. Fortunately, Todd created a production solution that pleased both parties.

Time to relax? Not exactly. Some unexpected surprises were about to happen.

In mid-March, Linda Chavez, our confirmed speaker for the Affirmative Action debate on July 25, informed me that she needed knee replacement surgery and her surgeon had scheduled it for the week before, so she was out. Fortunately, I was able to secure Adam Mortara as her replacement. He is the chief litigator representing the Asian-American plaintiffs in the Harvard case currently in the courts.

Six weeks before his August 8 debate speaker Neil Richards emailed me that he had fallen and broken his leg. Ouch! But he went on to say his doctor felt he would be healed and okay to travel and participate as scheduled.

One scary surprise. In advance of the Gun Rights debate there were a

Continued on page 5

Summer Lecture Series (cont.)

disturbing posting on social media by a man who wanted to bring his gun to the debate! Our office immediately notified the Hanover Police and the police visited the man. On the morning of the debate uniformed Hanover police officers were stationed at the entrances to Spaulding Auditorium and plainclothes officers were stationed inside. Fortunately, no incident occurred.

Jennifer Daskal, speaker in the Individual Privacy debate, picked up the wrong suitcase after flying into Manchester Airport and didn't notice it until she arrived at the Hanover Inn. Some of her debate notes were in it, but we were fortunate that Laura Belback volunteered immediately to bring the wrong suitcase back to the airport, and then bring the right suitcase to Erin at the Inn. She did it!

And then the big surprise. Just two days before the Mueller hearing before Congress on July 24, Neal Katyal called me to say that NBC (where he is a regular commentator) had summoned him to host a panel of experts at the NBC Studio in Manhattan throughout the hearings that day and on all of its (and MSNBC's) news broadcasts that evening. He would not be able to finish until 11:15pm. He asked, "Could we postpone the July 25 debate to another day?" I said, "Unfortunately no, over 500 people have already bought tickets to the debate and arranged their schedules accordingly." The solution? An NBC limo would bring him to Hanover that evening. He arrived at 4:30am, and was on the stage promptly at 9:00am for the debate.

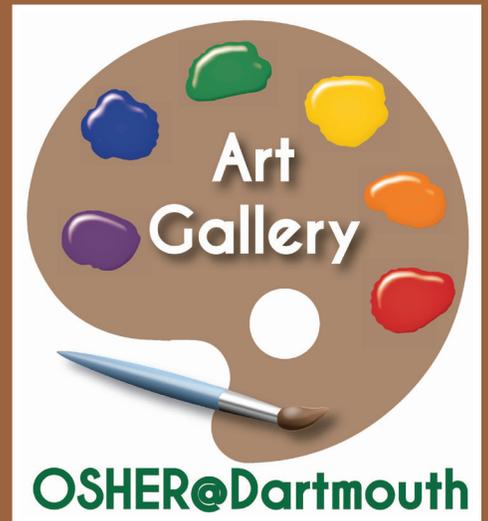
D-Day. July 11, 2019. The first debate. Pete and I crossed our fingers

OSHER@Dartmouth Art Gallery

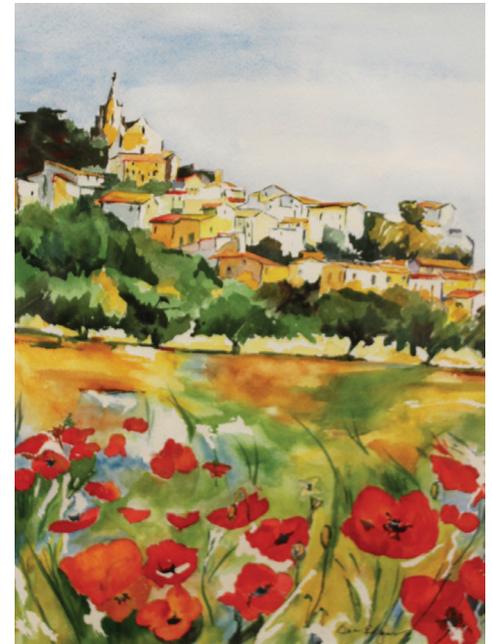
"Animals, Flowers, and Icons" by Bea and Tony Edgar is currently on exhibit at the OSHER@Dartmouth art gallery. Visitors can view this exhibit now through December 10.

Admission is free. The gallery is open to the public during regular office hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30am to 4:30pm
Fri 8:30am to 1:00pm



"The Old Man" by Tony Edgar



"Bonnieux, Provence" by Bea Edgar

The artwork of Tony and Bea Edgar has been well-received at the Osher Art Gallery. 13 of their pieces, purchased by visitors to the gallery, are going to new homes after the conclusion of the exhibit in December. We thank the Edgars, and ALL of our artists, for sharing their creativity with our members!

backstage. Committee members handed out notecards for the arriving audience's Speaker questions (which Pete and I would feverishly sort during the break). Lisa and her team were at a table, selling more tickets and passing out programs. President Phil Hanlon was with us backstage,

ready to go on stage, and so was our featured debate team – moderator David Bisno and speakers Owen Fiss and Akhil Amar. Summer Lecture Series 2019 began right on time!

- John Ferries, Co-Chair, Summer Lecture Series Committee

OSHER@Dartmouth is Moving to Lebanon!

The contents of this article were mailed to all OSHER@Dartmouth members in October 2019.

In January 2020, OSHER@Dartmouth will relocate our administrative offices and some classrooms to One Court Street in Lebanon, NH. This move offers our organization a host of exciting new possibilities, and stems from a need for a larger, integrated home that allows our offices and classrooms to enjoy direct contact throughout the year.

The DOC House has been home to ILEAD's/OSHER@Dartmouth's offices and main classroom space since 1999. Over the years our program has grown as well as the number of staff. For the past four years Osher members have attended classes at the DOC House and a number of other off-campus venues, while our staff has worked from administrative space at 7 Lebanon Street. While that separation was awkward and inefficient, it was required in order to provide staff necessary workspace. The second floor at DOC House was no longer able to meet staff needs.

For some time OSHER@Dartmouth working groups had been looking for affordable and suitable rental spaces in the local areas that would allow us once again co-locate administrative offices and classes in the same building. We had not found any that met both criteria until earlier this year when we became aware of soon to become vacant spaces in a building at One Court Street in Lebanon. It also turned out that these same spaces had been under lease to Dartmouth College since 2002 to house the

now-disestablished University Press of New England.

With the assistance of Dartmouth College's Provost, Financial, and Real Estate offices we have negotiated an agreement to occupy these spaces located on the second and third floors of One Court Street in Lebanon. The leaseholder will continue to be Dartmouth College, with OSHER@Dartmouth funding rental costs at an affordable fixed rental rate for a period of six years.

The second floor of One Court Street will house three classrooms – providing space for 14, 18, and 22 students – a break area, and a storage room. The third floor will house three offices, a reception area, a break area, and a large, 28-student classroom. We will also enjoy shared use of a conference room on the third floor with other Court Street tenants. Each floor has restrooms available for use by Osher members. There is an ADA-certified elevator accessing all floors, as well as two separate stairways.

We hope to begin renovation of One Court Street later this month. We have asked Court Street Associates, to prioritize completion of the administrative space in order to enable staff to move to this new location in January 2020, enabling us to close out the rent at 7 Lebanon Street in Hanover. Most of our 2020 Winter Term classes will take place at the DOC House, with a few taking place at One Court Street as remodeling is completed. Our goal is to open our 2020 Spring Term in March at our new Court Street home.

Lebanon offers parking spaces for

those with accessibility needs as well as ample free public parking adjacent to Court Street. There is a commercial bus stop immediately in front of One Court Street and Kendal has also agreed to provide bussing to the building. Just below Court Street is a large free municipal parking lot accommodating cars in designated areas of 2 hour and 3 hour durations as well as all-day parking. Metered parking is available around the green and elsewhere in town.

Lebanon also offers opportunities for Osher to arrange additional classroom space in close proximity to Court Street, including AVA Gallery, River Valley College, and the Lebanon Opera House. Local shopping and restaurants are also conveniently located in the immediate area (Three Tomatoes is on the ground floor of One Court Street and Salt Hill Pub in the next building). The enclosed map will show you how to get to One Court Street, the locations of public parking, and other key buildings in downtown Lebanon.

We want to conclude by making a very important point to our members: OSHER@Dartmouth's move to Lebanon is an interim move. Our intent, shared by Dartmouth College and recognized in a jointly signed Memorandum of Understanding, is that OSHER@Dartmouth will return to Hanover at the completion of the six-year lease of One Court Street. We will be working closely with the Provost's Office and Dartmouth Real Estate to secure that return. In the meantime, we believe our members and volunteers will enjoy this exciting opportunity and encourage you to

Continued on page 7

keep an eye on our weekly email for updates on the renovations.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OSHER@Dartmouth office at 603-646-0154.

Sincerely,

Lisa King, Program Manager
Bill Sullivan, President



New Look for OSHER@Dartmouth Website

This December, visitors to the OSHER@Dartmouth website were greeted with a brand new look.

Dartmouth College's Web Services department has been working for the last few years to transition each website associated with the College to a new format. This summer, our office was notified that osher.dartmouth.edu was scheduled to undergo this transformation. Immediately

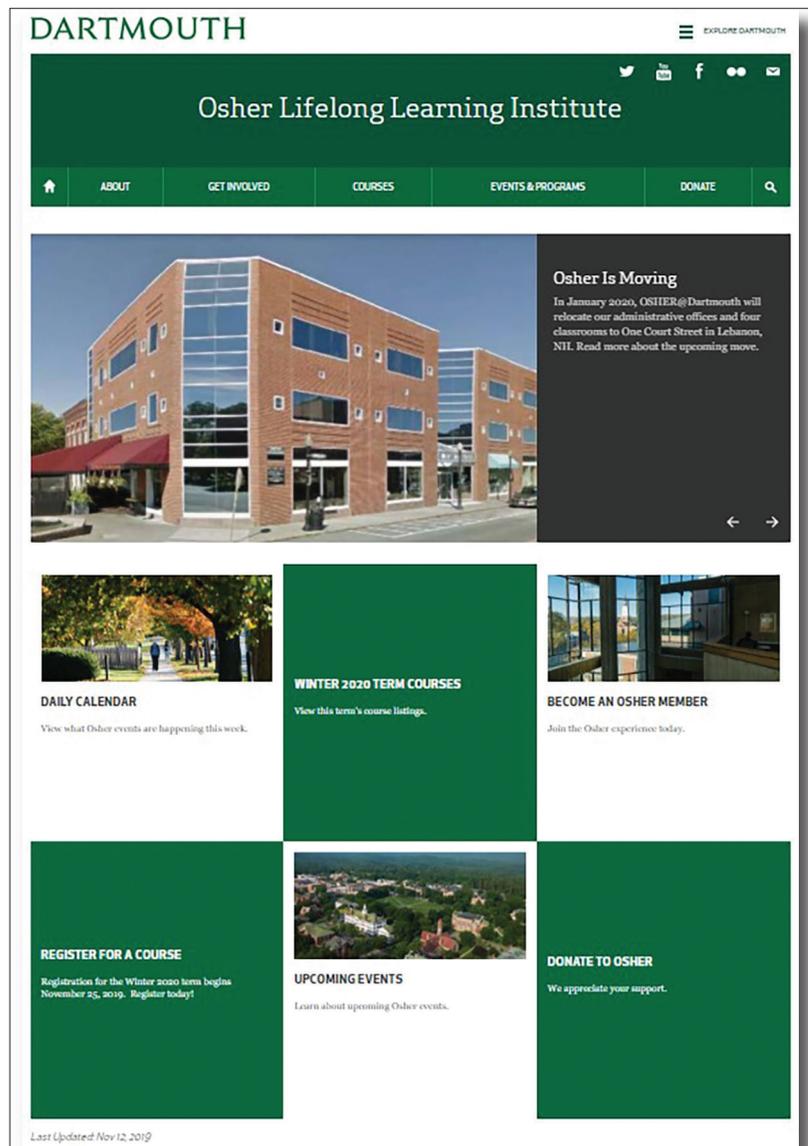
after receiving that notification, Osher staff began working with a Web Services representative and recommendations from Osher members and volunteers in order to redesign our online content.

We hope the new format allows our online visitors to explore Osher programs and information in a more streamlined and accessible format. Our new homepage is shown in the image below.

CORRECTIONS

There were errors in our communications regarding directions to Court Street and parking in Lebanon.

- If traveling from the south via I-89 exit 18, take a **LEFT** onto Route 120.
- If traveling from the north via I-89 exit 18, take a **RIGHT** onto Route 120.
- Traffic around Colburn Park in Lebanon flows in a counter-clockwise pattern.





Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Dartmouth
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Hanover, NH 03755
603.646.0154
Email: osher@dartmouth.edu
Web: osher.dartmouth.edu

OSHER OFFICE IS MOVING!

The **OSHER@Dartmouth** office will be shifting locations as our new home at **One Court Street** is prepared. Dates to remember:

7 Lebanon Street office closes permanently
Friday, December 13, 2019

Staff will relocate to DOC House 2nd floor
until One Court Street offices are completed.

Moving dates: December 16 & 17

While we are at DOC House, we recommend communicating with staff via phone or email before visiting the office.

OSHER@Dartmouth staff observes winter break
Tuesday, December 24, 2019
through Wednesday, January 1, 2020

We will use our weekly email to notify members of our official One Court Street move-in date once it is confirmed.