



SPRING NEWS 2020



(No) Strings Attached: Donating Handcrafted Items

18 weeks, three terms, more than \$500 worth of yarn, and an estimated 200+ hours of work are a few of the factors that have contributed to the success of Gail Fancher's unique Osher at Dartmouth courses.

For over a year, Gail has offered knitting and crocheting classes to Osher members. After an initial "how to" course in Winter 2019, Gail's goal for her subsequent courses has been to work with participants to use donated or leftover yarn to craft items for donation to local charities. She even posted on a crafting website, ravelry.com, to share information and a chance for others outside Osher to take part.

So far, classes have produced 29 hats, nine scarves, three full-size blankets, five baby



Members of Gail's class display their work.

blankets, and one set of mittens! Most of the items created by Gail's classes are sent to the Upper Valley Haven, but some have been presented to private individuals in need of personal items.

Each term, awareness of the work Gail and her class members are tackling has

spread, prompting donations of materials. Contributions have taken a variety of forms: small balls of leftover yarn, half-skeins, full skeins, and one remarkable donation of two 55-gallon bags filled to the brim with balls of yarn!

Each donation has its own unique story. A local man, after his wife passed away, gifted a large quantity of yarn from her personal supplies. One donor said, "This yarn has been sitting around my house for years. It would be wonderful if you could use it."

Donations have come from both Osher members and the wider public. In the midst of puzzling over which color to use for a planned patchwork blanket, a member of Gail's garden club provided

Continued on page 6

President's Corner



By the time you read this note, Osher at Dartmouth will have completed its move from the DOC House to One Court Street in Lebanon. Once again we will have all our staff and the majority of our classes in the same building, making staff support for our courses far easier to accomplish. One small classroom and two large classrooms on the second floor, and a much larger classroom on the third floor will accommodate a total of 82 students for each two-hour class

period. There will be three 2-hour class periods each day, Monday through Friday. Lisa has also arranged for the rental of the River Valley College (immediately behind One Court Street) lecture hall which will hold an additional 50 students per class session if required.

There is ample all-day and three-hour parking available in the large parking lot adjacent to and one level below One Court Street. A map of all public parking in downtown Lebanon has already been distributed to Osher members. As most of you undoubtedly already know, Lebanon also offers restaurants, pubs,

snack bars, and a breakfast cafe in the mall adjacent to One Court Street.

After we are fully settled at One Court Street and have completed the adjustment to our new home and Lebanon itself, we intend to undertake a study on how we might offer courses that more closely serve the population of greater Lebanon and how that might need to be done (late day or Saturday courses?). Our new location invites some new thinking.

Our lease at One Court Street runs through June 2026, and as you know

Continued on page 6

Celebrating Lisa King: 25 Years With Dartmouth

In early 1995, ILEAD's then-President, Mid Davison, interviewed a young woman named Lisa King, and their instant camaraderie led to Mid offering Lisa a position with the organization, a decision that has helped steer our program throughout most of its history.



Superlatives by Gael Clauson decorate Lisa's cake



A snow sculpture by Michael Gonnerman, Bill Young, and members of their winter 2020 "Snow Sculptures" course greeted guests as they arrived for Lisa's anniversary party.

Lisa King initially worked for Dartmouth College from 1990 through 1994 in the offices of the University Press of New England (UPNE). She briefly moved to Florida in 1994, and on returning to the Upper Valley, she searched for a job on the College's website. She was intrigued by the posting for ILEAD, and reached out to arrange that fateful meeting with Mid.



Lisa's family, including mother Sandy Fullington, daughter Katelyn King, and significant other Ken Patten, stand behind her as she addresses guests at her anniversary party.

From the moment she started, Lisa was a driving force behind the success of ILEAD, continuing as the program transitioned to an Osher Institute. In her first year with the program, Lisa quickly learned that she needed to give 100 percent every day she came to work. She says hard work, kindness, patience, and knowing who to talk to at Dartmouth to make things happen all contributed to her early success.

Excerpts from Sylvia Sands Paxton's speech honoring Lisa

I think of Lisa as the Head Coach of OSHER@Dartmouth! And the other Head Coach I'd like to talk about this afternoon is Bill Belichick. Lisa is like Coach Belichick in the following ways:

- She has established a great staff that work well together, care about one another and take great care of us.
- She has built a winning program and overall team making OSHER@Dartmouth the best in the nation.

Now, there are ways that Lisa is even better than Coach Belichick:

- She coordinates all OSHER@Dartmouth activities: courses, schedules, locations, special events, lectures. You name it, she does it.
- She keeps the fans, students, Study Leaders, and volunteers all happy and satisfied, which isn't an easy job.

There are many "coaches" in the Osher learning groups, but only one Lisa King. I say "Lisa for the Hall of Fame!"



Party guests sign a card honoring Lisa designed by Osher Study Leaders Stephanie Reininger and Joe Medicott.

When asked to pick a memorable moment from her experiences as Program Manager, Lisa recalls the gift of \$298,000 that a former member, Maureen Molloy, made to Osher. Lisa explains, "To think that our program meant that much to someone...was very touching. I was honored that she thought of us."

Continued on page 7

“Accomplishments & Challenges” for the Curriculum Committee

Your Curriculum Committee is excited about the larger and more flexible quarters at One Court Street in Lebanon, for we’ve been bursting at the seams at the DOC House for some time. The number of courses offered each term, the number of participants enrolled, and overall participant ratings are at all-time highs.

What accounts for such success? Primary credit, of course, goes to the many talented individuals serving as study leaders, and the energetic participants whose lively enthusiasm makes the course experience exciting and entertaining as well as informative. And we’re blessed with a hard-working staff always ready to lend a hand to make the rough places smooth.

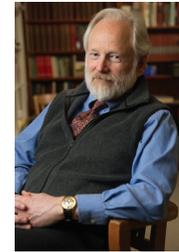
To these we might add the work of the Curriculum Committee – largely conducted behind the scenes – whose twenty-one members seek to make each term as successful as possible. Osher at Dartmouth’s program has many moving parts and it takes the coordinated work of our several subcommittees – Recruiting, Vetting, Study Leader Support, Evaluations, and Special Lectures – to make it all work smoothly. Assiduous attention to process ensures an easy passage from initial course idea all the way to final student evaluation. Whether it’s advice on whether a topic might “fly” with our audience, how to word course descriptions, create syllabi, manage class discussion, deploy technology effectively, or make sense of participant feedback, our study

leaders find ready assistance upon request. They know the Curriculum Committee is there to help, not monitor, and is invested in their success. Enhanced collaboration with Study Leaders and greater attention to internal consultation among subcommittees have been key elements in our success.

Our move to Lebanon presents us with opportunities to be more efficient, flexible, and effective. Similarly, having virtually the entire program under one roof enables the staff and Curriculum Committee members to better support study leaders seeking to explore creative use of classroom technology.

Maintaining and enhancing the quality of our program is this committee’s central challenge. Despite healthy enrollments, our membership base is always vulnerable: as older members (and study leaders and committee members) begin to limit their Osher at Dartmouth involvement, finding replacements is our biggest challenge. This is a major concern for a program that depends upon a steady supply of new members with energy, enthusiasm, and fresh ideas. Such potential participants (and future Study Leaders and committee members) are out there, but they seem awfully busy and not - or not yet - ready to dedicate the time that involvement with Osher at Dartmouth requires. Identifying and bringing them on board should be a program-wide effort, not limited to one or two committees.

As we navigate a constantly changing educational landscape, we’re not content to assume “if it don’t look broke, it don’t need fixin.” We don’t take success for granted and regularly push ourselves to respond to new challenges and create new goals. We welcome anyone who’d care to join us in this important work.



- Vic Henningsen has been leading courses for Osher at Dartmouth since 2014. He currently co-chairs the Curriculum Committee with Toni Egger.

EVENTS

OSHER@The Movies:
The Umbrellas of Cherbourg
Wednesday, April 8
1:00 PM
Nugget Theaters,
Hanover, NH

Open House & Reception
Friday, May 1
2:00 PM to 5:30 PM
One Court Street
Lebanon, NH

OSHER@The Movies:
A Hard Day’s Night
Monday, May 11
1:00 PM
Nugget Theaters,
Hanover, NH

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

Our New Home

To give our members a better idea of what to expect from our new One Court Street home, the following images are artist's renderings of the classrooms and administrative space awaiting us.

The second floor features three classrooms, a storage room, and a common area/coffee corner. The long hallway leading to each classroom provides space for Osher Art Gallery exhibits.



Classrooms 2A and 2B feature flat-screen monitors and whiteboards. Chairs and tables are foldable and stackable,

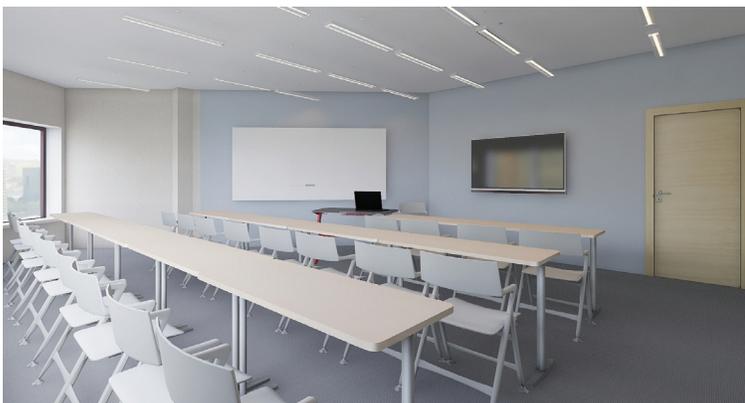
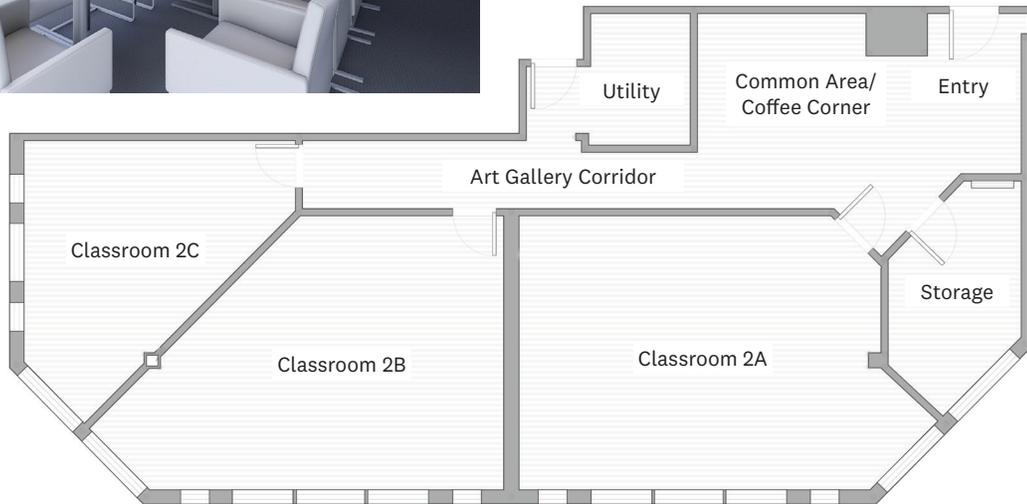
providing the ability to customize classrooms to the needs of each class. Classroom 2C utilizes existing furniture to present a comfortable space for small classes, committee meetings, and workgroups.

The third floor features one classroom, reception area, and administrative offices. Classroom 3A features a flat-screen monitor and whiteboards. Chairs and tables are foldable and stackable, offering



Classroom 2C

One Court Street Second Floor (Suite 250): Classrooms 2A, 2B, and 2C



Classroom 2B



Classroom 2A

the same opportunities for customization as those on the second floor. Classroom 3A is the largest of the four classrooms at One Court Street.

Osher staff will occupy office space on the third floor, and a reception area on that level will allow members and visitors a chance to review current program offerings.

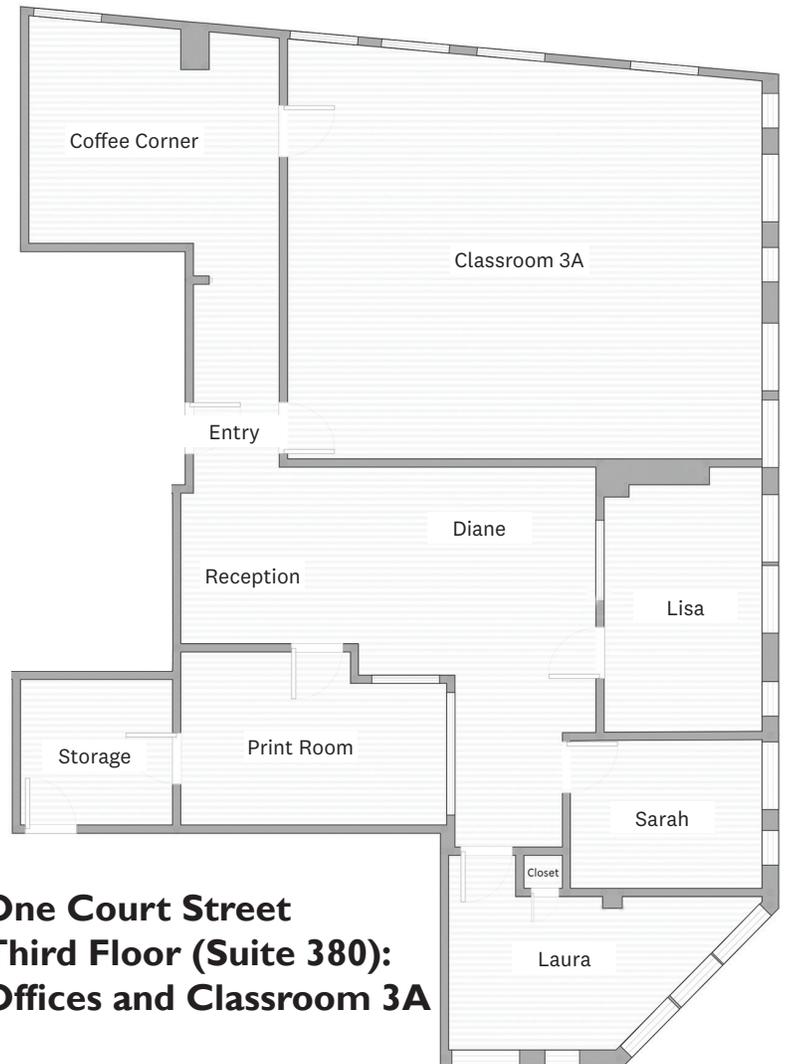
Our staff is looking forward to settling in to the new space in mid-March, and our spring term will see our first classes gather at One Court Street. We'll see you there!

- Sarah Chamberlin,
Marketing & Communications Coordinator

NOTE: Images of classrooms and administrative spaces included here are virtual representations, not actual photos.



Classroom 3A



**One Court Street
Third Floor (Suite 380):
Offices and Classroom 3A**



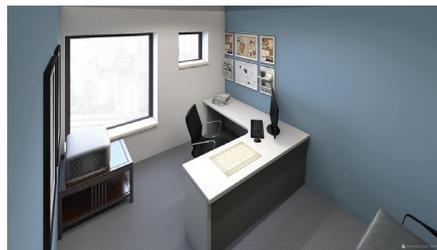
Reception



Diane Doe's Workspace



Laura Belback's Office



Sarah Chamberlin's Office



Lisa King's Office

(No) Strings Attached (cont.)



Donations of yarn for Gail's classes.



Various projects by class members.

a one-pound skein of blue yarn, telling her, "A friend said you might be able to use it." Gail and her crew started - and finished - the blanket that night using the woman's donation!

In addition to their work on donation projects, class participants trade lessons on different stitches and techniques. They have enjoyed presentations by guest lecturers about the health benefits of knitting and how to avoid overuse syndrome, a.k.a. repetitive strain injury. A local rancher stopped by to share information and stories about sheep farming. Gail is currently planning



An assembly of materials and lengths of scarves cover a classroom table.



Collaboration resulting in a quilt.

a similar visit from an alpaca rancher. Osher member Cadence Generaux, after hearing about class activities, shared her climate scarf project with the group.

The generosity of Gail and her class participants is remarkable, and their enthusiasm for their work is contagious. If you would like to help by donating supplies to Gail's class, or by lending your knitting or crocheting skills, contact her at gailfanher@hotmail.com.

- Sarah Chamberlin,

Marketing & Communications Coordinator

President's Letter (cont.)

Dartmouth College is currently engaged in a 10+ year Master Plan for all of its facilities and properties. Working with the Dartmouth leadership, we will continue our discussions on how Osher at Dartmouth can be accommodated in the Master Plan to make for a smooth return in 2026.

- Bill Sullivan, President

Summer Lecture Series 2020

What are the big challenges of the coming decade?

A Decade of Challenge: 2020 and Beyond

In 2020 Osher at Dartmouth will once again bring distinguished speakers to its 23rd annual Summer Lecture Series. This year's six sessions will take place on Thursday mornings from July 9 through August 13.

The speakers will look beyond election-year chatter to explore issues that are likely to dominate the coming decade. The series will examine the changing face of America, sustainability of the American dream, the future of jobs, immigration, climate change, and restoring faith in the American democracy.

Mark your calendar and watch for updates on osher.dartmouth.edu!

- Ann Hargraves, Co-Chair,
Summer Lecture Series
Committee

Celebrating Lisa King (cont.)

On the other side of the spectrum, Lisa reports that a constant challenge over the years has been finding adequate classroom and office space!



Osher staff members (l to r): Sarah Chamberlin, Lisa King, Laura Belback, Diane Doe

On January 16 of this year, Osher members gathered at the DOC House to celebrate Lisa's years of service to our program. In attendance were a large group of current members, co-workers both present and past, and members of Lisa's family. Several speakers stood to talk about Lisa's history with and impact on our organization (excerpts from Sylvia Sands Paxton's speech are on page 2), and Lisa herself shared a few words from the podium.

This celebration was just a small measure of the appreciation and respect our members have for Lisa. Congratulations, Lisa, and here's to many more years of continued success!

*- Sarah Chamberlin,
Marketing & Communications Coordinator*

Below: Lisa and her family laugh in response to Sylvia Sands Paxton's speech. (See page 2 for excerpts.)



Treasurer's Report

We are experiencing a dynamic 2019-2020 academic year with our move to our new location at One Court Street in Lebanon. Our beloved DOC house will undergo a comprehensive facelift, and we will have a new home for the next six years. Those of you who follow the cost of such a project will be glad to know that this move, (with a "soup-to-nuts" cost of \$246,000) will come in under budget thanks to the Planning Committee, headed by Steve Tofel and our fabulous Program Manager, Lisa King. Many others have contributed. Thank-you to all! The Finance Committee is also grateful to all of those who contributed to the Friends of Osher. The fund committed over \$50,000 for the purchase of classroom furnishings. Donations in the current year to the fund are now in excess of \$40,000 to help cover that cost! Wow!

Despite drawing earnings of 5% on the OSHER endowment annually for the

last five years, the OSHER Fund has grown just over 13% to \$2,264,093. Dartmouth's astute financial management of our endowment funds provides over \$116,000 annually or 22% of the necessary income to run our overall program. Even so, rising costs over the last five years have prompted the first modest increase to our membership fee. This \$5 increase will take effect as of July 1, 2020.

If you think you might like to become a member of the Finance Committee, please come to one of our monthly meetings to "try us out." We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:00 pm. As we move closer to moving into our new space, there is a lot going on beyond pouring over spreadsheets. Contact Lisa King in the office for details.

- Terry Martin, Treasurer

Below: Lisa is all smiles as she greets former co-worker and ILEAD staff member Jill Huckins.



OSHER@Dartmouth Art Gallery

The Osher Art Gallery will resume exhibitions once we have settled fully into our new home at One Court Street. We look forward to viewing more engaging and exciting artwork when it returns!





Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Dartmouth
One Court Street, Suite 380
Lebanon, NH 03766
603.646.0154
Email: osher@dartmouth.edu
Web: osher.dartmouth.edu

THE OSHER OFFICE IS MOVING!

The Osher at Dartmouth office is relocating to Lebanon, NH in March.

On March 12 and 13, the Osher office will be closed as staff physically relocate from Hanover to Lebanon.

As of March 16, our physical AND mailing address are:

**Osher at Dartmouth
One Court Street, Suite 380
Lebanon, NH 03766**

**Watch our
weekly e-newsletter
for updates!**

