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- Help science!
- Bard Conservatory pledge completed

Reminders:

- Emergency & closing information

Dates to Remember:

January Intersession Wednesday presentations:

Jan. 4
Jan. 11
Jan. 18
Jan. 25

Morning sessions:
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Afternoon sessions:
1:30 – 3:00 p.m. (except
Jan. 25)

Members are encouraged to attend and bring non-LLI members as guests.

[The Intersession catalogue is available online!](#)



Long Range Planning Update: Global Recommendations in 13 Areas



The LLI Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee, formed September 2015, completed its work in October 2016 and prepared two documents for Council approval: *LRP Principles* and *Global Recommendations in 13 Areas*. The LRP Committee and the Council are pleased to share these documents and inform you of the next steps we are planning to implement these recommendations.

- **Share the 13 Global Recommendations.** The *LRP Principles* were distributed to members in the November newsletter. On page three you will find the *13 LRP Global Recommendations*, which were approved by Council in November 2016. These recommendations are general in nature, but are supported by specific actions, culled from many meetings with LLI committees, officers, and a member survey completed last spring. They emphasize gradual change and thoughtful improvements to make a very good organization even better.
- **Establish cross-committee teams.** To implement the LRP recommendations, we have formed five Cross-Committee Teams: Programs, Membership, Communications, Finance, and Volunteer and Leadership Development. These teams will be working over the next several months to detail actions for 2017 and beyond, including policy or process changes and pilot programs. The teams include representatives from among LLI's 14 standing and ad hoc committees. An ad hoc Planning Committee — comprised of Tom Esposito, Donna Warner, Jill Lundquist, Anne Sunners, Chuck Mishaan, Jan Wallen, and Linda Bouchey — is coordinating this work.
- **Add new perspectives.** LLI officers have been working with our new Bard Administrative Liaison, Jonathan Becker, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Director of the Center for Civic Engagement. VP Becker brings new perspectives and offers of support aligned with our LRP recommendations. Dean Emeritus Stuart Stritzler-Levine, an LLI founder, continues to offer his support and guidance and remains an ex-officio Council member.
- **Continue technology advances.** Some LRP recommendations, especially in the area of technology support, have already been implemented: we can now do our class evaluations on-line and we will have the option of registering on-line for the 2017 spring semester.

We will keep you updated as we continue to implement additional recommendations!

Reminder: Emergency and closing information:

Bard has an on-campus response team for **medical emergencies**: call 7777 from a red phone on campus or 845-758-7777 from your cell.

LLI follows the Red Hook Central Schools regarding whether classes will be cancelled. **Closings and delays** are posted on their [website](#) under Tweets on the left side of the page, or call 845-758-2241.



Bard's Psychology Laboratory Recruiting Participants for Cognitive Aging Study



Research in the Cognitive CTRL Laboratory at Bard College seeks to understand how cognition changes with healthy aging. The lab, located within the Psychology Program at Bard College, is recruiting volunteers between the ages of 60 and 80 to participate in a research project to be conducted during the Spring 2017 semester.

The project focuses on understanding the strategies used by older adults to support their cognitive processes, such as memory and attention. For example, an older adult might write down the name of a person they just met while a younger adult would trust their ability to remember that name.

Much of the time, using environmental support in this way is helpful. However, recent research has shown that in older adults reliance on environmental support extends to situations in which support is no longer needed. In fact, certain age-related deficits observed in both memory and attention can be attributed to an over reliance on the environment in older adults and not a decline in cognitive function.

For the current project, participants will be asked to come to the lab (located on the Bard campus) and complete computerized tasks for up to two hours. These tasks will include simple memory, vocabulary, and attention tasks. The results of this research will have important implications for understanding how cognition changes with aging and will lead to the generation of novel training paradigms to improve cognitive performance in the older adult population.

If you are interested in participating or would like any additional information about the project, please email Professor Tom Hutcheon at thutcheo@bard.edu or call 845-758-7380. We will begin scheduling interested participants starting in the Spring 2017 semester.

Bard College Conservatory Challenge Pledge Fulfilled

In 2012 LLI pledged \$25,000 to the [Bard Conservatory](#) to be paid out over a five-year period, which was matched by an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant. This pledge has now been completed. In a thank you note to LLI, Karen Unger, the AVP of Bard's Office Of Institutional Support, wrote, "On behalf of the students, faculty, staff and administration of Bard College, please accept our heartfelt thanks. We are very grateful for your generosity!"



This newsletter is a publication of the LLI Council.

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Lifetime Learning Institute (LLI) at Bard

Long Range Planning 2016-2020

Global Recommendations in 13 Areas

Approved November 21, 2016

1. Create New Membership and Community Participation Options

LLI will remain a membership organization but may adopt new membership options and fee schedules. Selected LLI programs and events will be open to the community residents.

2. Offer New Program Options

To accommodate growth and diverse member preferences, new program options will be offered. Gradual implementation of program and schedule innovations can energize LLI and align it with new directions in education. Options might be courses shorter or longer in length; lectures combined with small discussion groups, more hands-on programs, on-line and off-campus programs, or many other variants.

3. Offer New Schedule Options

LLI will experiment with classes or events held on days other than Friday, on Saturdays, or in the summer. It is strongly recommended that LLI experiment with alternative schedules to accommodate more program options, growth in membership, and community participation, while alleviating problems with limited classroom space and parking.

4. Introduce New Special Events and Social Opportunities and Promote Them

Members have expressed a strong interest in getting to know other members and to have structured social opportunities. Efforts will be made to support socialization, among them name badges for all, meet and greet gatherings, reserved lunch tables, or special events for members and the community alike.

5. Develop Partnerships With Bard, Other LLIs, and Community Groups

Partnerships with Bard, other LLIs and community institutions can help LLI to have a broader reach into the community. LLI will co-sponsor or lead development of events open to a broader audience than LLI members.

6. Create Technology Infrastructure to Support LLI Growth and Innovation in All Core Operations

As LLI grows and innovates, it is vital to have technology infrastructure to support these changes. Several LLI operations have already been transitioned successfully from paper to electronic processing and e-surveys have been used to obtain member feedback. Although registration will continue in 2016-2017 on an Access platform, the LLI Technology Committee will select and implement software components to support all core LLI operations by fall 2018.

7. Create A Financial Plan For LLI's Future

A LLI finance committee does not presently exist, but is needed to plan a stable financial future for LLI. A Finance Committee will review and make recommendations to the Council on all aspects of the organization's finances, including member fees, current and new sources of income, and allocation of resources to LLI operations, to Bard students, and to our host, Bard College.

8. Create A Coordinated System of Regular Web, E-Mail, and Newsletter Communications

To create an informed membership, LLI needs regular communications with members, Bard College, partner organizations and the public, including an annual calendar. Various strategies will be implemented to encourage members to get to know each other.

9. Build A Volunteer Community Through New and Current Member Orientation, Training, and Leadership Development

LLI is a member-run organization: Periodic orientations are needed to keep members apprised of LLI operations and diverse volunteer needs. Prospective volunteers will have access to training or mentoring needed to support LLI operations. Service to LLI has educational and social benefits.

10. Modify the Admissions and Registration Process, and The Current Practice Of "Priority" Registration, to Streamline Registration

The LLI admissions and registration process, and the current practice of priority registration, may be modified to improve operations, starting in the fall 2017. These are several actions needed to build an infrastructure that can accommodate LLI growth and new membership and event options.

11. Conduct Ongoing Data Collection and Evaluation

Collect data in a standardized format on all LLI operations to track trends, and measure progress towards goals. This includes data on programs offered, attendance, participation at LLI events, and feedback from presenters and LLI members. Report back regularly to membership on data collected.

12. Improve Committee Structure/Governance

As LLI changes, a review of Council and committee structures is needed; a review is also required in 2017 under LLI bylaws. The goal of the review is to flag new committee functions that may be needed, while also proposing changes to the current committee structure. This includes redefining scope, combining committees, or changing committee status (e.g. ad hoc, standing, or subcommittee).

13. Grow Lli Gradually

Grow LLI gradually and expand further as program and systems changes are made to accommodate a larger number of members and community participants.