



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

OLLI at SOU

Part of the Division of Continuing Education

Campbell Center, 1250 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland OR 97520



To the members of OLLI at SOU: Your Council is forwarding these two proposed changes to our Bylaws because we believe that they will improve the current process for conducting all membership elections and for electing members to our OLLI Council.

On page two, you will find your ballot; on the next pages you will find the exact language for the proposed changes to our Bylaws.

- A. The first change would give the Council a third option for a process to amend our bylaws: a mail out ballot, a general membership meeting, **and electronic voting**. Electronic voting would also be an option for our elections of members to Council. Those increasingly few members without electronic access would be provided paper ballots for any elections. The use of electronic voting would be at the discretion of the Council, but it has obvious benefits in terms of both financial cost and staff and leadership time.
- B. The second change involves **our current process for electing new members to the Council**. Currently, the Nominating Committee must present six members for the three annual vacancies. Each year, we have had increasing difficulty finding OLLI members willing to put themselves forward for an election which is often decided on the basis of name recognition; additionally, as OLLI has become a larger organization, the needs of the Council for particular skills and experiences have increased.

To this end, your Council is recommending the change which appears on this ballot which has the advantages of allowing prospective Council members to make a case for their potential contributions to the group while preserving the opportunity for the membership to weigh in with a confirmation vote of those new directors elected by secret ballot by Council following interviews in a public meeting.

OLLI depends on the continued dedication of members to our enterprise and we urge you to return your ballot to the OLLI office, either in person or by mail: OLLI at SOU, Division of Continuing Education, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR 97520.

Thanks for all you do for OLLI,

Alan Pendleton, President



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Proposed Bylaw Changes to Article VI . Council, Section 4. Council Director Elections and Nominating Committee Process and to Article IX: Amendments

A. ELECTRONIC VOTING:

Impact of the bylaw change on Amendments: This bylaw change would add the option of electronic voting for all OLLI general membership votes. **Note: it is the intent of the Council that should the first bylaw change pass and the second bylaw change fail, electronic voting will be added as an option to the existing Council Election procedures.**

PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE for Article XI: Amendments

The council shall decide if voting will be in an election-by-mail, by electronic voting, or an election at the next annual business meeting, and issue appropriate notice to the members. The amendment shall be enacted if approved by a majority of those returning ballots in a vote-by-mail or electronic election;

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B. CHANGE IN ELECTION OF OLLI COUNCIL DIRECTORS:

PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE for Article VI. Council

SECTION 4. Council Director Elections and Nominating Committee
Procedures:

Current language:

- a) ~~Election of directors shall be held once a year in the month of April with results to be announced at the following Annual Membership Meeting. Balloting shall be by mail. In the event of a tie for the last seat open, it shall be resolved by a toss of a coin. The term of those elected shall begin at the close of the next regular business meeting of the Council following the Annual Membership Meeting.~~



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Proposed new language:

a) New Council Directors shall be elected by secret ballot by the members of the Council at the May meeting of the Council. The New Council Directors shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the general membership, conducted electronically. New Directors shall serve for three years, beginning with the first Council meeting following the Annual Meeting.

b) The Council president shall appoint a chairperson of the nominating committee, who shall then select six other persons to serve on that committee. ~~Three~~ Two of the Committee members shall be former Council members with the remaining ~~four~~ five from the general membership. The Council shall, by rule, establish a procedure ~~[for conducting mail elections, and]~~ for seeking nominees open nominations for directors. At the ~~March~~ April business meeting of the Council, the chairperson shall present a slate of candidates, numbering at least one more name than the number of directorships to be filled. ~~[containing at least two nominees for each directorship to be filled.]~~ All candidates will be provided the opportunity to be interviewed by the Council at the May meeting before the balloting.