

# **INSTITUTE FOR CONTINUED LEARNING AT WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023**

**July 24, 2023**

### **Introduction**

The Institute for Continued Learning at Willamette University is a self-directed academic program that serves people 50 years of age and older who have an interest in pursuing continued learning in an academic environment. In the fall of 2022, ICL celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and began the 31<sup>st</sup> year of its relationship with Willamette University.

On behalf of ICL I would like to thank the University for its support and help during the past 31 years. For this year of emergence from the pandemic, I would especially like to thank Carol Long, Stacey Morgan, Ross Stout, Samantha McCorkle, Honey Wilson, Reyna Meyers, and Jo Kozuma, each of whom helped make our return to in-person classes a success. And we thank Tricia Matte from Bon Appetit catering services for providing food and drink for our 2 annual luncheons and for pre-class coffees and special events. We also greatly appreciate the technology services made available by Willamette, including web page hosting, email, and Zoom.

### **Financial Contributions:**

Our connection with Willamette is an integral part of the culture of ICL and for the 2022-23 year, ICL was able at last to resume its pre-pandemic practice of financial contributions to some students and programs of the University.

#### **Jerry E. Hudson Endowed Book Fund, \$1,500.**

The Jerry E. Hudson Endowed Book Fund was established by agreement between ICL and Willamette University in 1997 to assist Willamette students with financial need in purchasing textbooks. The minimum amount needed to establish an endowed fund at that time was \$20,000, which could be reached with annual donations until the full amount was reached. The market value of the fund on June 30, 2022, was \$48,999.69. In the 2022-2023 school year 15 students were helped through the Fund.

#### **Phil Hanni Student Scholar Award, \$3,000 (total.)**

ICL established The Phil Hanni Student Scholar Award in 2013. Phil was Chaplain at Willamette University from 1973 until 1985 and a member of ICL from 1997 until his death in 2013. His widow, Erin Hanni, is still a member of ICL. The application for the award is available to students early in the spring semester and students selected are expected to give a presentation to ICL in April about a significant research or other project they have undertaken. Student applicants are sponsored by a professor and winners are chosen by a committee of ICL members. In addition to having the opportunity to give a presentation to an audience of friendly strangers, each winner is given \$500. (The amount was increased from \$400 for students chosen in the 2022-2023 academic year.)

## **Willamette Academy, \$1500.**

Willamette Academy is an out-of-school college access program at Willamette University that serves students by providing additional support through mentoring, tutoring, monthly Saturday sessions, and a summer camp. Students at Willamette Academy are Salem-Keizer School District 8th-through 12th-graders from populations that are historically underrepresented in higher education: low-income, people of color, recent immigrants, and those who would be first-generation college students.

It seems likely that many people in ICL have had help on their journey of life-long learning and it seems appropriate that we try to assist others. Perhaps in 50 years someone who was helped by Willamette Academy in the summer of 2023 will be a member of ICL! Or at least a life-long learner.

## **Curriculum**

The ICL curriculum is developed by members of the Curriculum Committee who put many hours of work into finding presenters on many academic topics. The committee seeks presenters from Willamette University, from among ICL members, and from outside of both organizations.

Major goals for ICL for the 2022 - 2023 academic year were to return to in-person classes and to a pre-pandemic number of class hours. (Pre-pandemic we met in-person for 4 hours on Tuesdays and 4 hours on Thursdays for approximately the same - and same number of - weeks that Willamette's College of Arts and Sciences met.) All of our classes were held in-person and, while we did not quite get back to the pre-pandemic number of class hours, we were close in the spring semester. (And would have been closer were it not for an unusual number of snow days. We do not meet if the Salem-Keizer School District closes schools because of weather.)

The curriculum was, as always, varied. We had lectures and programs on topics in the natural and applied sciences, social sciences, world affairs, philosophy, language, visual arts, theater arts, music, history, religion, law, and justice.

In the fall semester approximately 47% of the presentations were given by ICL members, 25% by Willamette faculty or staff, and 28% by people not affiliated with either organization. In the spring, the percentages were 36% ICL members, 25% Willamette faculty or staff and 39% people not affiliated with either organization.

## **Budget**

We returned to pre-pandemic collection of dues to support our programs. Prior to the beginning of the academic year the board voted to increase the amount of the honorarium paid to Willamette and outside presenters, and to increase the amount of the award given to students selected for the Hanni Scholar Award. We ended the year in good financial shape. Copies of the Budget and [expense reports for 2022-2023 are available on the ICL website.](#)

The proposed budget for the coming academic year (2023-2024) is also online.

## **Conclusion**

I would like to thank all the ICL members who made our year possible, stimulating, and enjoyable. Board and committee members spend countless hours finding and scheduling speakers, ensuring that those speakers had functioning and adequate technology for their presentations, planning coffees and luncheons, facilitating communications between the board and members, and writing and disseminating a weekly newsletter. Members prepared and gave interesting presentations and put on an obviously well-rehearsed play. ICL cannot exist without many volunteers offering many hours of their time to make it happen. Thank you.

The pandemic and its aftermath were challenging for ICL. We did not admit any new members in the fall of 2020, but by the spring of 2023 we had a higher number of first- and second-year members than ever before and probably a higher loss of institutional memory than ever before. The situation presents difficulties as well as opportunities to ICL and the Annual Report for the 2023-2024 academic year will include discussion of how we dealt with both.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Robinson, Executive Director  
Institute for Continued Learning at Willamette University