



2020 OLLI Spring Semester Instructor Biographies

Ken Alvine is a cartoonist, educator and publisher. He creates comic strips, illustrates commercial cartoons and publishes children's books and educational properties.

Emerald Anderson is a graduate of Des Moines Area Community College Mortuary Science Program, has a B.A. from USD, a two year license in MN and SD and five years' experience in the funeral business.

Phyllis Arends is a long time member of NAMI. She is a family member and former psychiatric nurse.

Robin Arends has been a nurse for 34 years and a nurse practitioner for the last eight. She has been a nurse educator for 20, most recently with South Dakota State University and has now resumed full time clinical practice as a family nurse practitioner with Avera eCare. Robin Arends has been a nurse practitioner since 2008. She is a clinical assistant professor at SDSU teaching primarily in the family nurse practitioner program. Her clinical practice is delivering acute and chronic care to long term care residents through telehealth.

Roger Auch has 20 years' experience of researching contemporary U.S. land cover and land use and their changes while working at USGS EROS.

Bev Austin has taught 20+ years of yoga. She is trained in the 200-hour level, therapeutic yoga, Chair Yoga, & Adaptive Yoga. Bev previously served on OLLI's Leadership Council.

Seb Axtman was drafted into the U.S. Army and served active duty in the Korean War.

Rick Bandy is a Civil Engineer retired from the City of Sioux Falls that became an EMT upon retirement.

Dr Becky Bear, Doctor of Chiropractic, has spent the past 15 years helping patients improve their quality of life through education, teaching and hands-on clinical practice.

Randell Beck, co-founder and co-chair of South Dakota New Watch, a non-profit organization dedicated to in-depth reports on statewide topics, spent 35 years at six newspapers, served on the Pulitzer Prize Board and continues to monitor trends in American journalism.

Julie Becker received her BS in Psychology from UM Mankato. For the last 14 years, Julie has been Executive Director of the St. Francis House, where the mission is to provide "a hand up and not a hand out" to those in the most need

Janet Beeman taught art for the Vermillion schools for 15 years and for OLLI for 7 years.

Marissa Begley leads local education efforts for Millennium Recycling and their partner company SEAM, which provides electronics recycling services.

Bruce Berdanier, Professor and Dean of the Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering at South Dakota State University. Involved in leadership in higher education administration as a department head and dean since 2008.

Doug Berven is VP Corporate Affairs at POET.

Jason Bieber is an Urban Planner with the City of Sioux Falls.

Abby Bischoff is a journalism major from SDSU and the owner of Flock Studio, a photography business.

Kristy Bothwell has a BS in Horticulture from SDSU. She is passionate about plants and flowers so became a Master Gardener and owns Rosewood Greenhouse in Vermillion.

Mary Bowne, Ed.D., has been working and teaching at SDSU in the ECE area for over 20 years.

Linda Brandt taught Gerontology at SDSU & worked as a Geriatric Social Worker. Linda is a member of the OLLI Leadership Council.

Victoria Britson has been a nurse for 34 years and a nurse practitioner for the last eight. She has been a nurse educator for 20, most recently with South Dakota State University and has now resumed full time clinical practice as a family nurse practitioner with Avera eCare. Robin Arends has been a nurse practitioner since 2008. She is a clinical assistant professor at SDSU teaching primarily in the family nurse practitioner program. Her clinical practice is delivering acute and chronic care to long term care residents through telehealth.

Bob Brotzky is a Korean veteran, commissioned officer, SDSU Army ROTC, engineer officer basic course, EOBC, Ft. Belvoir, VA and has spent 12 years in uniform.

Jeremy Brown's work has been endorsed by former US Presidents, US Senators, best-selling authors, & the nation's top CEOs. He has authored 10 books/curriculums distributed in 20+ countries. This year he will publish his 400th book.

Mike Budde has utilized satellite remote sensing to monitor vegetation dynamics and other landscape processes for more than 20 years. Jim Rowland has supported training in applications of satellite and geospatial data, and coordinated the FEWS program for many years.

Bob Burns, PhD, is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science from SDSU. His is a familiar face at OLLI, having lectured previously on the First Amendment, the process of national public policy making, and other topics.

Julie Cameron has been in health care for 34 years and is a Nurse Practitioner for 21 years, primarily in women's health.

Dr. Cody Christensen is an associate professor in the aviation program at SDSU.

Liz Cisar handles acquisitions, preservation, and access for the Center for Western Studies' research collections.

Jim Clark is the founder of Sculpture Walk.

Stacy Claussen is the Parks & Recreation Director for the City of Brookings.

Kelsey Collier-Wise is the Executive Director of the United Way of Vermillion.

Matt Cook is the House Manager at the Orpheum Theatre.

Douglas Daniels is Senior Project Leader, Landsat Data Continuity Mission and a former Vice President at the EROS Data Center.

Prudence DeBates has taught several OLLI courses about travel and food. She is an avid traveler & has lived overseas.

Marty DeWitt is a retired state park administrator and avid nature photographer. He is also the president of the Sioux Falls Camera Club.

Dr Moul Dey is a professor of Nutrition Science at South Dakota State University. Before coming to SDSU in 2009, she studied and worked at Cornell and Rutgers Universities.

Barry H. Dunn was named the 20th president of South Dakota State University in April 2016, the fourth alumnus chosen to lead the institution.

Amos Dwamen is a graduate student at SDSU working on his Ph.D. in Chemistry. His research work focused on the design and characterization of green solvents.

Twila Eggers was a Preschool Teacher who taught movement to children for 40 years and adult dance for 30 years.

Mary Enright is an avid knitter and geocacher. She retired in 2014 and immediately joined OLLI. She serves on the OLLI Leadership Council.

Amy Fill is the interim Gallery Director of University Art Galleries, University of South Dakota.

Beth Frederiksen is a neighbor and friend to the colony. She is a retired teacher who also taught at colony.

Dale Froehlich is a South Dakota attorney, living and working in Sioux Falls since 1980. He has been active in various local, non-profit, business, and volunteer organizations.

Jan Froehlich is an enthusiastic traveler who has been to Syria, Russia, China, Galapagos Islands, Peru, Ecuador, Egypt, Iceland, Mexico, Canada, and Europe. Her future travel list is still LONG!

Suzanne Fuller is Past Chair of OLLI's Leadership Council and Past Chair of OLLI's Curriculum Committee.

Kevin Gansz is the Curator of Education for the Siouxland Museums.

Tim Gebhart has his JD, BA/Journalism & Political Science. He has been a fan of translated literature for years and is a member of National Book Critics Circle.

Nels Granholm, PhD is a retired SDSU Professor of Biology and has taught classes on Bioethics for over 30 years.

Charles Gritzner taught Population Geography for nearly 50 years and has authored books on population, food, environment and natural resources.

Jacob Habermann is the Production Manager of the Orpheum Theatre.

Josh Haeder is the South Dakota State Treasurer.

David Halleen has a PhD in religious studies, specializing in Christian Ethics from Southern Methodist University. He worked at the McGuire Center for Ethics for five years and taught Ethics and Religion for 14 years at Eastfield College and Richland College in Dallas, Texas.

Shirley Halleen is a retired teacher with a Seminary Master of Divinity. She is a popular speaker in the region, wrote a column for the Argus Leader, and was a member of the founding OLLI Leadership Council.

Ahva Halma started belly dancing in college and went on to dance in many restaurants. She enjoys teaching belly dancing to others.

Nancy Halverson has held positions as a professor of Theater and CEO of large nonprofits nationwide.

Richard Hanson is currently serving as Dean, the Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences.

Wayne Hanson is a member of the Sioux Valley Model Engineers Society club the Circus Model Builders, Circus Fans of America and the Circus Historical Society.

Carolyn Hart is in Marketing and Membership Development at South Dakota Art Museum.

Dianne Hawks is employed at Dacotah Bank in Brookings.

Lyn Heidenson retired as Dir. of Special Services with Brandon Valley School District three years ago and is now enjoying the opportunity to travel. One of her three sons is an airline pilot so she and her husband have the luxury of unlimited parental flying benefits.

Doug Heilman is a FBI special agent with 30 years of experience. He has worked in a variety of field offices.

Captain Kevin Hempel is the son of a Korean War veteran, and served 30 years in the U.S. Navy. Where he worked at the Pentagon and several commands.

Cody Henrichs is the Visual Arts Center Curator at the Washington Pavilion.

Patrick Hicks, PhD is an award-winning author, a former Visiting Fellow at Oxford, and Writer-in-Residence at Augustana University where he teaches courses on creative writing as well as Irish Literature.

David Hilderbrand, PhD is Dean Emeritus of the Graduate School & SDSU Professor Emeritus of Chemistry. He is the Past Chair of the OLLI Leadership Council.

Pat Hoffman is the Program Administrator for the Head Start/Early Head Start program in Pierre.

Rich Holland is a member of the Vermillion City Council and is a retired space engineer with over 40 years' experience.

John Hollingsworth is a retired DSU Math Professor.

Bill Hoskins, BA/History and MA/History, has been Director of Siouxland Heritage Museums for over 20 years and is the principal Museum Representative involved in the development & construction of the new building..

Marcia Hultman was a high school English teacher for 11 years before starting with the Department of Labor and Regulation. Her entire career has focused on helping individuals gain the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve personal success. As the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Regulation, she works daily with employers who are looking to hire individuals with the right attitudes and talents. She has worked closely with DLR's Division of Labor Market Information with the goal of making data a user friendly tool for career decision makers.

Scott Isburg has been in the funeral home business for 26 years.

Bob Jankas has received training in foot function and specializes in the use of foot wear and over-the-counter orthotics to address foot and ankle conditions.

Jill Janni is co-owner of Tee'd Off Golf.

Jill Johnson owns Joyful Living Therapy. Whether it is through laughter yoga or fluid art classes she loves to share her passion for life with everyone she meets.

Joni Johnson serves as executive director of South Dakota Biotech, overseeing its advocacy, communication, education and membership services and representing more than 60 members in industries spanning from agriculture to medical services and renewable fuels.

Teri Johnson served as a United Methodist pastor for 22 years with degrees from SDSU, Sioux Falls Seminary, and Iliff School of Theology.

LaKisha Jordan is a classically trained chef and culinary Instructor at T.F. Riggs. She was awarded the ProStart Educator of Excellence in 2014 & 2019.

Kim Kersbergen has been leading T'ai Chi classes for over 16 years. She has worked with veterans, children, and seniors.

Derek Klawitter is a naturalist with the SD Dept. of Game, Fish, and Parks. He is assigned to the Outdoor Campus in Sioux Falls where he serves as Community and Group Program Education Coordinator. He is an experienced instructor in watercraft operation and safety.

LeRoy Kropuenske has prepared and taught Bible classes for 50 years. He has a college secondary education degree and in retirement is a robotics coach and college math tutor.

Jason Kurtz, MFA in writing, teaches at Harrisburg Public School & is an adjunct professor at Presentation College. He is currently editing two local fiction anthologies & working toward becoming a nationally certified genealogist.

Dirk Lammers is the author of Baseball's No-Hit Wonders: More Than a Century of Pitching's Greatest Feats.

Rachell Langdon is the Public Relations and Programming Specialist for the Vermillion Public Library.

David Larsen's background as a family physician includes an interest in personal fitness and wellness promotion. Since retirement in 2012 he has been able to take up the sport of Pickle ball and play regularly, as well as instruct new players.

Ellen Lee is a professional Realtor who specializes in helping people with transitions.

Myron Lee has travelled throughout South Dakota playing rock and roll music.

Maggie Lindsey has worked in teaching hunting, fishing, and shooting skills for 20 years. She was the Hunter Education Coordinator in Alaska for eight years then moved to South Dakota where she has taught outdoor skills for the past ten years.

Dana Loseke is a member of the Sharing the Dream board of directors and was on a recent trip to Guatemala with Sharing the Dream.

Bobby Lower is a distinguished SDSU journalism alumnus. She was trained by Dr. Vance Thompson

Doug Lund has travelled throughout South Dakota playing rock and roll music.

Mandy Lyons-deBlonk is a 200-hour registered yoga teacher specializing in making yoga accessible to all people and ability levels.

Michelle Majeres has previous experience teaching this course and has educated herself thoroughly on the subject.

Mercedes Maltese is a Community Learning Center Instructor at the Washington Pavilion and has been working with clay on the wheel and hand building for 15+ years. She studied Art Education at SDSU.

S.L. Martin has a Master of Arts degree from USD and college instructor experience in both English and Political Science.

Mike McDonald, Graduate of USD, is a retired Sioux Falls businessman, avid traveler, and a former member of OLLI's Leadership Council.

John Miller is a Humanities Council Speaker who has published seven books and many articles on US and SD political and cultural history.

Royce Miller is a certified SD language teacher whose experience includes 4 years of Spanish, and 4.5 years of ESL/EFL.

John Mogen has travelled throughout South Dakota playing rock and roll music.

Andy Mohr is an FBI special agents with 30 years of experience. He has worked in a variety of field offices.

Lynda Muller has a Certification in Death and Grief Studies (Center for Loss and Life Transition), along with previous education and personal experiences.

Michael Mullin holds a PhD in American colonial history from the University of California, Santa Barbara. His publications cover topics in American Indian, American colonial, and Midwestern history. He is currently a professor of history at Augustana University.

Lisa Myhre is the owner of Bronze Age Art Casting.

Chris Nelson is a current Public Utilities Commissioner for the State of South Dakota.

Janice Nelson works for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) Center.

Jason Nelson is a Naturalist & Outreach Coordinator with SD Game, Fish & Parks.

Diane Neselhuf started the nonprofit, Sharing the Dream in Guatemala, to help indigenous Guatemalan artisans market their weavings, beaded jewelry, and other handcrafted items in the US.

Chad Nielson is a Biological Science Technician specializing in Integrated Cropping Systems Research with the USDA in Brookings, SD.

Sue Nipe has an MA in Speech Communication from SDSU and her JD from William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, MN. Sue taught middle school English and college speech courses. She continues to judge at high school debate tournaments.

Lawrence Novotny lobbied in SD Legislature on LGBTQ issues.

Jen Nuncio is the naturalist for Good Earth State Park. Previously, she was a seasonal naturalist for Palisades State Park and Big Sioux Recreation Area.

Ryan Oines is the Chief Operating Officer for USD Discovery District.

Sharon Olbertson, MA+, has been an OLLI discussion leader for over 10 year and 30 topics. She has taught high school, college classes and fellow teachers.

Lynda Oldenkamp "lifelong" learner willing to facilitate the class.

Jim and Hazel Oldham are retired American Baptist ministers who have cruised the Columbia, Mississippi and Hudson Rivers.

Beverly Angell Oliver Bev was an educator with Siouxland Heritage Museums. She presented this topic at Center for Western Studies Dakota History Conference.

Dawne Olson, BS/English Ed, has spent 15 years doing research and 20 years in bush craft and wilderness experience.

Paul Penn is a retired optometrist and lay pastor and has taught this for adult Sunday school class.

Katherine Prah taught Spanish and English in public schools both in Illinois and SD.

Margaret Preston is an Associate Professor at Augustana, where she teaches a variety of history courses and takes students to Northern Ireland for a course on the "Troubles." She has previously taught for OLLI. Margaret has a Bachelor's from Loyola, a Masters from University College Dublin, and a PhD from Boston College.

Hank Prim is a Special Agent with the Division of Criminal Investigation, where he investigates major felony crimes across the state.

Jennifer Quail, Director of Entrepreneur Support, is responsible for design, development and implementation of the entrepreneur development system for Brookings.

Brad Randall is a forensic pathologist and served as the Minnehaha County Coroner for nearly 30 years.

Ken Rasmussen is a life-long student of student of photography and is active in two Sioux Falls camera clubs with previous presentations for OLLI.

Jason Reisdorfer is the Director of Innovation and Technology for the City of Sioux Falls. He was appointed by Mayor Paul TenHaken in October of 2018.

Marcella Remund teaches English and Creative Writing at the University of South Dakota. She is the author of *The Sea is My Ugly Twin*, a book of poems, and has a second book of poems, *The Book of Crooked Prayer*, coming out in June 2020. She has been keeping dream journals since 1983.

Sandy Richter is a program naturalists at The Outdoor Campus. She has been cooking in a camping Dutch oven for over 10 years.

Lisa Rinaldo is an experienced art educator for the Community Learning Center at the Washington Pavilion. Her mission is to help adults find the “artist within.”

Jeremy Robertson is an EMS educator with Sioux Falls Fire and Rescue

Lois Roelofs, PhD, Professor Emerita of Nursing, enjoys pursuing her interest in writing creative nonfiction.

Mildred Hottmann Roesch has a Master’s in Public Health from the U of M. She retired as director of the Dental Health Program for the Minnesota Department of Health after 30 years.

Janey Sabers, as a self- proclaimed pie princesses, she will demonstrate different recipes for pie crusts and fill them with magical delights.

Mary Scarbrough has been a freelance writer for 20+ years; more than three dozen books for the school and library market published.

Albert Schmidt is an Urban Planner for the City of Sioux Falls

Jennifer Schmidtbauer has been with Raven for over 8 years and is currently serving as Director of Talent Development.

Jeannine Schneider loves taking and teaching OLLI classes, as it puts a zing in her life. Formerly, she worked as a medical technologist and a college English instructor.

Tim Schorn, PhD, Director of International Studies at USD, is a familiar face at OLLI. He previously taught OLLI classes on the Middle East and the European Union.

Harriet Scott is an OLLI member and valuable resource to the OLLI team.

Betsy Simons taught high school English and speech for 35 years and has taken a number of classes in the art of cinema and moviemaking.

Cari Lee Skogberg Eastman s a researcher, writer and educator living in Sioux Falls. She holds a Ph.D. in communication and has written two academic books on the subject of immigration.

Susanne Skyrn is a Professor Emerita and taught piano at USD. She lived in Italy for 8 years and speaks fluent Italian. She is an enthusiastic, amateur photographer and has given slide shows around the area documenting her travels.

Carol Slater is a retired nurse practitioner who spent over 50 years in healthcare in MN, OH, KY, and Chicago. Carol serves on the OLLI Leadership Council.

Betty Smith has led educational groups to France and has studied at the University of Pau.

Lisbeth Solum is a graduate of Fine Arts from SDSU, Solum taught art in public schools for 32 years.

Sheriff Marty Stanwick was first elected Sheriff of Brookings County in 1998. Prior to taking office, he was a member of the Brookings Police Department for 20 years, leaving with a rank of Patrol Lieutenant.

Stacy Steffensen is the Commission Department Director for Brookings County.

Dustin Steinhagan is currently pursuing a doctorate degree in Cyber Defense at Dakota State University.

Bob Stevens is a retired educator & current debate coach at O’Gorman. He routinely takes students to the National Debate Competitions. Bob formerly served on the OLLI Leadership Council.

Holly Straub is an Associate Professor of Psychology at USD. She enjoys introducing learners of all ages to thought provoking topics.

Susan Strobel is a Doctor of Nursing Practice, Public Health.

Sam Stukel has been a fisheries biologist for 14 years, serving both SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Lana Svien Professor Emerita, from the University of South Dakota, holds a PhD in applied physiology and has studied Ayurvedic Medicine for the past 8 years. She has numerous certifications related to Ayurvedic Wellness, including Ayurvedic Health Counsellor, Ayurvedic Yoga Specialist, and Ayurvedic Chef.

Bob Swanhorst has taught for 37 years. He has given numerous speeches at athletic banquets and before civic and church groups and has presented for the SD Humanities Council.

David Swanson is a Professor of Biology at USD, with expertise in birds of South Dakota.

Gray Tappan is a Geographer with the US Geological Survey. He has devoted most of his career, spanning over three decades, to mapping and monitoring the changing landscapes and natural resources in the 16 countries that make up West Africa.

Patrick Taylor Ph.D., is a linguist and English teacher who lived in the Kurdish region of Turkish Kurdistan.

Kristi Thomas is an Education Assistant at The Center for Western Studies at Augustana College.

June Thormodsgard is an environmental scientist who held positions across the UD Geological Survey, including many years at EROS.

Joanne Tieman, BSN, MA, MSN, is a retired RN who taught in the nursing departments at MMC and USD, teaching classes, learning labs and clinicals. She is an avid pinochle player.

Mary Tolle is a retired SDSU engineering instructor and world traveler.

C.M. Trautwein is a professional geologist, retired, and formerly with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Kate Treiber holds two degrees from SDSU (in Early Childhood Education and Counseling and Human Resources). She has over 25 years of experience working in non-profit settings that benefit children and families and has been the Executive Director of the Children's Museum of SD for the past 5 years.

Kathie Tuntland is on the Empowerment Project Education Committee.

Candice Van Liere has a degree in mortuary science along with a BA in biology. She has been in the funeral service since 2005.

Emily Vincelli has owned and operated Dunn Brothers Coffee for 13 years.

Matthew Vukovich PhD is professor and associate dean for research for the College of Education and Human Sciences. Research focuses on the interaction of nutrition and exercise training on physiological adaptations, body composition, hormones and muscle-bone relationships.

Michael Wagner MPA, Harvard University; 25 years' experience teaching leadership across six continents and more than 1000 organizations.

Jennifer Wagner Dreiske has been studying and exploring spiritual traditions from around the world. She is currently the Deputy Warden of the South Dakota State Penitentiary and the Religious Programming Director of the SDDOC.

Beth Walz Davis is a Certified End of Life Doula with a B.A. in Psychology and Religion from Augustana College.

Robert Welch has a PhD in History from Iowa State University and public historian for 30 years.

Marcy Wells is a long time OLLI members whose interests include learning and travel.

Jim Wilson is an ex-college professor with 30 years of experience educating the public on historical preservation subjects.

Jim Woster has spoken to high school and college classes for over 35 years about the stockyards and market reports.

Joyce Zimmer loves to travel and cook. She has been making soup for over 60 years.

Randy Zitterkopf is a political junkie and experienced group discussion leader.

Nancy Zuercher, EdD, worked as Associate Professor Emeritus of English at USD, and was the Dakota Writing Project Director 1989-2007.