

*Mary Washington***ElderStudy**
LEARNING IN RETIREMENT 

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this April newsletter finds everyone HEALTHY!!! I know that we all have some open time on our daily calendars with the situation our country is currently experiencing.

Who would have thought only a month ago I would have attended the Elder Study Curriculum Committee via the internet. Our meeting was held using a program called Zoom. And then there was a follow-up with a Happy Hour strategic meeting to plan how to involve more Elder Study members. We are thinking out of box, even as seasoned learners. You will be hearing from fellow members with more information on how to use Zoom.

Please, use the roster and to reach out to other members and see what opportunities for learning they have discovered. I saw just today a company hullfilm.com which offers virtual tours in their portfolio, including George Washington's Mount Vernon.

I know as a member of the Curriculum Committee we had many excellent sessions planned, but have had to reschedule these to be added to the Fall Sessions. The General Membership meeting and Spring Social Potluck will be rescheduled. We will look at using Zoom to have the Board of Directors meeting. We all are disappointed, but just think how happy we are all going to be when we can sit in the CLL again with our fellow members!

The Board and I look forward to seeing everyone in person,
Michelle M. Esbenshade

P.S. Stay Healthy and be in touch.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Operations Report #6 for the period Sept. 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020 and Quarterly Balance Report #2 for the period September 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020 are available on the website.

https://www.elderstudy.com/FY2019-2020Ops%20Feb%2020_Final.pdf

<https://www.elderstudy.com/ES%202019-2020%20Bal%20Sheet%20Rept%202%20Final.pdf>

As of the end of February we are in good shape, projected at the present time to remain on budget.

Respectfully Submitted, Bryn Pavek, Treasurer

Stay healthy, stay busy, stay connected!

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Administration Committee met on 26 February. The Committee approved a new policy statement regarding an ElderStudy business credit card limited to large purchases that must be prepaid. The proposed policy was presented to the Board at their meeting on 4 March, and approved by the Board following discussion.

At the February meeting, the Admin Committee also discussed preparations for the 2020-21 Budget cycle, as well as annual updates to the Policy & Procedures (P&P) manual. Budget submissions from committees and Board are due to the Admin Committee chairman by 28 April. Budget coordination this year will most likely be via email and ZOOM teleconference since UMW and the CLL remain closed due to the COVID-19 virus.

Recommended changes to the P&P are due by 1 May to the Admin Committee chairman. These changes, like the new credit card policy mentioned above, will be added to the current P&P for Board review and approval later this summer. As with the budget, the Admin Committee will coordinate these changes virtually with the Membership and Curriculum Committees in the event that UMW remains closed.

Keith Fennell
Administration Committee Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

To everyone: We MISS YOU and hope you are doing well and finding ways to stay busy, active and healthy. It is our hope that we might be able to get together later in the summer for our End of Year Pot Luck Luncheon. Let's think positively!

Have you found a good tool for staying busy while social distancing? Someone told me about being able to binge watch selected Broadway plays on line, if you have internet access. For a limited time only, you can get a free 7 day subscription to Broadway HD. Remember to cancel at the end of that week or you will be charged \$8.99 per month. Go to broadwayhd.com. With internet access you can also tune in to podcasts such as "T.E.D. Talks", "Here's the Thing" and "Fresh Air." What's your tip for keeping busy?

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

We are all working for ways to cope until we will at long last be able to join each other in our favorite classroom for face-to-face sessions of Mary Washington ElderStudy. Here are some Things-to-Do in the meantime while at home.

Check out this website of [496 free online courses](#) from Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton and Yale in multiple subject areas. Each course will show the university that will deliver the course, how many hours per week and how many weeks that the course runs.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business 112 • Humanities 105 • Social Science 101 • Computer Science 50 • Health & medicine 50 • Science 40 • Education & teaching 22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art & design 21 • Data science 21 • Mathematics 20 • Engineering 20 • Programming 10 • Personal development 9 |
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A big thank you to Randy Fennemore for providing the link to Google's 360° and virtual reality view of our [National Parks](#).

The [Central Rappahannock Regional Library](#), one of our recent tours, has a digital collection you can use. You can download over 300,000 books from the [New York Public Library](#) for free. During this pandemic, the [Metropolitan Opera](#) will live stream a complete opera free every night from their 14 year collection.

[NASA](#) has made available its 140,000 digital images of outer space.

Our good friend, Gregg Stull, has posted an update on the [UMW Theatre](#).

This may be just the time to binge on biography, the [Great Lives](#) archive of lectures from 2012 to 2019 is available.

For those sponsors and speakers willing and able, we will check out ZOOM, Google Hangouts and Microsoft Meeting for ways we will be able to offer online programs to you, our Mary Washington ElderStudy members. You will be able to participate, asking your perceptive questions, as always. Stay tuned for more details.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Alfred
Chair, Curriculum Committee

UPDATED SCHEDULE FOR SPRING 2020

All events since our last event on March 10 have either been cancelled, rescheduled, or taking place on Zoom. The full updated schedule is available online.

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday March 17 | Widewater - The Hub of the Universe | TO BE RESCHEDULED |
| Wednesday March 18 | Staying "Young" by Networking | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| Wednesday March 18 | General Membership Meeting | CANCELLED |
| Thursday March 19 | UMW Philharmonic Concert Preview | CANCELLED |

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| Tuesday March 24 | Drinking with the Washingtons | TO BE RESCHEDULED |
| Thursday March 26 | Those Little Green Stamps | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| Thursday March 26 | The Social Construction of Race and Ethnicity | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| *Thursday March 26 1pm-3pm | Curriculum Committee Meeting III | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| APRIL | | |
| Wednesday April 1 | Membership Committee Meeting II | CANCELLED |
| Tuesday April 7 | TOUR - Fredericksburg Historic Churches | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Wednesday April 8 | Play Discussion► Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare | CANCELLED |
| Wednesday April 8 | Spring UMW Gallery Tour II | CANCELLED |
| Thursday April 9 | Renaissance Art - Venetian Contributions | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| *Thursday April 9 1:00pm-3pm | Book Group► Dying In The Land of Promise by Donald Wagner | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| Tuesday April 14 | Hal Prince - Legend and Legacy | TO BE RESCHEDULED |
| Wednesday April 15 | 18th Century Colonial Virginia Eats | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Thursday April 16 | TOUR - Historic Renwick Courthouse | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Wednesday April 22 | Oscar Wilde's Fairy Tales Through the Lens of Disability Studies | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Thursday April 23 | TOUR - Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| *Thursday April 23 1pm-3pm | Book Group► Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| Tuesday April 28 | The First Anti-Vaxxers | TO BE RESCHEDULED |
| Wednesday April 29 | Appreciation of Wine | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| Thursday April 30 | TOUR - Pearmund Cellars | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| MAY | | |
| Tuesday May 5 | Surviving the Holocaust | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Tuesday May 5 | All You Need to Know about Palliative Care and The Conversation Project | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Wednesday May 6 | Women on the Mason's Plantation | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| Thursday May 7 | TOUR - George Mason's Gunston Hall | RESCHEDULED to Fall 2020 |
| Tuesday May 12 | TOUR - Walking the Architectural Delights of Lower Caroline Street | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Wednesday May 13 | Travel to India | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| *Thursday May 14 1pm-3pm | Book Group► The Girl with Seven Names by Hyeonseo Lee and David John | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| Tuesday May 19 | Current Events in Turkey and Istanbul | RESCHEDULED to Spring 2021 |
| Thursday May 21 | End of Year Potluck Luncheon | TO BE RESCHEDULED |
| *Wednesday May 27 1pm-3pm | Administrative Committee Meeting II | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| *Thursday May 28 10am-noon | The US and Palestine-Israel Joe & Siham Alfred | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| JUNE | | |
| *Wednesday June 3 10am-noon | Board of Directors Meeting | ZOOM Online Meeting |
| Thursday June 4 12pm-12:30pm | Secure the CLL | |

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST



BOOK GROUP



The ElderStudy Book Group will continue to meet through Zoom!

All meetings will be held at 1:00.

Upcoming Book Group Meetings and Selections:

April 9 – **Dying in the Land of Promise** by Donald Wagner (led by Siham Alfred)

April 23 - **Little Fires Everywhere** by Celeste Ng (led by Donna Lewis)

May 14 - **The Girl With Seven Names** by Hyeonseo Lee (led by Pat Parkinson)

Book Group suggestions for the upcoming year will be voted on in May.

FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to everyone who donated items to our food drive.

Since so many people need food in these difficult times and since students are no longer on the University of Mary Washington (UMW) campus, Michelle and her husband took the food that we collected (**226 pounds**) to the Fredericksburg Food Bank so it could be distributed to those people and organizations who are in need.

I am sorry that we were unable to have a more organized gathering, such as our membership meeting, with UMW education students, Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) education honor society, Dr. Kelly, Dean of the College of Education, and Dr. Irish, sponsor of KDP.

Dr. Christy Irish writes: Thank you. We are praying you are all staying safe. Please let us know if the group has any needs during this time. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Dr. Peter Kelly, Dean of the College of Education writes: Thank you and everyone with Elder Study for your help with this important work. This food will make a difference for parents and families who are struggling to make ends meet, and put food on their tables. We look forward to working together again in the future.

Thanks again for your donation and your participation in the food drive.

Carol Walker

This Newsletter is prepared by Gail Oakes, with contributions from many members of ElderStudy. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for the newsletter, please feel free to let me know. You can email (gail.oakes2@gmail.com), text or call (540-846-9320).

Survey on Web-Based Support of ElderStudy Membership

The Board of Directors has authorized this survey to determine the information management capabilities needed to support our membership while reducing the administrative burden on our volunteers. Gathering relevant facts and costs will allow the Board to make well-informed decisions moving forward.

Please take this 7-question survey:

- Online at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/thrff2> **or**
- Using the paper version below.

Thank you,

Michelle Esbenshade, President

1. How would you prefer to enter your ElderStudy registration information each year? [CHOOSE THE BEST RESPONSE]

- Obtain a paper application via mail or in-person and then mail it in.
- Download and print a paper application myself, and then mail it in.
- Update my information online via a secure ElderStudy website.

2. How would you prefer to make updates to your ElderStudy contact information? [CHOOSE THE BEST RESPONSE]

- Notify someone by phone.
- Notify someone via email.
- Notify someone via U.S. mail.
- Make the change myself via the ElderStudy website.

3. How would you prefer to pay your ElderStudy registration fee each year? [CHOOSE THE BEST RESPONSE]

- By mailing in a check.
- Using a VISA or MasterCard credit card on a secure ElderStudy website.

4. The Technology Subcommittee is willing to provide classroom training on how to do online transactions. Would you want to take this training if offered? [CHOOSE THE BEST RESPONSE]

No, I'm confident I can manage on my own.

No, I don't want to do membership transactions online.

Yes

5. Should ElderStudy have a password protected online membership directory (with name, address, phone number, email address) that's accessible only to our members? [CHOOSE ONE RESPONSE}

Yes

No

6. Please enter your name below. [RESULTS WILL BE AGGREGATED SO INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES WILL NOT BE ATTRIBUTED TO YOU BY NAME]

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

7. Do you have any comments for the Technology workgroup? [PLEASE ENTER IN THE SPACE BELOW]

Mail your completed survey to:

Mary Washington ElderStudy
University of Mary Washington
1301 College Avenue
Fredericksburg VA 22401-5300