Staff

Susan Hoffman, Director

Before coming to UC, Susan Hoffman worked for the California State University—both at the state chancellor’s office and at San Francisco State—creating new interdisciplinary and international programs. She initiated the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at SFSU in 2002 and moved to UC Berkeley in 2007 to re-envision and build an entirely new Osher program. Previously, Hoffman served for a decade as the executive director of the California Confederation of the Arts, advocating for California artists, art educators, and arts organizations in Sacramento and Washington D.C., and developing cultural and educational policies. Her creative portfolio as a writer and film-maker includes directing short films and writing and publishing essays and poetry. Her faculty appointments have been in creative writing, theatre, and political philosophy.

Lisa Hardy, Business and Operations Manager

Lisa Hardy has been with UC Berkeley since 2013, and previously worked for several years at
the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory as both a UC and a Federal Contractor. Lisa brings broad experience in both program management and organizational change management, specializing in identification and analysis of stakeholders and the incorporation of these relationships for business development. She brings close to 25 years of operational knowledge and expertise from private and public sector businesses and prides herself in engaging all levels of an organization through trust, respect and integrity in building partnerships based on mutual gain and the spirit of cooperation.

Jennifer Monahan, Web, Marketing and Communications Coordinator

Jennifer Monahan has ten years’ experience in nonprofit communications and a background in higher education. She joins OLLI from Ecole Bilingue de Berkeley, where she managed communications, marketing, and outreach as well as the web site and e-mail campaigns. A Bay Area native, Jennifer has a long affiliation with UC Berkeley: she earned a BA, MA and PhD in French at Cal, and taught as a GSI and lecturer. In her spare time you can find her riding a bicycle, rowing, or moderating the Berkeley Parents Network Announcements newsletter.

Matt Shears, Curriculum Coordinator

For the past twelve years, Matt has taught courses in the humanities at schools including the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Washington State University, San Francisco Art Institute and California College of the Arts. He brings to OLLI both his higher education experience and a commitment to the local community, which includes working in the nonprofit sector and volunteering for causes supporting education initiatives from homelessness and poverty to youth enrichment. He received his Ph.D. from UNLV, where he was a Schaeffer Fellow, his M.F.A. from the Iowa Writers Workshop and his BA from Miami University (Ohio). A practicing writer, Matt is also the author of three books.

Eric Anthony, Classroom and Facilities Coordinator
Eric Anthony received his BA from Penn State University before relocating to California. With nearly a decade of public sector and nonprofit experience, he recently completed his Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from Cal Poly Pomona. As the Director of Business Development for the Los Angeles Business Council, Eric planned small and large scale events for regional stakeholders to create a dialogue with local, state, and federal officials. At OLLI, Eric oversees facilities and operations, coordinates faculty support in the classrooms, and serves as front-line responder to OLLI members and volunteers.

Jason Gant earned his BA at UC Berkeley and is currently working toward a Masters of Science in Behavioral Health at the University of San Francisco. Jason joins OLLI bringing a wide array of experiences from finance to technology. Before joining OLLI, Jason was at Google on the Mapping team. He is an assistant coach for the Men's basketball team at Merritt College as well as an independent health and wellness coach with a particular concentration in Mindfulness. At OLLI, Jason is a front-line responder to members and volunteers, oversees the Lafayette venue, and supports faculty in the classroom.

OLLI Student Staff are undergraduates at UC Berkeley who provide technical support for courses and programs as well as administrative support in the office.

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Links
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