OLLI at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is a “jewel in the Osher crown,” according to Mary Bitterman, President of the Bernard Osher Foundation headquartered in San Francisco, California. OLLI finished the year with record enrollment numbers and had members not only in 73 communities across the state of Nebraska, but with members in 20 states and the District of Columbia.

Affordability and quality of programming are two of the pillars that allow OLLI at UNL to thrive.

MEMBERSHIP
Memberships continue to move closer to pre-Covid numbers. With 1,419 members (up from 1,371), OLLI@UNL is one of the 15 largest OLLI’s in the country by membership. And while the membership retention rate (68% renewals – down from 78%) was down from the previous year, the new membership rate continued to climb (32% - up from 27%).

ENROLLMENT
Regardless of the time of year, OLLI members found lots of time to enroll in courses and participate in various events. The average OLLI member registered for 6.6 courses during the academic year. While the first fall term (T1) set the stage for the year, it was record-setting terms in the second fall term (T2), the winter term (T3), and the summer term (T5) that pushed enrollments for courses and events to over 10,500 for the academic year.
FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

From a financial standpoint, OLLI@UNL continues to be one of the most affordable OLLI’s in the country. A year-long membership cost of $75 has been in place since 2009. The mid-year membership of $50 has remained in place since implemented in 2017-2018.

The organization operated “in the black” during the fiscal year. This was a result not only of increased membership and record setting enrollments from the previous year but from a significant amount of generosity through donations made, both through “endowment” given and through “development fund” donations.

OLLI@UNL also continued to demonstrate fiscal responsibility by optimizing operating expenses. Facility rental fees were significantly lower than the previous year as “Zoom” and “Multi-Format” classes became more preferred by members, especially those not located in Lincoln, Lancaster County, and/or Nebraska. Course catalogs were printed in full color for the first fall term (T1) and the catalogs were also made available on the OLLI website. With catalogs for terms 2-5, a full four-color version was made available online only, and the “hard” copy version was “edited down” and printed only in black and white.