



MARIST COLLEGE Center for Lifetime Study Chronicle

Spring 2024

President's Message



Our Spring semester is underway and a major success. This is due to the efforts of our many volunteer presenters, class managers and curriculum committees. They have worked diligently and creatively to craft an interesting array of courses that cover the broad interests of the membership. Some of the classes such as the AI Zoom class were popular and oversubscribed and admission had to be restricted, We will however plan to repeat this course in coming semesters to accommodate the large interest in this area. Your feedback to the curriculum committees is encouraged and will influence how courses are designed for coming semesters.

This semester brings my term as president to a close. I want to thank all who supported me. It was a gratifying experience and an opportunity to work with creative and interesting people. Our membership is drawn from a wide variety of people eager to share their expertise and life experiences. Many volunteered to use these skills on the CLS Council and its committees to enrich our program.

We have seen a slow but steady rise in membership in recent months which in many ways is related to outreach efforts that have been thoughtfully designed. I want to thank our Connections Committee under Anne Sileno for featuring aspects of CLS at various facilities across Dutchess County.

We look forward to the new leadership that will assume positions on the Council following our Annual Meeting on June 5th at Locust Grove. I want to thank those who have stepped up to the task. However, there still remain two open Council positions for which candidates are needed. More specific information about these positions and the need for volunteers to fill them can be found in a subsequent article in this issue of the Chronicle.

I want to acknowledge the partnership we have enjoyed with Marist College over the last 30 years. Since our founding in 1993 through a grant from the Sherman family, Marist has played a key role in our growth and development. Our liaison to the Marist administration Kristine Cullen has been an advocate for the CLS program. They have supported our program through IT, academic input, administrative suggestions and fundraising in the larger Marist Community. In the next few months a joint planning committee will design a long-term vision for the mission of our organization, which plays an important role in the cultural life of seniors in the Hudson Valley.

Jack

Marist College Center for Lifetime Study

OFFICERS (2023-24)

President:	Jack Fein
VP Admin:	John Wargo
VP Curriculum:	Sharon Steinvurzel
VP Public Info:	<i>Vacant</i>
Secretary:	Dewey Lee
Treasurer:	Roger D'Aquino

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Connections:	Anne Sileno
Classroom Support:	Lou Newman
Finance:	Leonard Turkenkopf
Member Services:	Pegeen & Tom Wall
Membership:	Wilma Schmidt
Office Support:	RongYi Pan
Scholarship:	Ken Knapp
Special Events:	Merrilee Osterhoudt
Trips:	Betsy Kopstein-Stuts

COUNCIL AT LARGE

Ruth Kava
Carol Demicco
Gil Seligman
Bernardo Steinvurzel
<i>Vacant</i>

CLS Chronicle

Editor, Layout & Design: Robin Will

CLS Nominating Committee Status and Call for Member Volunteers

Mike Cowan, Nominating Committee Chair

The previous Winter 2024 issue of the Chronicle newsletter contained an article entitled *The CLS Nomination Committee – An Overview, Status, and An Appeal for Volunteers*. It described both the establishment and the role of the CLS Nominating Committee, NC, namely, identifying and recruiting volunteers from the membership to serve on the upcoming Council, the governing body of CLS, for the 2024-25 academic year starting July 1, 2024.

The NC is made up of the following five volunteers: Martin Charwat, Mike Cowan, Bob Kaminski, Cathy Temple, and Grete Finklestein, all long-time members of CLS.

CLS COUNCIL SUCCESSION => OUTGOING TO INCOMING SLATE		
OFFICERS	(2023-24)	(2024-25)
President:	Jack Fein	John Wargo
VP Admin:	John Wargo	Ruth Kava
VP Curriculum:	Sharon Steinvurzel	TBD
VP Public Info:	Jerry Hayes	Ken Topolsky
Secretary:	Dewey Lee	Dewey Lee
Treasurer:	Roger D'Aquino	Roger D'Aquino
COMMITTEE CHAIRS		
	(2023-24)	(2024-25)
Connections:	Anne Sileno	Anne Sileno
Classroom Support	Lou Newman	Lou Newman
Finance:	Leonard Turkenkopf	Leonard Turkenkopf
Member Services:	Pegeen & Tom Wall	Pegeen & Tom Wall
Membership:	Wilma Schmidt	Cathy Temple
Office Support:	RongYi Pan	RongYi Pan
Scholarship:	Ken Knapp	John Beale
Special Events:	Merrilee Osterhoudt	Merrilee Osterhoudt
Trips:	Betsy Kopstein-Stuts	TBD
MEMBER AT LARGE		
	(2023-24)	(2024-25)
M @ L #1	Ruth Kava	Barbara Goodman
M @ L #2	Carol Demicco	Vicki Fox
M @ L #3	Gil Seligman	Gil Seligm an
M @ L #4	Bernardo Steinvurzel	Bernardo Steinvurzel
M @ L #5	Vacant	Laura Coons

After surveying each of the 18 members presently serving on the Council regarding their intent to continue serving or not, it was established that the following **ten positions** needed candidates to be selected for next year's Council:

Officers - CLS President (*due to the Bylaws term limit of three years*) and VPs for Administration, Curriculum, and Public Information;

Committee Chairs - Membership, Scholarship, and Trips;

Members at Large - 3 members needed.

Based upon this challenge the NC took on the important task of reaching out and subsequently recruiting CLS member candidates to fill these open positions. The NC's recruiting efforts and acceptance progress evolved to the results shown in the table on the left. As shown, eight open positions have been filled as identified in green while two positions, shown in orange, still remain open and need to be filled.

Highlighted at the top of the table is the new President-elect John Wargo who has served during the past two years as VP for Administration. Thanks John for volunteering to take on this important role on the Council. Many thanks also go out to the other seven members who likewise have volunteered to serve on the Council as shown in green, Ruth Kava, Ken Topolsky, Cathy Temple, John Beale, Laura Coons, Vicki Fox, and Barbara Goodman.

To fill the remaining two important open positions - VP for Curriculum and Trips Chair, the Nominating Committee is actively seeking INTERESTED volunteers from the CLS membership to serve. Therefore, we are seeking members who are willing to give their time and talent in providing our organization with the leadership necessary to face CLS's mission challenges and keep CLS vital in serving its membership. Consequently, interested members are encouraged to submit their names to any of the NC members listed above. Without such members volunteering to participate on the Council in these two key positions, CLS would find it very difficult to function and fulfill its overall charter to its membership. Therefore, it is imperative that these two positions be filled.

(Continued on next page)

CLS Nominating Committee Status and Call for Member Volunteers (Continued)

Information about serving on the Council and pertinent job descriptions for each open position can be obtained by contacting the Nominating Committee Chair, Mike Cowan, at mikedcowan@verizon.net. Obviously, the Nominating Committee is extremely interested in YOUR willingness to volunteer your service per this request.



It should be emphasized that CLS's success depends on the involvement of its members. CLS is very fortunate to have dedicated members who make the organization strong, viable, vibrant, and special. It is only through your volunteer efforts in serving on the Council that we can offer such diverse and exciting courses providing unique opportunities for continued learning, socializing, tripping, and providing volunteer services to the community.

Therefore, the NC is requesting members to please consider filling one of these open Council positions for the 2024-25 academic year and demonstrate your volunteering spirit in helping CLS maintain its commitment to continued life-long learning for its members. Thanks for considering serving on CLS's governing board.

2024 CLS Annual Meeting & Picnic Lunch Keynote Speaker: Sue Serino, Dutchess County Executive

Registration Information

Members can sign-up to attend the Annual Meeting, the Picnic Lunch or both. While it is not mandatory to attend the Annual Meeting, members are encouraged to participate. Your presence is important to CLS as is your vote for the 2024/2025 Council slate being presented (see Council slate on pg. 2). Registration for these two events will **close Wed. May 22nd at 4:30 PM.**

If you plan to attend the meeting **and** picnic lunch, you must select both events. If you register for the picnic lunch only, we will not assume you are attending the meeting (or vice versa). These events are each capped at 140 members.

Picnic Lunch Sign-Up

Are you planning to attend the Picnic Lunch?
Choose Event 2: 2024 CLS Annual Picnic Lunch - \$0
Note: Lunch is not free – prices vary by menu item)

When you choose **Event 2**, a dropdown menu will appear along with the corresponding prices.
~ Refunds will not be given for no shows or cancellations.

~~ Lunch will take place immediately after the meeting~~

Note: We cannot accommodate requests for food substitutions/omissions, nor can we accommodate any special dietary restrictions.

Bring A Dessert Sign-Up

Are you planning to attend the Picnic Lunch? The Special Events Committee is asking members to contribute to the dessert buffet.

To make sure we have plenty of sweets to go around, we are asking each member to bring at least 2 dozen (24 pieces) of a dessert item. Please Sign-up to bring one (or more) of the items listed in the dropdown.

Click link below to Register

[CLS Event Registration - Marist College](#)



Member Corner



Welcome New Members

Steven Carlucci
Brenda Forte-Miller
Sue-Wen Mak
Rosemary Neilson
Ruth Nelson
Ron Rawitt
Charles Rubenstein
Carlene Stein



~ IN MEMORIAM ~

CLS mourns the loss of fellow member

Sharon Clarke (March 2024)

David Smith (Feb. 2024)

CLS MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS HAVE STARTED

CLS is now processing membership renewals for the 2024/2025 year
(Full-Year Membership: July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025 - Dues: \$250)

On May 1st the CLS Office released the membership renewal form for the upcoming 2024/2025 year. Members are encouraged to complete the renewal process **by Sun. July 14th**.
Dues can be paid by credit card or by check. The dues deadline is Mon. July 15th.

To renew your membership, click URL/Link below:

<https://www.marist.edu/professional-programs/cls/membership-renewal>

Need assistance with the membership renewal process or making your dues payment?
Contact the CLS Office at 845-575-3902 or by email to MC.CLS@marist.edu



NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

SPREAD THE WORD

CLS NO LONGER maintains a wait list for membership

Word of mouth has always been the best approach to stimulate interest in CLS membership and our quality programming. Make sure you let your friends know that membership is now open and there is no reason to delay joining CLS for the coming year.

Anyone interested in membership should send an email to MC.CLS@marist.edu. There is plenty of time to request detailed information about membership and complete the membership process before the new year starts.

CLS Scholarship Committee Report

by Ken Knapp, Scholarship Committee Chair

As promised in the winter edition of the *Chronicle*, I would like to introduce you to our Spring 2024 CLS Scholarship recipient, **Alyxsandra Tiano**.

Alyxsandra Tiano

CLS Endowed Scholarship Essay - 10/16/2023

ATTN: The Marist Center for Lifetime Study, Scholarship Committee

It's funny how the more success you crave, the more curveballs get thrown your way. I was a mother at twenty-one years old, without a clue. I had gone to college before my daughter and right after my daughter, but I truly did not know what I wanted to do. I tried to get it together and get back into college. I had a couple hick ups along the way, which cost me my financial aid. I was able to use the last of my financial aid during Surgical Technologist school and I graduated on the National Honor Society and with a 4.0 GPA. It is crazy how now when I need it the most; it seems intangible, because I supposedly used up all my financial aid.

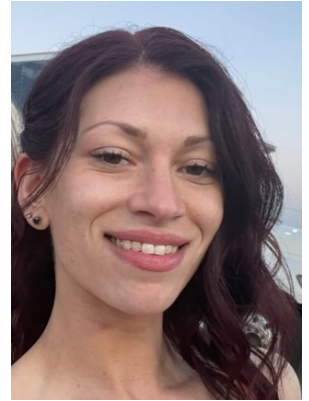
I am a full-time working single mother to a ten-year-old daughter. I am thirty-three years old, and I work as the Lead Certified Orthopedic Surgical Technologist for Northern Dutchess Hospital. I am also going to Marist, one credit short of full-time to save on costs, which ultimately is costing me more money. I tried to cut back hours at work, but then it seems near impossible to live. The cost of living has gone up tremendously.

My short-term goals are to finish up my Bachelor of Science from Marist College. I have ten classes left to complete and after I plan on applying to the Marist PA program. My long-term goals would be to gain acceptance into the Marist PA program and Graduate. I plan on working for OADC the Orthopedic Associates of Dutchess County. I work with them daily and hoping they will help pay for my graduate tuition.

I feel that I am the perfect candidate for this due to my drive and dedication. I am a student that is showing promise to their community and to stay here in the Marist community to complete not one, but two degrees. I also give back to my community as part of the R.Y.A.N

Foundation, Raising your Awareness about Narcotics, which I volunteer for regularly. I also shadow and volunteer at Northern Dutchess Hospital, outside of my scheduled working hours. I also keep up on my Basic Life Support every two years. My current role in the hospital has gained me tremendous leadership experience. I oversee the biggest revenue producer for our hospital, which is Orthopedics which entails sports medicine, trauma, and total reconstruction; I order all the supplies needed, maintaining closed loop communications with all managers and vendor reps, and learning all new equipment with the teaching to staff, and training all new staff members in orthopedics.

I feel I deserve this award especially with the struggles I am experiencing now. I work very hard in all areas of my life, I am doing this to show my daughter what a good life can be, and this would help me more than words can describe. I hope you will consider me for this award and thank you for taking your time to read my essay.



Major: BIO (Biology) | Concentration: Human Biology | Total Credits: 91 (Senior) | Cum GPA: 2.957



December 16, 2023

To: Marist Center for Lifetime Study, CLS Scholarship Committee

Good afternoon,

Thank you so much for choosing me for the scholarship and wanting to publish my essay. I am fine with you posting it. I also just want to say thank you again. This really was the icing on the cake for next semester. I have been struggling a bit and this is extremely helpful, and I am very grateful!

Thank you, Alyxsandra Tiano

Spring 2024

FROM THE DESK OF THE VP FOR CURRICULUM

Thanks to all of the curriculum committee chairs and their members, the Spring semester has gotten off to an extremely good start. It does not seem possible, but true, that they are already gearing up for the Fall semester.

Leathem Mehaffey and Stan Schmidt have hosted two lunch-time recruiting meetings for the General Science Committee; happily some members have signed up.

Please remember, members and their ideas are always welcome. We are all responsible for a successful program. Please help make it happen!.

Sharon Steinvurzel

No time? No expertise? No skills?

No Problem!

By Dewey Lee



Are you afraid to speak in front of people? Do you have little time to spare? Do you feel you have no expertise in anything?

Well, that's not a problem at CLS. We still could use you. Office support, class manager, audio/visual, suggest ideas for courses, work a table, organize a special trip, put out coffee and tea, organize a course.... **The job prospects are endless!**

Or, you could do what I did: create your own niche. After teaching a few courses, I began moderating debates with outside speakers on hot button issues, such as LGBTQ rights and religious freedom, gun control, economic inequality, racism and law enforcement, and DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion).

Okay, okay, I get it. You may not be up to doing this but maybe you could simply share a hobby or passion of yours in a small classroom?

We're a volunteer organization which depends on **all members** contributing in some way. Kindly contact the CLS Office to see if something whets your appetite. Submit your ideas to MC.CLS@marist.edu.



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