Chair Frank Jordan called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. He recognized The Knolls of Oxford for their hospitality throughout the year, from the ILR Kick-Off Party in October to the Pasta Luncheon in January to the End-of-Semester Party and Annual Meeting in April, as well as for providing meeting space for our Board of Directors and ILR classes. Thanks to Tim McGowan and staff. Appreciation was extended to Marilyn and Bob Johnson, co-chairs of the Special Events Committee, for organizing our End-of-Semester party and to Karen Schwartz for catering.

**Annual Report**

The annual report, as required under ILR Bylaws, has been emailed to members and is on the ILR website. Hard copies also were available at this meeting.

**Documents**

Cheryl Young, Director of Lifelong Learning, and Donna Gouvan, Program Associate and Manager for ILR, had prepared for the Board of Directors a packet of information and recommendations concerning ILR’s upcoming move to self-sustainability. Four of these folios were available at the meeting for members to examine.

**Memorials**

Luan Luce, one of ILR’s founding members and leader of the Steering Committee, and Stan Unger, past ILR Secretary and Treasurer, died in 2010. Sue Jones made a memorial board displayed at the meeting, listing their names. ILR members were invited to add other names to the memorial board.

**Board of Directors**

Three people are retiring from the Board of Directors after this term: Pat Baugher, Frank Jordan, and Mark Plageman. Thanks go to them for working so diligently for ILR.

The slate of candidates for 2011-2012 Board of Directors was presented:

- Officers: Judith de Luce – Chair, Tari Tharp – Vice Chair
- Diane Thomas – Secretary, Sue Jones – Treasurer
- Members at Large: Jenny Davis, Bill Gracie, Jack Haffey, Lee Hamill (new member), Bob Johnson (new member), Betty Rogers, Dan Szuhay (new member), Bob Wendel

A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate. The motion passed.

**Recognition**

Frank Jordan thanked volunteers who chaired and served on committees this past year: Curriculum Committee – Bill Gracie, chair; Liaison Committee – Tari Tharp, chair; Special Events Committee – Marilyn and Bob Johnson, co-chairs; Publicity Committee – Jack Haffey, chair and only member. Names of volunteers on each committee are listed in the annual report. Their time and work spent on behalf of ILR are greatly appreciated. Frank also thanked the class instructors for their very important contributions to ILR.

We were fortunate to have Judy Macke, ILR part-time assistant, this year. In addition to her regular work, Judy made arrangements and accompanied groups on Special Events activities. She suggested the tour ILR members took in December to visit lavishly decorated Laurel Court in Cincinnati. And during ILR classes, Judy served as the technology person, helping instructors with computer presentations. We are grateful to her.
Further Recognition
Donna Gouvan, in addition to being ILR Program Associate, took on Nancy Hoffmann’s work as Program Manager when Nancy resigned. But Donna will not be connected with ILR after this year. She has served ILR since 1998 with great care. On behalf of the ILR Board, Frank Jordan thanked Donna for caring for us so well and honored her with a bouquet of flowers. We are doing well, and will continue to do well, because of Donna’s work.

Looking Ahead
Bill Gracie, Curriculum Committee chair, said for next Fall term 21 courses are confirmed, with 6 more pending. Some of these classes are history of radio, lynching, grand opera, aquatic tai chi, a 2-semester course on Baby Boomers, a walking tour of Miami’s Art Museum, George Gershwin, Galileo, Hemingway’s short stories, Blake, Browning, bowling, and the Bunker Hill House. Three courses will be in Hamilton and four in West Chester at the Voice of America Learning Center (VOA). The committee already is working on Spring semester 2012.

Bob Johnson, Special Events Committee chair, reported the Pasta Luncheon will be continued in January 2012. He gave a long list of possible special events, including a brewery tour, a trip to Verdin Co. bell and clock plant in Cincinnati, a visit to the Harriet Beecher Stowe house, a trip to the Cleopatra exhibit in Cincinnati, and a tour of Ghyslain Chocolatier in Indiana. Two events will be selected.

Tari Tharp, Liaison Committee chair, thanked those who served on the committee, those who said “yes” to being liaisons, and others who volunteered to write thank-you notes to instructors. The committee will continue to need volunteers in these roles.

Self-Sustainability
Cheryl Young, Director of Lifelong Learning, notified us on March 14th that ILR would be required to become self-sustaining by July 1, 2011. A special Board of Directors meeting was held on March 25th to explore the implications of this news and to determine how best to proceed. Two committees were formed: one to enable us to become self-sustaining in the short term, and one to identify sources of money beyond the membership fee and charges for special events.

Pat Baugher chairs the committee investigating ways to become self-sustaining. Members include Tari Tharp, Jack Haffey, Lee Hamill, Bob Johnson, and Betty Rogers. Betty Rogers explained the committee’s activities. First, she said, ILR is not going away. The committee has looked at comparable ILRs in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois, finding a great variety of approaches to member funding, from a membership fee of $585 a year to a charge of $20 per course taken. Our ILR has been doing well concerning times that courses are offered and types of courses being provided. The committee tentatively is considering a membership fee of $100 a term or $175 for an entire year, with letting fluctuate the number of courses a member can take, but no decisions have been made yet. Steps could be taken to 1) Increase enrollment through VOA, which would bring in more money; 2) Look at ways to cut expenses; 3) Use interns and volunteers to cover work such as sending email to members, answering phones, monitoring credit card expenses, and providing computer graphics on the ILR website; 4) Maybe not offering instructors the opportunity to take free classes; 5) Charge a fee for parties; and 6) Request donations.

Betty Rogers then welcomed questions from the membership:
Joan Witt – Will Miami donate rooms for ILR? Answer – Betty said office space will be provided. Pat Baugher said classroom space, too, but ILR will have to pay for the office staff person.
Mickey Jewett – If ILR goes into West Chester VOA, does that mean ILR will be split into two or stay as one? Answer – Pat said that was hard to know. Conservatively, there will be 50 members from West Chester. (Our ILR originally began with 70.)
Mary Kay Fischer – Tom Hayden, retired Lakota Superintendent, spoke to our teachers’ group, saying they had applied for a grant for the ILR. What kind of grant is this? Answer – Betty said the application was to the Fairfield Community Foundation for the ILR at VOA, not for here.

Vince Gallardo – What is the total cost in a typical semester? How much comes from tuition? Answer – Donna Gouvan said all of it comes from tuition. Pat Baugher said that staff support has been given to us in the past, but not any more. Now we must pay for everything totally. The cost is $16,000 annually for classes plus $25,000 to $30,000 for staff and benefits, so that a total of $41,000 to $46,000 will be needed.

Linda Menchen – Can ILR solicit advertising for the course bulletins? Answer – Pat said yes, however there will be some restrictions from Miami concerning what can be accepted.

Connie Wilkins – What about ILR sponsorship of Miami University events? Answer – Pat said we are looking into it but will probably have to stop or curtail doing that.

There were no further questions at this time. Betty Rogers said that if members later had questions or ideas, they are invited to communicate them to the committees.

Judith de Luce chairs the committee looking at external funding. Members include Jenny Davis, Bill Gracie, and Sue Jones. Judith said this committee has divided up the task of looking for outside sources of money. She emphasized that this is not a time for panic, it is a time for creativity!

Thank you

Judith de Luce extended a thank you to Frank Jordan, ILR Chair, who will be leaving the Board. Frank has served with a deep commitment to ILR; we all thank him for his leadership and dedication.

Frank concluded the meeting with a remark taken from a Faulkner short story, “Mule in the Yard.” Two women spent all day long chasing, trying to retrieve a mule. At the end of the story, one woman said to the other “My, ain't we had a day!” And so for us in ILR: “My, ain't we had a year!”

Annual Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Thomas, Secretary