Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman

Furman University

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Recommended Citation
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It's safe to say that the participants in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman are passionate—about learning, about their community, and about the commitment needed to sustain a program that is among the largest in the nation.

So when the call went out to support the construction of a new building that would take them out of a collection of portable trailers that had served as home for more than a decade, they responded.

Within a year of the campaign announcement, members raised $3.7 million toward the design and construction of the Herring Center for Continuing Education. Today, they are ensconced in comfortable and technologically sophisticated classrooms that spill out into welcoming open spaces for conversation and socializing.

What began more than 20 years ago with 62 members of the Furman University Learning in Retirement now encompasses over 1,600 men and women engaged in year-round classroom, travel, physical fitness, and arts education programs.

- **40** percentage of OLLI members who completed graduate school
- **15** percentage of OLLI members who are Greenville natives
- **1,600** OLLI members in 2013; up from 62 members when the program began in 1993
- **12** gallons of coffee consumed by OLLI members each day