The Spring Semester of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Florida State University, a program for learners over 50, is well under way. In addition to offering a wealth of classes and activities, OLLI hosted a group of young Ukrainians involved in health care legislation Feb. 13 - 21.

The seven-member Ukrainian delegation visited Tallahassee to learn how policy and legislation shape the health care system in this country. Members of the delegation have been involved in writing and lobbying for health care reform legislation in the Ukrainian Parliament.

OLLI’s Friendship Force activities group arranged the visit with a grant from the Open World Leadership Center. The delegates — two physicians, an educator, a researcher, an urban developer, a facilitator and a translator — stayed at the homes of OLLI members and enjoyed the support and hospitality of other OLLI members.

During their busy week of activities, the delegates received an overview of the U.S. health care system at the FSU College of Medicine; participated in a dialogue on the faith community’s role in health care and spiritual counseling; attended a program on educating physicians; held a meeting with FSU President John Thrasher; toured the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory; and visited the Florida Capitol to be recognized by the House of Representatives, participate in discussions of health care issues with legislative leaders and staffs, and attend a meeting of the House Health Care Committee.

Delegates also learned about health care programs at Tallahassee Memorial, Capital Health Plan and the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education at Tallahassee Community College. They visited the Neighborhood Medical Center and Leon County Health Department, had lunch with the Northside Rotary Club and attended an FSU women’s basketball game in the evening.

On their final day in Tallahassee delegates were given an overview of health programs at Florida A&M University, participated in a roundtable discussion with health care lobbyists and attended a performance of the play "Ragtime."

Delegates, their hosts and OLLI volunteers who provided hospitality throughout the week were enthusiastic about the visit, the friendships that developed, and the guidance and information offered to these young delegates who are future leaders of their country.

For more information about OLLI’s Friendship Force, visit olli.fsu.edu.

**OLLI Maymester**

OLLI’s three-week Maymester will run from May 4-22. Information on course offerings, activities and registration will be posted at olli.fsu.edu.

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