



PACIFICA
GRADUATE INSTITUTE

EYE ON PACIFICA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2025

DR. LEONIE MATTISON



PACIFICA
GRADUATE INSTITUTE

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SPRINGING ONWARD TOGETHER

Dear Pacifica Community,

I can't believe we are already in March! We hit the ground running in the new year, and the momentum hasn't slowed. I suspect you feel the same way. As spring brings a season of renewal and growth, I'm excited to share the incredible energy and impact unfolding across our Pacifica community.

Spring enrollment is in full swing, and we are seeing strong momentum. Winter enrollment has increased by 2%, and we now have over 1,400 registrations in Extension and International Studies, thanks to the dedicated efforts of faculty, the Office of Strategic Enrollment and Student Success, and the Institutional Advancement and Lifelong Learning teams.

Last month, I had the privilege of connecting with all cohorts of the Counseling Psychology program during Breakfast with Dr. Lee, fostering meaningful dialogue and reaffirming our commitment to student success. Pacifica was also well represented across the broader Santa Barbara community. At the 2025 Annual Membership Meeting & Regional Business Awards, our Provost presented an award and our VP of People, Culture and Belonging delivered a keynote at Allan Hancock College's Black History Month celebration.

During the 2025 REACH Ideas + Action Summit, I engaged with over 350 Central Coast leaders on workforce development, economic growth, and the future of education—key areas where Pacifica continues to make a lasting impact.



Congratulations! As announced in early March, **Pacifica has received six-year reaffirmation of accreditation from WSCUC**—a significant milestone reflecting our shared commitment to academic excellence, continuous improvement, and student success. A formal message from the Provost has been sent to the community, outlining the importance of this accomplishment and the path ahead. A heartfelt commendation to our faculty, staff, board of trustees, students, and leadership for their dedication throughout this process.

Many have asked about Pacifica's stance on changing federal policies and orders. As the new administration takes shape, we closely track policy shifts and regulations. Working alongside our executive leadership team, I will keep you informed as we assess and respond. Our focus remains ensuring compliance, adapting to change, and upholding our commitment to students, faculty, the community, and our values.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ENGAGEMENT

At the February Board of Trustees meeting, several key updates were shared and decisions made:

- The Board announced the nonrenewal of the Lambert Campus lease, which will take effect in 2026-2027.
- Five Counseling Psychology students, representing their cohorts, shared their learning experience with the Board, highlighting the excellence of our academic programs.
- Updates on strategic plan priorities were presented to the Board following their endorsement of the plan in November
- Pacifica Alumni Connections was introduced as a new division to foster meaningful alumni engagement, and a new partnership with Godmother's Bookstore to enhance faculty scholarship.

Actions

- The Board has approved leadership team and board members overseeing the careful and strategic implementation of directives for the Lambert campus.
- The Board has endorsed a proposal to hold a campus-wide town hall, providing a platform for open dialogue as we move forward with the consolidation efforts for the Lambert campus.
- The Board has supported my recommendation to enhance campus safety measures, reinforcing our commitment to the wellbeing of our campus community.



**HONORING OUR TRADITIONS,
BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

CAMPUS CONSOLIDATION

We recognize that the Board's recent campus transition announcement has sparked a range of emotions—uncertainty, curiosity, hope, and concern. Change, especially at this scale, is deeply personal. It invites reflection on where we've been, where we are, and where we're headed.

Yet, what remains unwavering is our shared commitment to Pacifica's mission, depth psychological education, and our responsibility to steward this institution with wisdom, care, and vision. This transition is about shaping a future that honors our roots while evolving to meet the needs of our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and broader community.

Guided by collaboration, transparency, and shared wisdom, this journey will unfold thoughtfully over the coming years. A key milestone is space planning, ensuring our facilities support our academic vision. To lead this effort, we have formed a Space Planning Committee comprised of operational and academic leaders across campus, dedicated to a strategic, inclusive, and forward-thinking approach. Also in development is a committee to honor the Lambert Campus and Pacifica's 50th anniversary, comprised of faculty, staff, students, alums, and board members, .

How You Can Engage

- **Working Groups:** Focused on transparency and responsiveness to community needs.
- **Campus-Wide Town Hall:** A space to share insights and concerns with the Board of Trustees.
- **Feedback Form:** Your input is essential—share your thoughts and ideas.

Your voice matters. This is more than a transition—it's an opportunity to shape Pacifica's future together and honor the stories and experiences that make our Institute distinct. Stay tuned for details on how to engage in this transformative journey.

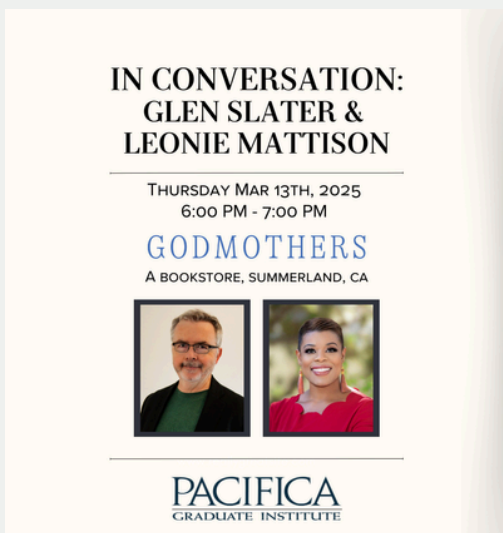
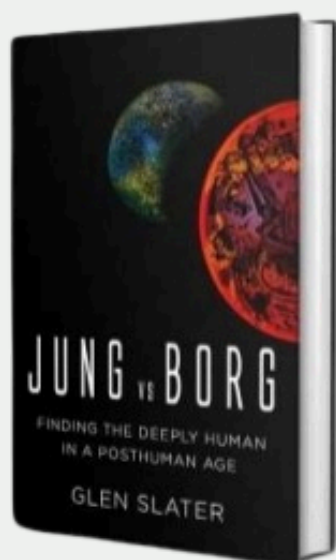


FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

We are thrilled to announce a new partnership between Pacifica and Godmother’s Bookstore, strengthening our commitment to expanding depth psychology through faculty scholarship, thought leadership, and research. This collaboration provides a space for intellectual dialogue that bridges depth psychology with the pressing issues of our time.

As artificial intelligence reshapes industries, economies, and even our personal lives, we must ask: What happens to the human psyche in a world where machines think for us? Pacifica is exploring this question through deep community engagement and conversations. I’m honored to invite you to join Dr. Glen Slater and me for a thought-provoking literary salon as he presents: **Jung vs. Borg: Finding the Deeply Human in a Posthuman Age!**

Dr. Slater will examine how technological advancements disrupt our external and inner worlds, reshaping our sense of self, soul, and purpose. **Join us March 13, 2025; 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM; Godmother’s Bookstore, Summerland**





ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Pacifica recognizes that our alumni are a vital part of our history and integral to our future. With this in mind, we are pleased to announce the establishment of the Office of Pacifica Graduate Alumni Connections, a dedicated initiative to foster meaningful, intentional, and enduring engagement with our alumni community.

Housed within the Department of Institutional Advancement and Lifelong Learning, under the leadership of Lorelee Scott, VP of Institutional Advancement and Lifelong Learning, this new office reflects Pacifica's commitment to strengthening relationships with our alumni in ways that are purposeful, enriching, and deeply connected to Pacifica's mission.

This office reflects Pacifica's unwavering dedication to our alumni—honoring how they carry depth psychology into the world and recognizing their profound contributions across diverse fields and communities. By deepening our engagement, we are strengthening connections and creating a dynamic and evolving network where alumni can continue learning, growing, and inspiring.

Please stay tuned for upcoming programs, gatherings, and initiatives to help you connect with Pacifica and fellow alumni. In the meantime, we'd love to hear from you! Contact Pacifica Graduate Alumni Connections at alumniconnections@pacifica.edu. Let's continue the conversation, build community, and move onward together.

Services

- Opportunities for lifelong learning, collaboration, and engagement.
- Valuable resources for personal and professional growth.
- Meaningful connections—among alumni and with Pacifica's evolving mission.



EXTENSION & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

As the demand for meaningful and transformative education grows, Pacifica is reimagining new ways to support lifelong learners, including our alums. Through innovative programs, accessible resources, and engaging initiatives, we are deepening our commitment to expanding depth psychology’s impact across various fields and communities.

Upcoming Programs and Events

March 12 – October 8, 2025



2025 Graduate Certificate – Finding Ourselves in Fairytales: A Narrative Psychological Approach

March 13, 2025



March 2025 Psychology, Religion, and Consciousness Admissions Webinar

March 20, 2025



The Complexity of Trauma: Jungian and Psychoanalytic Approaches to the Treatment of Trauma



Supporting students beyond the classroom through initiatives such as:

- Free Student Memberships
- Careers in Depth Series
- Free Continuing Education webinars

Highlighting faculty scholarship in depth psychology includes:

- Author Spotlights on significant publications
- Admissions webinars for insights from faculty
- PEIS Insights Magazine on psychology, culture, and leadership
- Expert panels and summits discussing important topics

Connecting impactful alumni and strengthening relationships involves:

- Author Spotlights on alumni contributions
- Careers in Depth programming for career development
- Lifelong memberships for ongoing engagement
- Alumni Connections for collaboration.



Pacifica Promise

MAKE DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

California is facing a severe mental health crisis. Underserved communities encounter extraordinary obstacles to accessing quality treatment while service providers are facing a shortage of qualified therapists and support professionals to fulfill the needs of local communities—particularly on the Central Coast.

Pacifica Graduate Institute is becoming a part of the solution through **Pacifica Promise**.

The pillars of **Pacifica Promise** outline a systemic approach to educate, train, and support qualified therapists and practitioners who are committed to living in California and meeting the needs of its communities.

Your support can make a significant impact on California's mental health landscape.



**DONATE TO OR PARTNER
WITH PACIFICA PROMISE
FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

Scan or visit sbfoundation.org

FOUR PROMISES

The pillars of Pacifica Promise



COLLABORATE ACROSS SECTORS

Build partnerships with diverse leaders to address mental health challenges.



DEVELOP INCLUSIVE LEARNING PATHWAYS

Create tailored education programs for every stage, from youth exploration to advanced degrees.



SUPPORT LIFELONG LEARNING

Provide scholarships and professional development to sustain growth in mental health careers.



ENHANCE MENTAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Expand the region's capacity to meet critical mental health needs



2030 STRATEGIC PLAN: ONWARD TOGETHER

EXPAND PACIFICA'S IMPACT: *Strengthen our institutional visibility, community engagement, and strategic partnerships to solidify Pacifica as a leader in depth psychology.*

ENHANCE STUDENT OUTCOMES: *Create an exceptional student experience by ensuring alignment of academic programs, support services, and learning outcomes with Pacifica's mission.*

EMPOWER ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: *Foster a culture of excellence, diversity, and innovation through improved governance, workforce development, and institutional policies.*

ELEVATE FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY: *Build a financially sustainable future through strategic enrollment growth, campus planning, and diversified funding.*

These goals - discovered out of the visions, insights, and intuitions of our community and adaptable to addressing challenges and opportunities - not only aim to sustain excellence but to elevate our institution as a premier center for depth psychological education, focused on the people who comprise it.

As we move forward, let us embrace change as an opportunity for transformation. Pacifica's strength lies in our shared commitment to growth, service, and the pursuit of knowledge. Together, we are shaping the future of our institution and deepening our collective impact on the world.

Please know you can always connect with me and provide your feedback through the [Office of the President Connect Form](#).

Leading Fearlessly,



Dr. Leonie H. Mattison
President & CEO
Pacifica Graduate Institute





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