



Clinical Psychology Program Newsletter

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A Note from the Program Chair

Dear Clinical Students,

I find it helpful to remember that the Western calendar is only a recent way to mark the passage of time... Still, this turning of the years reminds me about the value of our lives and the time given to us. And so, I wish all of us a meaningful 2015!

As part of this new beginning, I want to share with you developments that faculty and staff have been working on, and also about our evolving plans to nurture and grow the Clinical department.



- The new **Webinar series** will begin soon. As you can see from the schedule in the newsletter, we will use the webinars to offer trainings on dissertation writing (e.g., analyzing data; the nuts and bolts of the proposal); on the business of practice (e.g., passing the licensure exams; starting a private practice); on professional development (e.g., integrating Eastern spiritual practices in clinical work; learning somatic depth psychological approaches). These webinars will be live, allowing you to interact with a panel of presenters who will include alums, faculty, and invited experts. However, if you cannot attend at the time the webinar takes place or miss a portion of it, once you sign up for one, you will have access to its recording at a later time.
- Those of you who are interested in **research** (actively engaging in data collection, analysis, and writing for presentations and publications), we will begin a series of Goto Meeting (Skype-like online format) research groups that will meet monthly. Our research will focus on international collaborations with depth psychological scholars from Asia, Latin America, and Europe on topics such as synchronicity, dreams, and archetypes.

This year I would like to encourage the development of a **Student Leadership Circle** using the existing system of cohort reps (representatives). In our conversations together during this quarter, I would like to hear ideas about ways that reps can be elected (including among students in the dissertation and/or internship stages of training) in order to participate more fully in fostering the growth of our programs. My vision is that the Leadership Circle will offer students a greater

voice in the care of the department, in the content and flow of the curricula, and in addressing issues that pertain to our diversity and community. I am looking forward to dialoguing with you about how best to develop such a Circle.

- Our newly developed **Pacifica website** is another exciting frontier. I hope to expand our use of website space to include brief videos about our faculty's work, news about our alums, and highlights of the many incredible accomplishments by so many of you. In addition, we will include more information about the clinical program's history.

For example, you can find a brief document describing the History and Current Developments Regarding Pacifica Graduate Institute's Application for APA Accreditation of Its Clinical Psychology Programs at: <http://www.pacifica.edu/history-and-current-developments?highlight=WyJhcGEiLCJhcGEncyJd>.

- Those of you who are completing your third year of the PhD program will pioneer the **new comprehensive exam portfolio process**. We will announce more about this process during the first session.
- Lastly, our programs contract and expand as a living being—several **new students** will join first year cohorts this winter, many of them transferring from other doctoral programs that did not meet their goals. There are also **advanced students** who are returning to complete their programs after a time away. I hope that as a community we welcome them and help them adjust.

These plans should keep us busy! My intention is to take each step at the time, practice, learn from mistakes, and build up our community of learning through these varied venues.

We have a team of excellent staff and faculty. As you know, Elira Gjata will be returning from her maternity leave mid-January, and Nick Sabatino will step full-time into the role of Program Administrator. Phi Luong will continue in the Student Affairs role but also will expand her work toward building our program assessment and APA accreditation strategies. I am grateful for this excellent group of staff!

Akin to the reminder that our calendar is a cultural product, I also try to remember that each day it is not the sun and the moon that “rise and set,” but I am, as a human being, among the billions of us, rotating on a small planet amidst a vast universe. This reminder helps me ground myself and keep my perspective, living fully, and pursuing these departmental goals and plans to the best of my abilities.

But most of all, I wish to open my heart to the call of Psyche in and of this world. No matter what the plans and goals for 2015, my wish is that all of us find a deeper connection to Psyche, within ourselves, each other, and in our communities.



Cheers!

Oksana Yakushko

Program Chair

From the Director of Clinical Training

Dear All,

I hope that 2015 is flowing smoothly for you thus far.

Here is a bit of an update from the Clinical Training office as we start a new quarter. Those who have applied for internship are now in the matching phase of APPIC and the first round of matching for CAPIC. We wish them well for securing the site they have their hopes on.

This is a busy time for practicum applications as well, since many sites, especially in the Los Angeles area under SCAPTP guidelines have deadlines coming up. Please check with the clinical office about details.

Nick has been doing a wonderful job of managing the clinical office during Elira's maternity leave. I feel confident that you will agree with me about his quality of

character and his efficiency and kindness. We are fortunate to still have him with us as he moves into the Program Administrator role upon Elira's return on January 20th. It will be great to welcome her back too.

Please feel free to contact me through email or phone and/or to make an appointment to meet with me. I am here to serve and to collaborate with you regarding your clinical needs.

May this be a year full of deep learning, grace, and peace for you!

Sincerely,

Juliet



News and Notes about Clinical Training

Practicum and Internship Readiness – If you have not yet established your readiness for the 2014-2015 school year and plan to apply for practicum and internship spots that open in the Fall, please make sure you submit your readiness packet as soon as possible. Links to the readiness materials (and to all forms and documents), can be found on the Clinical Psychology Resources page on the Pacifica Website, as well as the Student Resource Center in D2L.

Students currently in a practicum or internship – Please submit your Supervisor Evaluation forms covering through the end of December, if you have not already done so. NOTE: Students in Practicum must submit weekly log sheets (one per month) along with their Supervisor Evaluation form.

Applications and Interviews – We are the midst of application and interview season for practicum and internships. Some reminders to help you in this process:

- Bring a hard-copy of your updated CV, as well as a notebook/pad and pencil to the interview
- Have specific examples/cases from your experience ready to share
- Research the site ahead of time and explore the type of therapy they espouse and the population served
- Get an understanding for the commitment involved – days, hours, responsibilities, etc. – and be prepared to meet it if you accept

Site Connections – Continuous efforts by Dr. Rohde-Brown are being made to establish and maintain strong relationships with training sites and supervisors across the country. We are always looking for opportunities for our students and exploring potential partnerships. If you are currently in a training program and aware of openings for future students or if you have any information about possible new sites, please let us know and we can share with our community.

Webinars Coming Soon!



Beginning later this month, the Clinical Psychology Department will begin to host monthly webinars open to all students.

With the mission of bringing our community together through informative, relevant presentations, the webinars will provide valuable professional development and support for your success as a student and future clinical psychologist.

Featuring special guest speakers, such as alumni and professional experts, the webinars will take place the **last Wednesday of every month at 8pm Pacific time** using the GoToWebinar platform. Here are the topics you can look for in the coming months:

January 28 - *Dissertation: Moving Through and Moving Toward Your Goal*

February 25 - *Studying and Passing the Licensure Exams*

March 25 - *Integrating Meditation and Spirituality Into Practice*

April 29 - *APA Manual and Scholarly Writing: Nuts & Bolts*

May 27 - *Dissertation: How to Analyze and Present Your Data*

June 24 - *Nuts & Bolts of Starting a Private Practice*

July 29 - *Somatic Approaches in Private Practice: Yoga and More*

August 26 - *Publishing a Scholarly Article*

**SAVE THE
DATES!**

Recordings will be made available for later viewing, but your presence at the live events will make for a much more dynamic and engaging experience. We are excited about this next great step for our department and look forward to sharing in them as a community.

If you have any questions on the webinars or would like to learn more, please contact Nick Sabatino at nsabatino@pacific.edu.

Upcoming Conferences

The American Group Psychotherapy Association's annual meeting is in **February 24-28** with the topic of **Promoting Secure Attachment through Group Psychotherapy** (will also have trainings by Pacifica's clinical alumni on use of social dreaming)



[American Group Psychotherapy Association](#)



The Association of Women in Psychology conference (**March 5-8, San Francisco**) will focus on restorative justice with speakers such as Angela Davis. Many of our students and faculty will present on topics such as depth psychology and feminism, spirituality, sexuality, diversity and more.

[Association for Women in Psychology, 2015 Conference](#)

Psychoanalysis Division Conference's annual meeting (**April 22-26, also San Francisco**) is on **Life in Psychoanalysis in Life** - many of our students and alumni attend and present.

[2015 Spring Meeting](#)



Upcoming Conferences/Seminars Presented by Faculty

Center for Object Relations

Emotional Experience in Working with Personality Disorders

Dr. Avedis Panajian

**Saturday, February 7, 2015,
9:00am – 1:30pm**

Fees

By January 28,
Members (Alliance, COR, Seattle School) \$80, Nonmembers \$85,
Students \$70

After January 20 or at the door,
members \$90, nonmembers \$95, students \$80. (Fee includes
lunch.)

[Registration Details and Seminar Description](#)

On **April 11th**, at the **Newport Psychoanalytic Institute**, Dr. Panajian will discuss the work of Arnaldo Chuster, M.D. who is a Bion scholar in Rio de Janeiro.

Dr. Chuster will review his latest work on Bion entitled, *A Lonesome Road: Essays on the Complexity Of Bion's Work*.

Dr. Panajian will discuss and provide an evaluation of the work of Dr. Chuster.

[Link to Conference Details](#)

Writing Services Available to Students

Pacifica's Library Services offer a range of tools and resources to support student research writing.

Link to Writing Assistance page: [Writing Assistance](#)

Pacifica also has a writing tutor who is available to provide additional support.

Our main writing tutor, **Vicki Stevenson**, is available for assistance to Pacifica students. Her services are free for you to use, and she can be reached by email at vickieditor@gmail.com. Support is provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. Vicki can provide advice on grammar, structure, MLA and APA formatting, and more.

(Please set up appointments well in advance of due dates so that you can work with her in enough time to receive feedback, and at different points in the writing process. This will give you time to hone and change your papers as necessary.)

Invitation to Join Alliance for International Psychoanalysis

AIP will accept all persons interested in psychoanalysis, regardless of their level of training. It welcomes all interested persons regardless of their theoretical orientation. It will not provide accreditation of training institutions, believing that such should be provided by a separately incorporated entity.

Membership Fees:

\$100 for members (who have mental health licenses)

\$75 for friends (lay persons with an interest in the field)

\$50 for students

For more information, please visit allinpsych.org or contact **Alan Karbelnig**, Founder and President at alan@allinpsych.org.

The current Board of AIP is looking for new members interested in serving on membership, bylaws, and educational committees. They are already at work on its first international conference to be held in Aspen, Colorado in the fall of 2016.



Student Highlights and Accomplishments

Here are some things your current peers and program alumni have been working on. Of course, if you have any news you'd like to share, please send any updates to oyaku-shko@pacifica.edu. We would be happy to share your accomplishments with the department and your peers in future newsletters.

- **Michael Mollura**, a 2013 graduate of the clinical psychology program, recently composed a score for the film, *Awake: The Life of Yogananda*. The film has been released in 25 cities. You can read more about Michael and his work at his website: [Michael Mollura Music](#).
- **Joshua Cohen**, a 2013 graduate, is planning for a February 2015 publication date for his book, *Video and Filmmaking as Psychotherapy: Research and Practice*. For more information about Joshua and his upcoming publication, please visit www.filmandvideobasedtherapy.com or [Routledge Mental Health](#).
- **John Valenzuela**, currently working on his dissertation, recently presented at a roundtable about dreams and identity at the National Latino/a Psychological Association's Biennial Conference. Here is a brief excerpt of the roundtable summary:

Building a Conscious Relationship to my Mexican-American Identity through Depth Psychology

In the American media today, we are witnesses to an abundance of discussion from public officials and by mainstream academic psychologists about how ethnic and cultural divisions shape our world. In job applications, surveys, and other areas of society asking for personal information, we are obligated to know and identify into these divisions, and often we do based on a limited conscious understanding of how these divisions are represented in our personal history and of its psychological importance. Society's need for our identification and our limited awareness set the stage for this discussion because at this intersection the individual and society meet. This discussion explores this intersection and explicates how ethnicity and culture fit into analytic psychology's construction of identity. Ultimately, this discussion explores how today's Mexican-Americans are influenced by the legacy of the collective unconscious based on the Aztec culture and people from more than 500 years ago, and how individuals identifying with their Mexican heritage can discover a renewed sense of identity and psychological health.

- **Omyda Hernandez**, currently working on her dissertation, had her panel presentation accepted by APA-Division 39 for its Spring 2015 meeting. Her paper is titled, *Dare to Speak: Negotiating Racial and Ethnic Micro-aggressions Within the Supervisory Relationship* and will be presented on April 23rd in San Francisco.
- Current third year student, **Robin Ruth**, is providing Castlewood's female clients with a means of improving their body image and increasing their overall feelings of well-being. She is accomplishing this with ecofemography, her original therapy model, which involves photographing women in natural settings. You can read more about Ruth's therapy model at Castlewood of Monarch Cove's [blog](#).

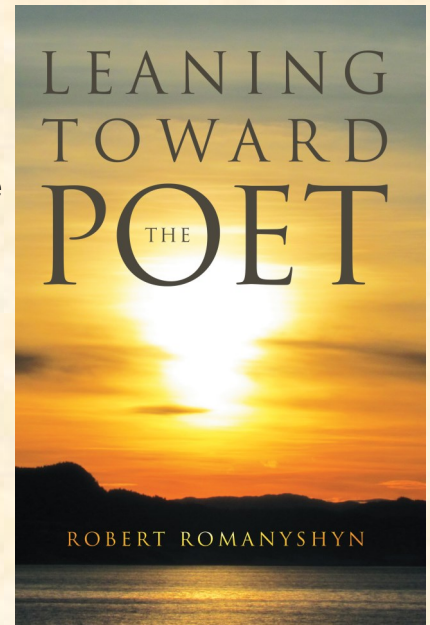
Faculty News

Emeritus faculty member, **Robert Romanynshyn**, Ph.D., recent published *Leaning Toward the Poet*. Here are his own words describing his publication:

In the Introduction to my new book, *Leaning Toward the Poet: Eavesdropping on the Poetry of Everyday Life*, I describe how dreams and poetry have escorted me through the world of academic psychology in search of a poetic sensibility as a basis for a style of writing that would be responsive to the poetic realism of soul. Part of a series of experiments on the soul of language and the language of soul, it is also part of a memoir about becoming and unbecoming a psychologist for the sake of being psychological. In an age of information overload and the ever increasing tempo of life, *Leaning Toward the Poet* is an invitation to slow down and pause to attend to those occasions when memory and imagination lead one to unexpected occurrences that wake us to what is happening around us and allow us to appreciate that, as John Keats, said, the world is indeed the vale of soul making. Attending to and being a witness for such moments as the light of a summer morning, or the appeals of an

empty bench, or the surprise of a spider's web framed by rain drops, or the smile on the face of a stranger at the threshold of a door, or the tableau of a porch on a Sunday morning with cups and plates displayed on a table attesting to the expected visit of a friend, or the pass-

ing glimpse of a stranger standing in a doorway that unfolds as a story are the stuff at the heart of the poetry of everyday life. The poems in this small volume accompanied in places by images celebrate the splendor of the simple, attest to the miracle in the mundane, and explore both the shadows and the stray lines of experience that undo our map making minds. They are gifts I have gathered along the way while traveling in the company of the poets.



Juliet Rohde-Brown's painting was honored at a Los Angeles art exhibit in November that featured work created by psychologists, psychotherapists, and students.

Her brother served as inspiration for the painting. Here are Juliet's own words about her work of art:

This painting was several years in the making. It started with bright colors of red, orange, yellow, blue and violet to symbolize a joyful transitional moment and the easeful flow of energy that accompanies such. I came back to it after a visit with John several years ago while he was very ill and recovering from a surgical procedure. I wondered if he would live through the experience. I have taken many photographs of John since that time, but the one I took that particular day when he was very weak and ill was memorable because of the question of mortality. Reflecting on my love for John, the sufferings and gifts that we have shared, and on questions that may never be answered in any tangible way, I felt compelled to enlarge the photograph of his eye and include it on the painting as a gesture of gratitude and inquiry.

A Day in the Pacifica Gardens



The splendid grounds of Pacifica Graduate Institute's Lambert Road Campus are the result of more than 20 years of thoughtful cultivation. The 13-acre campus has evolved from an abandoned horse ranch by Max Fleischmann into a unique melding of Mediterranean gardens with native California flora and edible landscapes that form a green belt around the campus. In addition to applying the best horticultural and ecological principles, Pacifica has reintroduced garden elements that reflect historical occupations on the site.

Join Landscape Manager **Marshall Chrostowski** and Professor **Michael Sipiora** in an aesthetic and intellectual engagement with this beautiful location.

Sunday, March 15

9:00am-5:30pm

\$50 General Admission

Fee includes lunch.

The workshop will be held
at Pacifica's Lambert Road
Campus.

For registration details , please contact **Public Programs**:

Call: 805.969.3626, ext. 103

email: publicprograms@pacifica.edu

[Celebrating the Soul of the World: A Day in the Pacifica Gardens](#)



Michael P. Sipiora, Ph.D., is a member of Pacifica's core faculty. He holds degrees in psychology and philosophy, and publishes in the areas of phenomenology and archetypal psychology.



Marshall Chrostowski is Pacifica's land manager. He has managed the grounds and orchards since 1989. He holds degrees in soil science, plant and tropical ecology, and ethnobotany.

Adjunct Faculty Highlight

Dr. Darren Del Castillo, Ph.D.

My name is **Darren Del Castillo**. I am a clinical psychologist, and recently started serving as an adjunct faculty in the Clinical Psychology program. It has been a privilege to teach in a learning environment where depth psychological perspectives are not only valued but also actively supported.

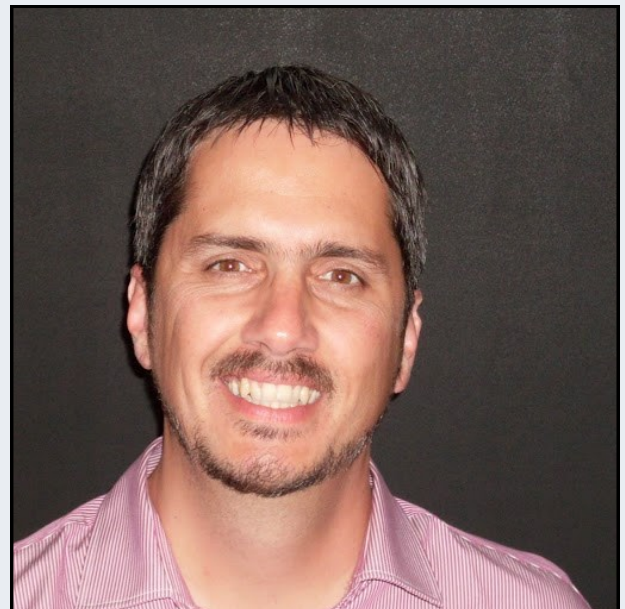
My own interest in depth psychology emerged some 20 years ago when I was introduced to Jung, the imaginal, and later Hillman's archetypal psychology. Depth psychology represented fertile intellectual ground. Around that time, I completed an undergraduate degree in English literature, and enjoyed writing about how depth perspectives could be seen in Edgar Allen Poe, James Joyce, Shakespeare, and more contemporary novels. Several years later I pursued a doctoral degree in clinical psychology, enrolled at Miami University of Ohio (unfortunately named!), and felt fortunate to continue scholarly inquiry where interdisciplinary perspectives were encouraged.

Miami University's clinical program was also unique in that it was one of the few in the country where "Hillman's archetypal psychology" was described in a faculty member's bio, dreams were a possible research topic, and qualitative inquiry courses were part of the core curriculum. I would eventually write a dissertation where I was encouraged to poetically transcribe interview material, definitely an endeavor that challenged mainstream conventions of psychological scholarship. Thus, I resonate with Pacifica's values that enlarge psychology's scope to include drawing from the arts, literature, and other creative sources that give voice to psyche's multiplicity.

More recently, I have worn several hats as a professional psychologist, and my interests have changed somewhat in the process. Shortly after graduating from Miami University, I was awarded a fellowship with the American Psychoanalytic Association, which deepened my interest in psychoanalysis and incorporating analytic the-

ories in my work as a psychotherapist (I continue to be actively engaged in psychoanalytic training).

My primary employment is as a staff psychologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where I conduct individual and group psychotherapy with college students. Nowadays, between spending time with my wife, chasing my two young boys around, working at the university, and developing a private practice, I find less time to read fiction much less do the kind of writing I did in graduate school. Still, what remains consistent is an effort to be creative, imaginative, and thoughtful in my work. I strive similarly in my service to students, and am honored to teach at Pacifica.



Dr. Darren Del Castillo has taught the Advanced Psychopathology I and Evidence Based Best Practices courses in the clinical PhD program.

Dissertation and Clinical Research Project Completions

Rebecca Goettsche

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Client Experiences and Therapeutic Practice with Sexual Minorities: An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis

Chair: Oksana Yakushko

Daniel Szuhay

The Lived Experience of Long-Term Unemployment among Middle Aged Managerial-Level U.S. Males: A Phenomenological Study

Chair: Oksana Yakushko

Tracy Cooper

A Journey Toward Healing the World: Women's Empowerment

Chair: Richard Kelliher

Tony Martinez

Stigma and Military Mental Health: A Phenomenological Study

Chair: Christine Peterson

Joy Mondragon-Gilmore

Firefighters and the Experience of Increased Intuitive Awareness During Emergency Incidents

Chair: Paul Gabrinetti



Helpful Links

[Student Services Page](#)

[My.pacifica.edu](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

[Pacifica Bookstore](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[Student Accounts](#)

[Office of the Registrar](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[Practicum and Internship Resources](#)

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