

April 22, 2020

Subject: Pacifica Update from the President

Dear Pacifica Student,

Greetings. During this time of global coronavirus crisis, we see much hardship in our nation, especially in metropolitan areas vulnerable to COVID-19. Public health and the economy of the country, state, and region are in peril, and members of our communities may be feeling effects of illness, isolation, or loss of work. We also recognize that this moment has transformative possibilities and feel certain that Pacifica will adapt and emerge in new, creative ways.

To protect California's public health, Governor Newsom has issued shelter-in-place orders, and Pacifica has complied by closing our campuses and moving all classes online. Last week, Governor Newsom presented a 6-part plan for phased-in reopening of the state economy. However, dates for re-opening are unknown, in part because adequate testing for the virus has not yet been achieved.

In response, Pacifica's administration, after consulting with our accreditation agencies, has decided to keep the campuses closed at least through June 2020. In late May, we shall re-evaluate possible continued closures and make decisions about the third sessions of spring that take place in July for some programs, as well as our summer residential sessions scheduled for July and August. While the situation remains fluid, we are closely monitoring state and federal guidelines regarding when a safe reopening can be assured. As the situation evolves, we will give you timely further notification. Be assured that your health and safety are of paramount importance to us. So, please know that the earliest we shall consider reopening is July 2020.

In the meantime, we are seeking to provide you high quality learning experiences through online teaching. Our faculty and staff have been working diligently to optimize our delivery methods to ensure a meaningful and rich online experience that is aligned with our mission and best practices. We look forward to engage with you to assess the quality of your experiences with this format.

I wish you every success in your academic progress. Our academic and student services departments remain committed to supporting you during this time. Please be mindful of safety precautions and preserve your health. Our collective future depends on how we take care of ourselves and our communities during this time.

Warm wishes,



Joseph Cambray, Ph.D.
President/CEO, Pacifica Graduate Institute

