



To the Pacifica Community,

Greetings, and welcome to a shared sense of community and renewed energy for a new academic year. For me, the sweater-ready and refreshingly mellow temperatures of the fall season have always signaled exciting possibilities. As we begin our new academic year, let it be a time of rejuvenation and fresh starts. We welcome many new students and faculty who begin their Pacifica journeys, while many others begin new phases of their studies. The blend of excitement, uncertainty, anxiety, and hope stirs within.

Let us also take the time to reflect on our commitment to Pacifica's core values: eros, logos, service, stewardship, integrity, and consciousness and how we live and practice them in what we study or bring to the world and how we interact on campus and online. Approximately 250 new students will join our Pacifica community this fall from various locales and backgrounds, all of whom are receiving orientation to these values, as well as their programs, support systems, curriculum, logistics, rituals, cohorts, and best practices that will help carry them in the years ahead toward their degree.

For many new community members, starting their vocational and personal journeys at Pacifica may be daunting. But in my short time as President and CEO, I have learned that our campus community is dedicated to ensuring everyone feels welcomed, connected, and supported. The collective efforts to build a sense of community and explore for meaning, even through times of challenge and transition, are what create the Pacifica experience not found elsewhere.

At Pacifica Graduate Institute, we know the role and impact of depth psychology and therefore remain committed to:

- **Expanding Pacifica's Impact** as we reinforce our why and deepen our values, reach, and responsibility to the community's changing needs.
- **Elevating Learner Outcomes** as we evolve our focus on learner-first and maintaining academic excellence.
- **Empowering Organizational Development** and the tireless efforts and outstanding achievements toward addressing our structures, relationships, and strategic initiatives. [Click here](#) to read a progress report on strategic initiatives in 2023.

During the fall, I intend to be active and engaged on our campuses and the wider community, building on many of Pacifica's purposeful partnerships with aligned organizations and networks. As promised, I will continue to listen, learn, and connect with many of you on campus, in the hallways, online, or in the community - please take the opportunity to say hello and share your ideas and concerns. We also look forward to launching regular engagements to "break bread" or engage in "lunch and learns." Look for more details on those soon.

Wherever you are, I hope you will seek ways to get involved and indulge your intellectual curiosity. With that in mind, please consider joining me during one of these gatherings for a time of learning, serving our communities, and furthering the reach of depth psychology.

Along these lines, we are excited about two offerings this month and invite you to learn more, participate, or pass along to friends, family, and colleagues who may be interested:

- [Graduate Certificate: Contemporary Analytical Psychology and Neo-Jungian Studies](#) (starts Sept 9, I am registered for this learning opportunity and look forward to seeing you in class)
- [Journey Week: An Immersive Week of Learning and Connecting at Pacifica](#) (Sept 27 – Oct 1, including the weekend conference, When Deep Calls to Deep: Journeys of the Soul for a Culture in Crisis)

Following a core theme of the Journey Week conference, we cannot separate ourselves and our work at Pacifica from what we experience in the world, in both its beauty and tragedy.

- **What's around us** – the trauma and stress of the recent shooting in Jacksonville and other ongoing harms and hardship to human life and spirit, whether witnessed or directly experienced – how can we be a community that better tends to grief, healing, and positive action?
- **What uplifts us** – the work, its meaning-making, and gathering together
- **What we can bring** – transformation starts with ourselves, with those around us, in our communities. Let's continue to reach wide and make an impact on our world.

I am continuously grateful for the work you do daily to make Pacifica a community that remains committed to tending soul of and in the world. Regardless of your aspirations, our dedicated faculty and staff are here to help you succeed in your studies and your own professional and personal growth. We are proud to share this journey with you and look forward to seeing you evolve to carry out your mission. You are our why! To our new faculty and students, thank you for saying yes to Pacifica. Thank you for being Pacifica.

Please don't hesitate to share your experiences, insights, and concerns with me by emailing president@pacific.edu or [President's Office Connect Form](#). Let's also connect on [LinkedIn](#) or [Instagram](#). I am excited to hear from you!

Let's have an amazing year together! As always, stay Pacifica healthy, motivated, and safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Dr. Lee