

APRIL 2024



PACIFICA  
GRADUATE INSTITUTE

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

# COMMUNITAS

for the sake of tending soul  
in and of the Pacifica community





# A message from the Interim Provost



Dear Members of Pacifica's Academic Community,

As we transition into another season of growth and intellectual exploration at our Institute, I am delighted to address you through this editorial. Our journey, enriched by the dedication of our faculty, staff, and students, continues to unfold in remarkable ways. This edition of our newsletter is a vibrant mosaic of our collective achievements and aspirations. It mirrors the dynamic evolution of our academic community and the groundbreaking strides we are making in Depth Psychology.

To remain relevant in an ever-evolving higher education landscape, we have made a significant addition to our team, a seasoned professional in Online Instructional Design and Pedagogy, Dr. Mari Schuldt (pp. 2). Her expertise will be instrumental in developing and launching new online programs that will extend the reach of our unique academic offerings. This initiative marks a pivotal step in our commitment to making Jungian commitment to making Jungian Depth Psychology degree programs accessible to a global audience.

Pacifica Faculty's recent publications demonstrates their unwavering commitment to advancing the field of Jungian Depth Psychology (pp. 4-6). These works not only contribute to the rich tapestry of scholarly discourse but also offer new perspectives and insights that challenge and inspire. As we celebrate these achievements, we are reminded of the vital role research, scholarship, and creativity play in nurturing an environment of intellectual curiosity and academic excellence.

The publication achievements of Pacifica Students (pp. 3) are reflective of the depth and diversity of their scholarly pursuits, and signifies the emergence of new voices in the field of Jungian Depth Psychology. These publications not only highlight the exceptional talent within Pacifica's student body but also underscore the importance of mentorship and academic support in fostering the next generation of scholars and practitioners.

The establishment of a new Institutional Review Board (IRB) is a milestone in our ongoing efforts to uphold the highest standards of research integrity and ethics (pp. 7). This development not only reinforces our commitment to responsible scholarly inquiry but also ensures that our research practices align with national and international benchmarks. The Cottage Health IRB will play a crucial role in overseeing and guiding the ethical conduct of research within the Institute.

Recognizing that our educators are the cornerstone of our academic mission, we have renewed our membership to the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD) (pp. 8). NCFDD offers training programs designed to enhance teaching effectiveness and integrate innovative pedagogical methods. These initiatives not only empower our faculty to excel in their roles but also ensure that Students at Pacifica benefit from the most engaging and transformative educational experiences. This commitment to faculty training highlights Pacifica's dedication to excellence in teaching. May you find inspiration, insight, and a renewed sense of connection with Pacifica's vibrant academic community as you delve into the pages of this *Communitas* newsletter. Together, we are not just witnesses to the unfolding story of Jungian Depth Psychology; we are its narrators and creators. Enjoy the journey.

With warmest regards,

*Dr. Loraine Devos-Comby*

Dr. Loraine Devos-Comby  
Interim Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer



## Welcoming New Staff

### Mari Schuldt, Director of Online Instructional Design and Pedagogy

Mari Schuldt, Ph.D. is Pacifica's new Director of Online Instructional Design and Pedagogy. Mari has extensive experience in online higher education. She specializes in online post-secondary instructional design and creating student-centered learning experiences using Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Backward Design, accessibility best practices, and diversity, equity, and inclusion methods.

Developing student-centered experiences is always the foundation for her work. Mari has been an Adjunct Assistant Professor for the University of Maryland Global Campus since 2010, where she has taught courses on subjects ranging from archeology to world history. She earned her Ph.D. in Ancient Near Eastern Studies from the University of Birmingham in England.

Her dissertation focused on ancient perceptions of the past, antiquarianism, and the collective memory in the ancient Near East. She lives in San Diego with her husband and son and enjoys camping and traveling with them whenever time allows. She also has a passion for music and spends her spare time singing in a community choir. Mari can be reached via email at [mschuldt@pacifica.edu](mailto:mschuldt@pacifica.edu).

## Office of the Provost Staff Restructuring

The Office of the Provost now includes the following offices and staff leaders:

- Academic Affairs Office- Victoria Bernhardt, Manager of Academic Affairs
- Library Services- Mark Kelly, Director of Library Services
- Dissertation Office- Meadow Rhodes, Dissertation Office Manager
- Institutional Effectiveness & Accreditation Office- Loraine Devos-Comby, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer
- Online Instructional Design and Pedagogy Services- Mari Schuldt, Director of Online Instructional Design & Pedagogy





# CLIE Student Praxis Presentations and CLIE Publication

Students in the M.A./Ph.D. Program in Depth Psychology with Specialization in Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Eco-Psychologies (CLIE) program recently presented their praxis work, which was portrayed through rich and inspiring videos capturing their summer community fieldwork. They showcased the depth of their academic engagement with these presentations.

The CLIE program also released the publication Visions in Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Eco-Psychologies 2023. The editors of Visions 2023 include Susan James, Ph.D., Core Faculty and Chair of the CLIE program, Nuria Ciofalo, Ph.D., Core Faculty in the CLIE program, and Beth Anne Boardman, Pacifica Alum. Susan James, Ph.D. and Kamee Abrahamian, Ph.D. (Adjunct Faculty in CLIE). worked on creative curation and design.



## Mythological Studies Journal Volume XI, 2023



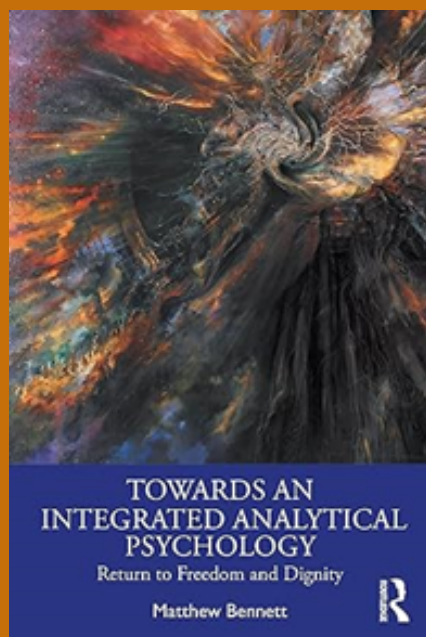
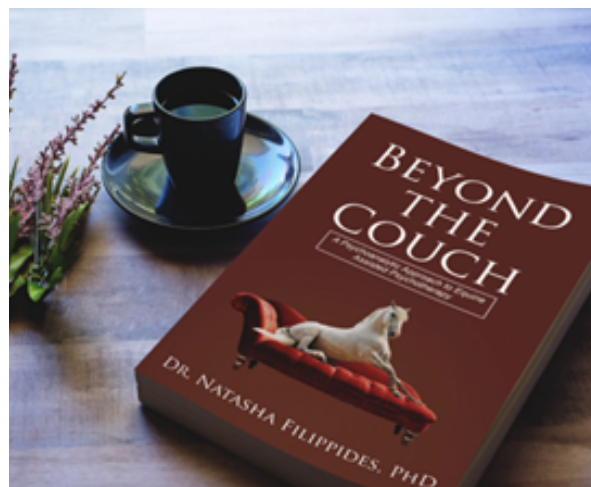
Congratulations to the Mythological Studies Journal Editorial Team for publishing a new version of the journal! The Mythological Studies Journal features writings by students enrolled in the M.A./Ph.D. Mythological Studies Program with a specialization in Depth Psychology. The essays reflect the interdisciplinary approach of the program, which integrates perspectives on myth from religious studies, literature, and depth psychology as a means of elucidating issues and motifs that shape the cultural dynamics, diverse worldviews, and complexities of psychological life in the contemporary world.

"This year's edition of The Mythological Studies Journal is without a theme for the third year in a row. The pieces selected were chosen for how they excite, and how they move within the field of myth. In these pieces are curiosity-driven explorations pursuing the guidance of Joseph Campbell: 'The goal of life is to make your heartbeat match the beat of the universe, to match your nature with Nature.' These works do the job of path-finding with that heartbeat as a guide." - Senior Editors Laurel Bergsten and Kira Kull.



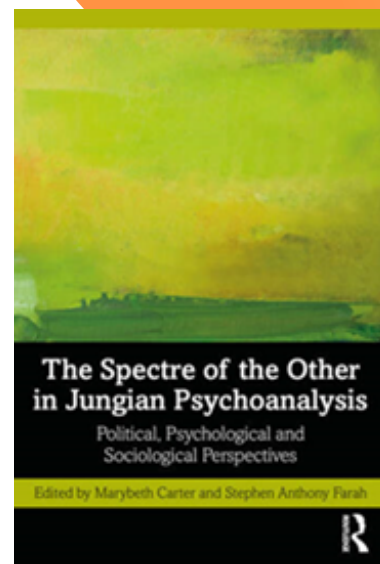
# Faculty Publications: Clinical Practice

**Dr. Natasha Filippides**, Adjunct Faculty in the Counseling Psychology Psy.D. program, wrote a book entitled [Beyond the Couch: A Psychoanalytic Approach to Equine Assisted Psychotherapy](#) and is the culmination of years of research and the marriage of two passions the love of horses and of clinical psychology. In this book you will find one of the first depth-oriented approaches for Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (EAP) to be systematically conceptualized with an emphasis on the role of unconscious dynamics, entitled Depth Equine Assisted Psychotherapy (DEAP). DEAP is a celebration of the evolution of the horse human relationship and the evolution of psychoanalytic practice.



**Dr. Matthew Bennett**, Core Faculty and Co-Chair in the Counseling Psychology program, published a book entitled [Towards an Integrated Analytical Psychology: Return to Freedom and Dignity](#). The model proposed by Matthew Bennett, called Integrative Analytical Psychology, presents two major dimensions of personality development, and is integrative of Jungian and psychoanalytic perspectives, but places the Jungian concept of archetype as its core organizing principle. The six mental representations included within this model are: Archetype, Symbol, Object, Complex, Schema and Self. This book strongly accents clinical application, and more broadly considers the applied clinical implications of these mental representations to psychotherapy and clinical practice.

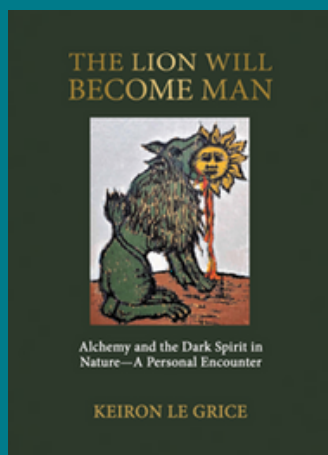
The book that **Dr. Marybeth Carter**, Adjunct Faculty in the Clinical Ph.D. program, & Stephen Farah's co-edited entitled [The Spectre of the Other in Jungian Psychoanalysis](#) won the [2023 Grady Award](#) and the [2023 IAJS Award](#) for best edited book. The volume explores Jung's theories in relation to the concept of Other and in conjunction with the lived experience of it, while examining current events and cultural phenomena through the lens of Jungian and post-Jungian psychology, sociology, literature, film and philosophy. The Grady Awards were inspired by Freud's essay "Delusions and Dreams in Jensen's Grady." You can learn more about them by clicking the link. Additionally, the IAJS was created to promote scholarly work carried out by academics, therapists, IAAP analysts, clinicians, artists and students interested in depth psychology.





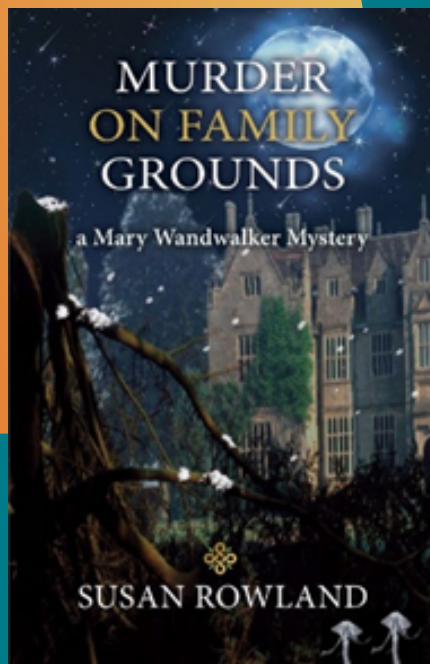
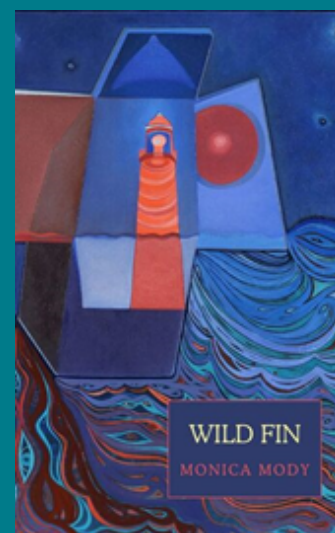


## Faculty Publications: Humanities



**Dr. Keiron Le Grice**, Core Faculty and Co-Chair of the DJA program, published a book entitled The Lion Will Become Man: Alchemy and the Dark Spirit in Nature—A Personal Encounter. In this compelling psychological memoir, Keiron details his experience of a profound transformative crisis between 2001 and 2004. He explains how, by a sustained investigation of the root causes of his condition, he was eventually able to overcome the crisis, guided by instructive dreams and startling coincidences, illuminated by a series of symbolic paintings, and aided by his serendipitous discovery of the Gnostic text *The Gospel of Thomas*. Dr. Le Grice was invited to be this year's speaker at the International School of Analytical Psychology's "Zurich Lecture Series," in Zurich. For more information on his lectures, click [here](#).

**Dr. Monica Mody**, Core Faculty in the Mythological Studies program, published a book Wild Fin. Maw Shein Win describes the book, "Monica Mody's soulful new poetry collection, *Wild Fin*, weaves the reader through an eclectic warp and weft of grief and fury, rupture and suture, mysticism and calls for climate and social justice. A healer in the guise of a poet, Mody asks, "when do we stop seeing, being seen? . . . How will you un-bend? / Of what is the new world made?" and reminds us of "what the body remembers." With artful line breaks and lush language that imbue rich layers of meaning, these poems demonstrate "writing's capacity to un-silence" with "words [that] flock together into language that will change skies."



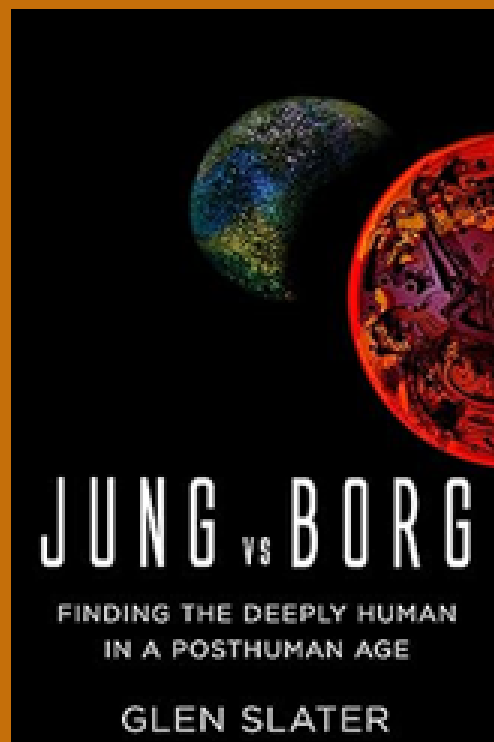
**Dr. Susan Rowland**, Core Faculty in the Depth Psychology and Creativity with Emphasis in the Arts and Humanities program, published the third book in her Mary Wandwalker Mystery Series, entitled Murder On Family Grounds: A Mary Wandwalker Mystery.

Who is killing off members of the Falconer family and why? Such is the challenge confronting highly skilled, extraordinarily intuitive Mary Wandwalker when she finds herself single, sixty and jobless. Long ago as an Oxford student with an unplanned pregnancy, Mary knew the Falconers as the family who refused to help when her fiancé, David Falconer died in a car crash. Now the baby boy she gave up for adoption is a policeman, George Jones, and he wants to meet her. Can Mary bring herself to confront her past? She must, for lost in her memory is a clue that could save her son's life. The novel is a work of Jungian arts-based research with some unexpected reflections on the British legacy of slavery.



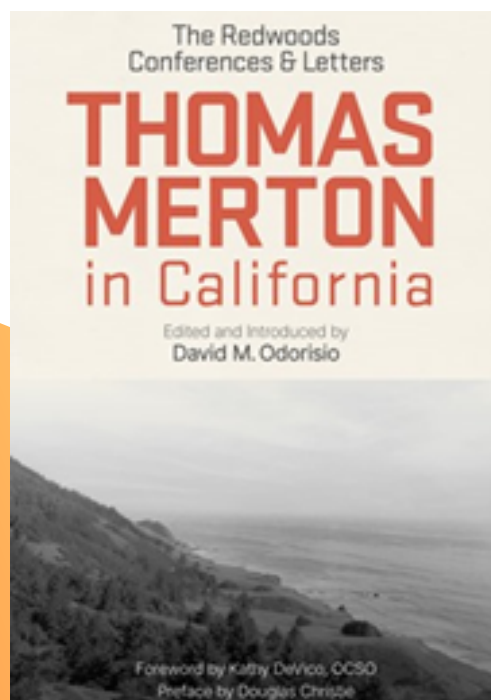
## Faculty Publications: Current Topics

Congratulations to **Dr. Glen Slater**, Core Faculty in the Jungian & Archetypal Studies specialization, on the publication of his new book, Jung vs Borg: Finding the Deeply Human in a Posthuman Age. In *Jung vs. Borg* Glen Slater argues the industrial disruption of the outer world is being followed by a post-industrial disruption of the inner world, resulting in a different order of existential crisis, making the collapse of global ecosystems look like a warm-up act. The main event, beginning with the psycho-social fragmentation of the digital age, appears to be the collapse of our ecology of mind. As he explores critical precursors of this phenomenon and shows how this crisis will accelerate through the attempt to merge human and machine, Slater demonstrates how the psychology of the unconscious, born in the shadow of the Industrial Revolution, can be deployed as a counter-measure.



**Dr. David Odorisio**, Associate Core Faculty and Co-Chair of the Mythological Studies program, edited and introduced a book entitled Thomas Merton in California. The publisher's webpage describes the book, "In May and October of 1968, Thomas Merton offered two extended conferences at Our Lady of the Redwoods Abbey, a Cistercian women's community in Northern California.

Comprising over twenty-six hours of previously unpublished material, *Thomas Merton in California* covers a variety of topics including ecology and consciousness, yoga and Hinduism, Native American ritual and rites of passage, Sufi spirituality, and inter-religious dialogue, along with extended discussions on prayer and the contemplative life."





# WSCUC Report & Next Steps

Administrators, Staff, and Faculty have been working collaboratively on our Institutional Report for the Reaffirmation of Accreditation by WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). This document highlights the new initiatives to support student success and institutional well-being in the last five years. The report was due at the end of January and will be followed by a panel review in April 2024 and a site visit in October 2024. This is a standard process to demonstrate compliance and continuous improvement. We are excited to have this opportunity to showcase all the great work that Faculty, Students, Staff, and Leadership have accomplished together in the past years.



## Institutional Review Board



There has been an important transition in our protocol for Pacifica research involving human participants. Pacifica strives for the highest scholarly standards in what we teach and how we conduct depth psychological research. It is important to consider all aspects of our interactions with the communities we serve, and to that end, members of our faculty, the Interim Provost, and the Dissertation Office have been evaluating improvements to our ethical review processes for research with human participants.

We have enhanced the procedures to include multiple perspectives in the approval process, to increase the level of consideration for research participants, and to provide additional support for dissertation students. As of March 1st, 2024, all Pacifica research involving participants is reviewed and formally approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB). In order to implement this new IRB process, Pacifica has partnered with the Cottage Health Research Institute, part of the Cottage Health System based in Santa Barbara. As part of their mission to serve community health, they offer an IRB service to any organization seeking a high level of multi-disciplinary expertise in reviewing and approving research with human participants. For more information, please visit the current [FAQ page](#) or contact the Dissertation office at [Dissertation@pacific.edu](mailto:Dissertation@pacific.edu).





# Online Grading & Attendance Pilots

The Online Grading Initiative was launched in select courses offered in fall 2024 and will continue through the winter 2024 quarter. Pacifica is ready to pilot the tracking of attendance online rather than on paper rosters, thus modernizing our processes and systems and will begin with a small group for the spring 2024 quarter. Our goal is to digitize all grade and attendance reporting in all courses for the fall 2024 quarter. We thank the Registrar's Office, the Information Technology Team, the Educational Technology Team, Participating Faculty, and Victoria Bernhardt for their extensive work supporting this initiative.



## NCFDD Membership

Pacifica is contracted with NCFDD, which is an independent professional development, training, and mentoring community for over 90,000 faculty, graduate students, and professionals dedicated to supporting academics in making successful transitions throughout their careers.



As staff and faculty, you are encouraged to create an account! NCFDD focuses on four key areas: strategic planning, academic productivity, healthy relationships, and work-life balance. Resources for member include: core curriculum, the 14-Day Writing Challenge, guest expert webinars, a Monday motivator, and much more. In the past year that Pacifica has had a membership with NCFDD, 85 members of the Pacifica community have joined NCFDD. Of those, 52 are students. We are delighted to see our faculty, staff, and students taking advantage of invaluable resources offered by NCFDD.

How to claim your Institutional Membership:

- Click [HERE](#) to join. Select your institution from the drop-down menu and click "Continue."
- On the institution's landing page, click "Activate My Membership."
- Complete a brief registration form using your Pacifica-issued email address.
- Open your institution email. Click "Activate Account" in the confirmation email.



# Dissertation Success Curriculum

This winter, the Dissertation Office launched a 12-week pilot program dedicated to helping students in the midst of the dissertation process. With a total of 37 students, this program was meant to highlight issues students routinely work through in order to achieve success in their dissertation journey. Throughout the 12 weeks we hosted Zoom sessions, joined by stellar Pacifica Research Coordinators, to answer questions and break down barriers students were feeling throughout their process. We also housed a D2L course shell to use as a platform where students from multiple programs can work together on their dissertations.

The 12-week program functioned alongside The Dissertation Success Curriculum hosted by the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD). The NCFDD Dissertation Success Curriculum is designed to provide the skills, strategies, and support that advanced graduate students need to overcome the three biggest obstacles to finishing their dissertation: perfectionism, procrastination, and isolation. The curriculum is intended to help students through the dissertation process rather than provide any advice on content. This Curriculum offers 12 Dissertation Success Training Modules, facilitated by Kerry Ann Rockquemore, PhD. These videos are designed to provide students with essential tools and strategies to navigate the dissertation process successfully by developing daily and positive writing routine, planning weekly writing goals, understanding the academic process, identifying and overcoming academic perfectionism, and creating an extended network of cohorts and mentors.

Although we do not yet have a date for the Dissertation Office's next 12-week Dissertation Success program, NCFDD provides this free curriculum year-round to all with a Pacifica email address. Aside from the Dissertation Success Curriculum, NCFDD's website also offers a Faculty Success Program, 14-Day Writing Challenge, Workshops, Guest Expert Webinars, and more. For questions on the NCFDD Dissertation Success Curriculum, contact [dissertation@pacific.edu](mailto:dissertation@pacific.edu).

## Sabbatical Updates



Mary Wood has returned from her sabbatical in the winter of 2024. During her sabbatical, Mary focused on expanding and revising her last publication *The Archetypal Artist: Reimagining Creativity and the Call to Create*. Evans Lansing Smith will soon return from his sabbatical, where his focus was on writing a new book on *The Heroine's Journey*. Glen Slater will soon return from his sabbatical, where his focus involves creating and preparing for publication a series of essays on the work of James Hillman and archetypal psychology.

The following Faculty are scheduled for sabbaticals in upcoming quarters: Fanny Brewster (winter 2024); Nuria Ciofalo, Patricia Katsky (spring 2024)



# 2024-2025 Academic Year Preparation

In preparation for the 2024-2025 academic year, [Academic Calendars](#) and the [Course Catalog](#) are posted on the website.



## Communitas Newsletter Editorial Team

Victoria Bernhardt, Manager of Academic Affairs

Loraine Devos-Comby, Interim Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer

