Food hunt on campus

Jodi Tai
NEWS EDITOR

What college student doesn’t like free food? All week, Bon Appétit is hosting stations of free food somewhere on campus. The only thing students are required to do in order to receive the free goodies is “like” at least one of Bon Appétit’s social media pages.

On Monday, Aug. 25, Bon Appétit hosted its first surprise treat event. To announce the event, the Bon Appétit at Pacific Facebook page posted, “FREE cookies and milk until 1 at the UC (De Rosa Building) see you there!”

Students responded positively to this week’s first pop-up event. “Chewy, gooey, crisp, delish,” said Al Spina ’16.

When asked whether they were likely to attend future Bon Appétit events, students responded positively. “It was cool; I got a free cookie. Free food, might as well go,” expressed Rachel Giraldez ’17.

“It’s a good way to get free things for simple effort. Since I follow them on social media, I think I will [attend future events] now,” predicted Clay Smith ’16.

Regional Marketing Manager Stacy Stafford-Scott explains that the purpose of this food scavenger hunt is to encourage people to check social media for Bon Appétit’s events and promotions. “We found social media was the best way for new and returning students to get information. What we have to offer is much more than just breakfast, lunch and dinner. We have dessert nights, sushi nights, the E.A.T. truck and more,” remarked Clay Smith ’16.

The pop-up events will continue until the end of the week. “Like” Bon Appétit’s social media pages, Facebook.com/BAAatPacific, Instagram.com/pacific_bonappetit or Twitter.com/BAAatPacific, and be on the lookout for future events. Plenty more are to come.

Convocation welcomes new class

Nicole Felkins
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The entering class of 2014 congregated in the Faye Spanos Concert Hall to be officially welcomed as Pacific Tigers by faculty, alumni, current students and staff at Convocation on Saturday, Aug. 23 at 11 a.m.

The 2014 entering class includes a total of 907 freshmen, 194 new undergraduate transfer students and 200 pharmacy students, informs University of the Pacific.

Convocation, an annual tradition since 1994, aims to inspire new students, acquaint them with Pacific’s missions and traditions and serves as a rite of passage, reports the program guide.

Speakers included Patrick Day, vice president of Student Life; Yesenia Gutierrez ’14, ASUOP president; Franz Vaiarello ’74, president of the Alumni Association; Provost Maria Pallavicini; and Pacific President Pamela A. Eibeck.

“It is my great pleasure to welcome our newest students to the Pacific family,” stated Eibeck in a press release. “They have chosen an institution with a rich history and an exciting future, where our faculty’s first commitment is to teaching. Pacific students leave the university with a superior education, prepared for successful careers and leadership in their communities.”

James Hetrick, chair of the Physics Department, delivered the keynote address. Melinda Yang ’16, a Chinese major who intends to add Japanese as a second major, specifically remembered Hetrick’s speech. Hetrick advised
Convocation

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students not to be the kind of people who ask what they can do to bump up their grade toward the end of the semester, for you have many resources other than your classes.

Vaiarello acknowledged all the resources at Pacific and encouraged students to use them so they do not throw away their chances at getting a solid education and good grades.

As the doors of the concert hall opened, the Pacific pep band blasted their tunes, students cheered on the new Tigers passing by and black and orange confetti filled the air for the traditional Tiger Roar.

"The pep band was always on top of the bed," and the context was "very welcoming," recalled Yang.

Students were directed to a barbecue, provided by Bon Appétit, on the lawn behind Spanos after they were handed The Pacifican's Convocation issue.

Students stood in line to select from salad, fresh fruit, cheesy pasta with bell peppers, barbecue chicken, corn on the cob and bread. Reusable water bottles could be filled at any one of the water dispensers located around campus. Students socialized with their peers while they ate at tables on the lawn.

Legal Scholars welcomes new class

Jodi Tai
NEWS EDITOR

On Sunday, Aug. 24, the Pacific Legal Scholars Program hosted a welcome dinner for its eighth incoming class. Dinner guests consisted of respected members of the community, faculty members and returning Legal Scholars who came to celebrate the admittance of the 18 new students into the program.

"The Pacific Legal Scholars Program is an exciting program that allows top-notch students the ability to acquire their undergraduate degree and a law degree from McGeorge School of Law in six or seven years, depending on which track they are on," noted Program Director Cynthia Ostberg, Ph.D.

"Students in the 3+3 program who maintain a 3.5 cumulative grade point average and have verbal and quantitative scores in the 85th percentile of the SAT will not have to take the LSAT. Moreover, they will receive 50 percent tuition reduction at McGeorge School of Law. This is a unique opportunity that virtually no law school grants and is part of a growing effort to bridge the liberal arts with the professional schools at the University of the Pacific."

The flexibility of the program allows its students to pursue their majors while educating the students as to whether or not law school is right for them. The program provides students with a plethora of opportunities through field trips, including visits to law schools and lectures by lawyers and judges. Each new class is purposefully kept small in order to provide the most opportunities and attention for its Legal Scholars.

Currently, there are 54 students in the program, who are in a variety of schools, including the Eberhardt School of Business, the School of Engineering and the College of the Pacific. Over half the scholars are in COP, spanning the School of International Studies, humanities, social sciences and the natural, or "hard," sciences.

The welcome dinner on Sunday night was the new class' first taste of professionalism. To introduce the new students, Ostberg provided current details about the diversity of the new group: "Two are returning students and 16 are new to Pacific. The distinguishing feature of the 2014-15 cohort is that eight of them are either in the hard sciences or engineering. The program welcomes its first pre-pharmacy student in the program and its second pre-dental student."

Congratulations to the choice 18 students. Pacific welcomes you, Legal Scholars.

Earthquake rattles Napa

Allyson Seals '12
PACIFICAN ALUMNA

You never know what you will be doing when the earth literally decides to shake underneath you. On Aug. 24 at around 3:20 a.m., I was doing what any person exhausted from work was doing — sleeping. Much to my surprise, however, I was abruptly awaken by my iron frame queen size bed moving slowly across the floor.

I looked around and had one of the most surreal experiences of my life. I was sitting through an actual earthquake. My dressers seemed to be jumping up and down off the ground a few centimeters. The mirror in my room was violently hitting the wall. A few of the books in my house were crashing to the ground. And before I knew it, I had a few other picture frames, my University of the Pacific diploma fell to the floor.

Looking back, it is a bit worrisome I did not remember what an earthquake drill was. I am lucky that I did not have anything heavy on the walls around my bed, or I could have actually been seriously injured. Even more worrisome, however, is the fact that I have come to terms with it. Even if I remembered what I was supposed to do during an earthquake, would I be able to carry out those deeds if it happened again?

The day after the earthquake was when I started to realize how detrimental a 30 second, 6.0-magnitude quake can be.

On Sunday evening, I received a phone call from work stating not to come in on Monday because the office buildings had been damaged. I work for the County of Napa's Health and Human Services Agency. About half of the buildings on the NHHS's "campus" are actually portable trailers. Most of the trailers had been pushed off their cement foundations and were now uninhabitable for workers.

I am lucky enough to work in an actual "building"; however, when the earthquake hit, items such as file cabinets, computers and printers were knocked to the floor.

Even more frightening is the extensive damage done to the buildings of downtown Napa. The old courthouse, which is famous for its sculptural integrity, now looks as though someone took a bite out of the corner of it. Some people lost their homes. Other people have been pushed out of their jobs for temporary periods of time.

This past week, various volunteer groups have convened to provide disaster relief to citizens in need. This past Tuesday, when I was cleared to return to work, I observed volunteers handing out food to people in need. Earthquakes such as the one in Napa prove there is still real human compassion in the world.

Yet the earthquake also showed me that even as a working adult, I honestly still have no idea of how to handle a natural disaster. Natural disasters have always seemed to just be tragedies I would see in the news — until one happened so close to home.

From one Pacific Tiger to another, please at least read up on how to truly protect yourself from an earthquake. Do yourself a favor and get educated, so you don’t sit in complete shock like I did when the floor begins shaking beneath you.

For more updates on the Napa Valley earthquake or how to protect yourself from one in the future, check out http://www.redcross.org/ca/napa.

Your new news editor

Jodi Tai
NEWS EDITOR

Hey Tigers! My name is Jodi Tai, and I am an English major with a prelaw minor. I am a sophomore, and I am so excited to be your news editor. I grew up in San Francisco, Calif. but grew up in the suburbs, so I am a hybrid of city and quiet life. I love going to art museums, plays, restaurants and the occasional concert or sports game, but I am also content with a good horror movie or Suits episode at home.

I love theater, movies and food. Italian, French and Japanese food are my favorite cuisines, but give me something with garlic, blueberries, salmon or avocados and I will probably eat it. My real kryptonite is chocolate.

I have always been enthralled by the events happening around me. I was very fortunate last year to be able to attend many workshops and guest speaker events. My decision to join The Pacifican will not only help me stay in touch with everything going on around campus, but will also help me share it with others.

In high school, I really enjoyed painting, writing and biology. I plan to pursue writing here at Pacific, which is why I joined the The Pacifcian team. I will also be working as a writing mentor this year at the Student Writing Center. Feel free to swing by the library and say hi!
Should I pursue an internship this year?

Alex Rooney
OPINION EDITOR

You did everything the professor expected from the students. You attended every lecture. You completed all of the assigned reading and took every single test. You studied hard for every class in your major. You fulfilled all of the college requirements, and you graduated—maybe you even graduated with honors. Sounds like the perfect college experience, so how hard could it be to land the perfect job?

It is really hard. Getting a degree from a well-respected university like Pacific does not guarantee you a job in your major, especially with the tight job market we are now experiencing. You must be able to show future employers that you are more qualified than the other job seekers who, by the way, also have the same degree as you do. Internships are one way you can stand out from the crowd. Other than your diploma, they could be one of the most useful investments of your time at college, even if you are not being paid for the work.

An internship benefits students in many ways. It provides an opportunity to see firsthand what the real world looks like. It is especially beneficial if the internship involves the kind of work a student hopes to make into a career. Where else could you get a glimpse into what your future employment might look like? You may discover you have no interest or passion for that line of work. Wouldn’t you rather discover that during your internship, before it is too late?

Many employers do not want the risk of hiring and training new college graduates, only to find out that the graduates do not have the talent, skill or interest in the job. An internship lets a prospective employer find out if a student has what it takes to succeed in a job. In fact, internships frequently lead to the offer of a permanent position. If you want to improve your career options while learning if you are really cut out for your field of study, then don’t walk—run to the Career Center and find out what your internship opportunities look like.

Choosing the right major for you

Alex Rooney
OPINION EDITOR

Our time as undergraduates is precious. Many of us feel tremendous pressure to select the “right” major to prepare us for the next steps in life. Whether we hope to transition into our chosen profession after graduation or whether we intend to continue schooling at the graduate level, ensuring we are in the optimal field of study at college is essential. It seems as if our entire future depends on what major we choose, so selecting the right major from the start is critical.

There is an abundance of resources to help us, ranging from our academic counselors in high school to parental guidance (or pressure). The internet offers hundreds of articles on how to select the right major for you. Just Google “how to help you choose the best major,” and you will find an inordinate amount of tests, tips and tools to guide you in making the perfect decision. In fact, there is so much advice out there, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Fortunately, the best guidance can be distilled down to a very simple concept. If you want to choose the major that is right for you, follow your passion. It is as simple as understanding what gives you joy, what stirs your creativity and what gives you energy just by immersing yourself in it. If you love a particular subject, you will love studying it. If you love studying it, you will excel in that major. Odds are you will even find the perfect job in your chosen field.

Just look at the traits of successful people. Whether their domain is music, business, education, medicine or engineering, the leaders in any field are driven by their love for what they do. So, how do you know how to make the optimum choice for you? Let your heart lead your decision, and the ideal college major will follow.
Portrayal of Greek life in the media

Celeste Kim
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For many students new to a four-year institution with a Greek system, the idea of fraternities and sororities can often be intimidating. Television shows and movies are notorious for making Greek life out to be one big party, fueled by copious amounts of alcohol, illegal substances and pledge bazing. However, this scene is rarely the case at any school, let alone here at University of the Pacific.

While social Greek organizations do plan events during the year, most of them are actually centered around philanthropy, and never look like a scene from Animal House. That being said, if raucous parties are what you are looking for, you will ultimately be disappointed and will not be grasping the real concept behind joining a Greek organization.

What truly defines these groups of people is not their social activities; instead, it is the bond of sisterhood or brotherhood they share with each other. Joining a Greek chapter means becoming a part of something bigger than oneself; most sororities and fraternities, especially the social ones, are national or even international organizations.

Because these organizations have multiple chapter locations, members have an even greater number of contacts around the country to call on whenever they feel a brother or sister could be of assistance to them. In fact, it is not uncommon for an employer to bond with a prospective employee based on a shared Greek affiliation.

Social Greek life is not the only option on campus either. There are several other student groups that distinguish themselves as societies under Greek letters that also focus on philanthropy and brotherhood.

Some of these are professional organizations, which bring together students with similar career goals in mind for the future and give them important information to help them succeed.

The best way to find out about the experiences associated with Greek life, though, is to ask a member of an organization you think you might be interested in. Fraternity and sorority members are proud of their letters, so they should have no qualms about answering questions concerning their sisterhood or brotherhood!

Get to know your new opinion editor

Alex Rooney
OPINION EDITOR

I have been interested in writing for as long as I could hold a pen. My mother used to tell me I would one day become a famous author because I would weave elaborate stories and catch the attention of my grade school teachers with the creative tales I turned my assignments into. I loved reading, so writing my own stories seemed natural to me, and my mindset has not changed much since I was young.

My love of literature continued on through middle and high school, and my favorite books moved more toward the classics. Junior year, I had an English teacher who really influenced me to explore my interest in literature, and it is because of her that I decided to major in English here at University of the Pacific.

I began writing for The Pacifican early last year as a freshman, and I really enjoyed the experience and the opportunity to receive constructive criticism from the rest of the staff. I believe this made me a better writer and taught me how to write from a journalistic perspective.

Overall, I am looking forward to the coming year!

Why students should learn religious studies

Dr. Alan Lenzi
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Some religion or other is important to the vast majority of people on this planet. Whatever your personal religious views, this is an undeniable fact. If, therefore, you want to understand people and the world we share — and I assume you do — you need to learn about religions.

That statement may be perceived as rather self-serving since I am a professor in the Department of Religious Studies, and I am writing to you in this form at this time because the department must generate student interest or risk closure.

But neither of these motives excludes my pedagogical reason for writing, which I offer in a question and answer:

How can faculty adequately prepare responsible leaders for their careers and communities, to paraphrase from the university mission, without offering opportunities to study the religions that have shaped the world and touched so many lives?

My answer: We can't. Thus my reason for stating, if you want to understand people and the world we share, you need to learn about religions.

Before I support this claim, I should clarify the task of religious studies. Religious studies describes religions (data) and equips students with scholarly perspectives (theories and methods) so they can think about religions for themselves as expressions of human cultures. It is not the task of religious studies to advocate one religion over another or to establish eternal Truth.

That is the domain of theologians and clergy working for religious communities. Religious studies is not necessarily incompatible with their work. (That is something you can decide.)

But the task of religious studies is certainly less ambitious because people and their religious beliefs, practices, communities and institutions in all times and places are its focus, not God or the heavens.

Unlike theologians and clergy who proceed from faith, a religious studies scholar works much like an anthropologist investigating a contemporary culture or a historian studying an ancient one. Thus, understanding the beliefs people hold about a deity is part of the job; determining whether that deity in fact exists, a matter of faith, is not.

To illustrate religious studies and its educational benefits consider my Introduction to the Old Testament (RELI 025), being offered this semester. This course is historical and literary in nature, focused on understanding the origins and historical development of the scriptures that Jews and Christians share.

The Bible has influenced Western Civilization and beyond in an unparalleled manner. Literature and the arts portray, adapt and allude to its stories. Over 2 billion people look to it as sacred scripture. To understand the book the scribes produced, we need to understand its historical context. The religious and literary in nature, focused on understanding the origins and historical development of the scriptures that Jews and Christians share.

Archaeology, ancient tablets and close readings of the Bible provide the evidence to understand this ancient scripture within its historical context. Not only do you learn a lot of ancient history, the knowledge you acquire helps you develop an informed opinion about how people read or misread the Bible today, especially when it is invoked to authorize their social views.

Finally, studying the Bible from a historical and literary perspective requires you to exercise a number of interpretive skills that must be deployed simultaneously: attention to literary detail, awareness of scribal practices that have shaped the text, consideration of cultural and historical factors that make one interpretation more plausible than another and many others.

Developing these habits of mind in biblical interpretation will atone you to the complexities of human communication and foster your ability to consider multiple perspectives while formulating a solution to a problem.

If you want to understand people and the world we share, you need to learn about religions. The knowledge and skills you develop will enhance your personal and professional life. Consider adding a religious studies class. It is not too late.
Jacsi Tai
NEWS EDITOR

How did you kick off the new school year? Well, if you weren’t at Block Party, you missed out. Last Saturday night, ASuop Arts & Entertainment held the annual Block Party outside Greek Circle. It is the first big social event of the year, making it a great place for incoming and returning students to party it up together before classes on Monday. Block Party was the place to be if you wanted to dance to awesome music and meet new people.

Students flocked to dance their hearts out to this year’s three select DJs: Joel Vasquez from 9-10 p.m., Shaun Entre from 10-11 p.m. and Salva from 11 p.m.-1 a.m.

This year, the first two thousand students to attend received free orange bracelets. On Block Party’s Facebook event page, ASuop wrote, “Giving away one of a kind #UopBlockParty light up wristbands to the first 2000 people!!! Get there before they run out!” The night was lit by these glowing orange bands. In addition to the wristbands, free Redbull drinks were provided for everyone.

The event was also completely free, courtesy of ASuop Arts & Entertainment. Block Party was a lightshow, concert and party all in one.

Students, understandably, had a blast. “This year’s Block Party was definitely a success. The DJs did an outstanding job pumping up the crowd and kicking off the school year right,” exclaimed Jenna Graves ’15.

If you missed out on this year’s Block Party, make sure you make it to the next one! Now, after ending summer with a bang, it is time to get revved up for the new semester. Be on the lookout for more exciting events to come. Let’s go, Tigers!
Decorating your home away from home

Sarah Yung
COPY EDITOR

Now that you have moved into your home away from home, it's time to make it feel a bit more like, well, home. Ahead, some handy tips and tricks to help you spruce up your new room.

Since large holiday or string lights are prohibited in university housing, hang word banners, strings of pom-pom letter phrases, mini paper lanterns or paper chains across white walls for bright spots of color.

Quotes, poems, postcards and pictures also add visual interest and show off your personality while reminding you of home, family, friends and places you have traveled. Try a cable and clip photo-hanging system from Ikea (Dignitet curtain wire, $12.99, Riktig curtain hook clips, 24 for $2.99) or Photojojo (Magnetic Photo Rope, $12.00) for a simple, streamlined display.

You could also matte photos on colored or patterned cardstock and use removable adhesive putty or patterned washi tape to liven up a boring wall. Alternatively, create a functional central display by collaging items on a magnetic square or corkboard, and then add other squares in tile formation for an easily customizable office display.

Use mason jars, glass soda bottles or clean tin cans to house supplies for Pinterest-worthy desk décor. If you have a green thumb, a small plant, such as a succulent or a bonsai, is a great way to freshen up your desk or windowsill — and the indoor air quality as well.

Cozy up the space with an area rug. Since some dorms, like Grace Covell and Southwest, do not always have carpet, area rugs are an effortless way to add homely warmth to your room.

The endless possibilities and easy mobility of rugs ensure they will be easy to change come second semester (or sooner, whenever boredom strikes).

Finally, add a few plush bean bag chairs for comfy guest seating. You will need them when you show your friends around your newly refurbished dorm room.

Celebs get wet for charity

Nicole Felkins
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Have you accepted the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge yet? If not, then it is time for you to donate to the ALS Association and get drenched for a good cause. Many celebrities participated in the challenge, from Vogue editor Anna Wintour to Macklemore, informs ABC News and USA Today, respectively.


Martha Stewart and Lady Gaga could not back down from the challenge, and neither could Carrie Underwood or Taylor Swift. Celebrities filmed their Ice Bucket Challenges.

According to the ALS Association, as of Aug. 28, the Ice Bucket Challenge generated over $88.5 million in donations.
Welcome back men's soccer!

Pacific Athletic Relations
Presenting the first varsity level men's soccer team since 1985.

Drew Jones
SPORTS EDITOR

After nearly 30 years without a varsity level team, Pacific welcomes back the men’s soccer program to compete at the Division 1 level in the West Coast Conference.

Ryan Jorden was hired to lead as the team’s head coach. Jorden previously coached at California Baptist University for five years.

He led California Baptist to five straight postseason appearances, including a trip to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics’ tournament. Jorden looks forward to shaping and developing Pacific this season.

Jordan Ferrell and Cailean Bailey sign on as the assistant coaches. Ferrell joins the staff from San Joaquin Delta College, where he was the 2013 Big Eight College Coach of the Year. Bailey spent the previous three seasons coaching at Yale. Both are excited to help establish the men’s soccer program here at Pacific.

The Tigers have been hard at work this summer and have already appeared in two exhibition games. Pacific hosted Sacramento State this past Saturday in their final exhibition game before the regular season begins.

A matchup between the Hornets and the Tigers proved to be an intense one as the game resulted in a tie. After 90 minutes of regulation play and two overtimes, neither team could find the back of the net.

Nevertheless, Pacific was able to complete two games undefeated.

Goalkeeper Josh Adachi ’18 surely defended his position, tallying seven saves, including a close shot on goal in a second overtime to keep the Tigers even with the Hornets.

Defender Andrew Platon ’17 also aided in combating the Sacramento State attacks.

This was Pacific’s first time competing against another Division 1 team, and to say they held their own would be an understatement. The Tigers look forward to taking their first season back by the horns. So far they are undefeated.

Pacific begins their season on the road for the next couple of weeks; however, they host their first home opener since 1985 on Saturday Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. at Knoles Field. The Tigers look forward to taking the Banana Slugs from UC Santa Cruz.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Pacific Tigers stung by the Hornets

Drew Jones
SPORTS EDITOR

The women’s soccer team has been hard at work for the last couple of weeks, preparing for the season ahead. This past Friday, the Tigers hosted their home opener for the 2014 season against Saint Joseph’s University.

Pacific kept the match close in the first half, with forward Alex Hussar ’17 scoring a goal within the first 12 minutes. At the 45 minute mark, the Tigers remained tied at one with the Hawks. However, the game took a turn for the worse when Pacific gave up three goals in the second half. The Hawks’ forward performed a hat trick, scoring three goals alone in the second half.

Forward Taylor Ayers ’18 sent a stellar pass to Hussar and was awarded the assist in her first game as a Tiger. Goalkeeper Melissa Ma ’18 also took the field for the first time in stripes in the 73rd minute.

Pacific ultimately lost the feat 4-1.

While the men’s soccer team was hosting Sacramento State at home this past Saturday, the women’s soccer team made the trip up north to take on the Hornets. The Tigers unfortunately dropped
Pacific hosts two this weekend

Both teams only had two shots on goal, and goalkeeper Jacqueline Kane ’15 was able to record one save of the day. The Tigers head home and look to bounce back when they host Quinnipiac University and Florida International University this coming weekend. They play Friday, Aug. 29 under the lights at Knoles Field at 7 p.m. and on Sunday at 1 p.m.

After a full year in the West Coast Conference and saying goodbye to the graduating athletes of the class of 2014, Pacific begins a new fall season and welcomes new Tigers to their athletic teams. Welcome Tigers, and good luck in your coming years at Pacific!