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The Moment We’ve Been Waiting for... The University Center and the Biological Sciences Center

Abby Liao
Pacifian Staff Writer

Most returning Pacific students remember complaining about the fenced-off and excavated lawn in South Campus and observing the progress of new construction as they walked to class each day. Then students have waited for, when they can finally step foot into the new University Center and Biological Sciences Center, has finally arrived! Construction of the two buildings started in late 2006; both buildings were completed only a few weeks before the semester started.

The University Center is fully operational. The Bookstore, the Redwood Room, ASuop, the Summit, and the Quad Dining Hall, now called the Marketplace, have been moved from the McCaffrey Center to the UC. In addition to these relocations, the University Center will also include a full-service pub at The Lair, a grand ballroom, a conference center, and an Ultra Gaming Lounge. Many students agree that the location of the UC is very convenient for coming from all areas of campus, especially for the students coming from North Campus.

Nick Yee, a Pacific alumnus, returned to his alma mater to visit the University Center. “The UC looks really nice,” Yee said. “This is a big improvement from the old dining hall.” Although, there is a lot of rave about the architecture of the building, freshmen such as Ji Min and Kevin Le commented on the Marketplace menu, stating that they “want more variety.”

As part of Pacific’s continuing efforts to be environmentally-friendly, the University Center is the University’s first green building. The UC is equipped with large windows and retractable skylights for natural lighting. Mixed mode of heating and air conditioning system allows for more natural ventilation. It also uses 50% less water than other conventional buildings by using low-water usage dishwashers and restrooms with dual-flush toilets.

It was also announced last week by the Pacific Board of Regents that the University Center will be renamed the Don and Karen DeRosa University Center on October 2, dedicating the building to Pacific’s current president and first lady. In April President DeRosa announced his intention to retire next year. During his 13 years as president, the student body has dramatically increased in number and the University community has received numerous national awards and distinctions. To recognize the DeRosas for their service, the Board felt that the University Center should be renamed to honor them.

On the other end of campus, the Biological Sciences Center held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday, August 24. The Center features two large classrooms, dedicated lab rooms, and private research labs for the faculty members.

Dr. Gregg Jongeward, Associate Professor and Chair of the Biology department, said, “Now that every faculty and separate dining area, the Marketplace feels more like a food court. The Marketplace: Our New Dining Hall

Elizabeth Croisetierre
Pacifian Staff Writer

School is in session and that means students are back and they are hungry. Pacific’s new University Center can certainly meet the demand. One of the main attractions of the UC is The Marketplace, the new food court. While there are other dining options available, The Marketplace handles the bulk of meals on campus.

The Marketplace boasts several new features. Not only is it eco-friendly and offers different recycle bins to aid in sorting paper and plastic, but it uses eco-friendly take-out containers for meals on the go. Students will find a wide variety of options to choose from: Mexican, deli, Asian and home-style cuisine. Pre-packaged foods can be purchased for a quick meal or snack.

With the increased traffic the marketplace receives, the long lines that accompany the food court will diminish. Once students get into their routine the lines will begin to die down.

This dining arrangement places more responsibility on students to monitor their food intake so their money will last. Bon Apetit’s individually priced items is part of the new “declining balance” meal plan. Bon Apetit posts a calendar that shows student an approximation of how much money they should have on any given day. This tracking system helps students consume at a pace that will not use all their money too quickly. The Marketplace also offers large portions that can easily be saved for later and used as a meal or a snack.

Although the prices are higher at the new cafeteria, its many options and large portions make it a vast improvement over the outdated dining hall. Students can decide which meal plan suits their needs. They also need to eat moderately, just because they are offered many options, does not mean they need to try them all at once!
BSU of Pacific Goes to Stockton
Black Family Day Event

Renee Icasiano
Pacifican Staff/Writer

As planned, the students of Pacific’s Black Student Union (BSU), and Stockton residents shipped off from their meeting point to head over to the Stockton Black Family Day in downtown Stockton.

University Alcohol Policy

Ruben Moreno
Pacifican Staff/Writer

Despite recent debates, the National Drinking Age remains at 21. Any alcohol for those who are of legal age is limited to beer, wine, or flavored malt beverages. Hard liquor of any sort is prohibited on campus. Along with the standard drinking policy, no university funds or Greek chapter funds may be used to purchase alcohol. Alcohol that is drunk on campus must be in single serving containers and may not exceed six 12oz beers or four 12oz flavored malt beverages per student of legal drinking age. Those who violate University policy and provide alcohol to minors at events or exceed the limit for students who are of legal age are held responsible. Another new rule for the university that has been implemented is the no drinking game policy. No matter the game or what the content of liquid is you cannot play alcohol games. Parent notification of alcohol use is processed if a registered student is a dependent of a parent; violators of the alcohol policy are notified by the Division of Student Life. To find out more about the alcohol policy, please read your Tiger Lore section 2 beginning on page 14.

Speaking From Experience

Student Life Alumni remember time spent at Pacific
Reprinted from the Alumni Issue of June 2008

Trent Allen
Class of 2000

Pipe bombs, protests by extreme religious fundamentalists, homemade chlorine ‘bombs’, and teachers who do inappropriate things with students – those have been some of the challenges in my career in the last 18 months. Not forgetting, of course, the need to improve student achievement, modernize classrooms and instruction for the 21st Century, and navigating a political landscape of elected board members and active state legislators.

As the Director of Communication for one of California’s largest school districts, challenge and variety are staples of my career. After the crisis du jour is over and I’m back in my office there is one plaque on my wall that tends to catch my attention. It was bestowed upon me during my final days as Editor-In-Chief of The Pacifican and names me as Editor-In-Chief emeritus. It reminds me daily of the lessons I learned at Pacific and The Pacifican that carry me through each and every day as an alumnus.

Transparency, balance, and fairness in all that my organization does have stuck with me. The importance of social responsibility and the idea that we as individuals and organizations are part of a greater order has only been reinforced. Live every day as though what you are doing will be “reamed on the front page week.

Political suave in working with leaders, competitors, and other interested parties is necessary to help secure the resources needed for success. “Polite” discussions with ASuop over funding and news coverage, restoring confidence of faculty and administration in a student led organization, and the world of advertising all prepared me for life post-Pacific/Pacifican.

The biggest and best lesson from my Pacific days was how to be a leader. Building a team that can execute on goals and objectives without tearing itself apart is no easy task. Being willing to stand up and take the leadership role is not always comfortable.

It is the last line on my plaque that is the most meaningful to me. It reads, “The Pacifican Staff”. They were my staff and Pacific afforded me the opportunity to learn how to become their leader. We were one team and will forever be grateful for the lessons I learned as a student leader at Pacific and take pride knowing that the opportunities for future generations to be Pacifican editors, ASUOP presidents, Greek leaders, and club organizers will continue. The skills they gain will be for life.
Carrying the Weight: Choices

Devon Blount
Editor in Chief

If you haven’t already noticed, both John McCain and Barack Obama have chosen Vice Presidential Candidates. Both were chosen strategically, of course; that’s how things go with politicians, but were the candidates prepared for what would come of choosing of these particular people?

Senator John McCain and team knew about the child Alaskan Governor Sarah Palin’s daughter, Bristol. Was 17-year-old Levi Johnston, but what kind of a man is Palin to raise a newborn on their own? Can the Governor handle a newlywed couple, a newborn, and fill in for Mr. President if necessary? The Governor does have exceptional turnover; returning to work just 3 days after the birth of now 4-month old son Trig, who was prenatally diagnosed with down-syndrome.

But is this dysfunctional family meant to draw in more voters? Does McCain’s team expect women to see Palin as acceptable speech matter if his “dream” only produces worry and doubt in the American people? Promise all you want, Mr. Obama, but the American people really want the change. Can you reel in the promises enough to make them believe that you are capable? Is choosing Biden your way out of this trap: a man whose foreign policy record trumps that of the Alaskan Governor, was a commendable move, but I’m not sure the American people are aware of what Biden is capable of. There’s talk of “Oh, Biden is the perfect guy to help deal with the international issues we’ve gotten ourselves stuck in today” or “Biden seems to be perfect for dealing with the three wars we’re dealing with,” but what has Biden done? Well, Biden is currently on the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Convenient, eh? In 2007, when the Democrats retook the majority of the Senate, Biden was placed in the chair of that committee. Biden is well versed in the issues of the world, and with globalization this knowledge and experience is crucial for the next presidency to have. So while Obama may lack experience, Biden covers for him ten-fold.

President Derosa to Retire in June 2009

Originally Printed in the Pacifican May 1, 2008

Devon Blount
Editor-in-Chief

Nadia Mahallati
Class of 2008

For 13 years, DeRosa has served as the twenty-third president of the University of the Pacific and only the fifth president that Pacific has moved to the Stockton campus.

President Donald V. DeRosa on Friday, April 25, 2008 announced his plans to retire in June 2009.

From the time of his hire, DeRosa knew he would have to notify the Board of Regents of his plans at a least a year before the expiration of his contract, which is due to expire in June 2009.

“If things were going well,” DeRosa carefully stated, “and I felt the University was in very good condition and shape; those things would lead me to make a decision that was best for me and the family.” His family is elated to hear the news. While DeRosa has resided in Stockton for the last 13 years, a large majority of his family lives in North Carolina. They were happy to hear that they will see more of him and his wife, Karen. After his retirement, DeRosa and his wife plan to live in North Carolina. However, the family will also keep a part-time residence in Northern California, where his two younger sons will reside.

“Their name is Californians,” DeRosa chuckles.

In the past thirteen years, DeRosa has not been a presidential figurehead; he has put his title and position to good use. He has increased the size of the student body by nearly 700, to a total student body of 6,235, tripled the number of freshman applications for admission to nearly 6,000, ensured that all applications to the schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy regularly rate among the highest nationwide, and increased SAT scores on applications for admission by 100 points, to 1200. But, there is always room for improvement, according to DeRosa. You are “never satisfied with anything,” he said. “If you are, you are not making progress.”

Despite increasing diversity of student body, faculty, and staff, he is eager to see Pacific diversify even more and acquire students of greater economic, educational, geographic, and ethnic diversity.

“The one thing I find attractive about Pacific,” DeRosa clarified, “is that we’ve stayed committed to bringing in students of all economic backgrounds to enrich a Pacific education. Many times a first generation student may not be able to take that step, and Pacific has a wide range of individuals from different economic backgrounds. That, to me, has made Pacific stand out.” And that is partly because of DeRosa’s actions.

Under his presidency he has managed to more than quadruple external funding for research, scholarship and public service to $38.3 million. And since 2001, Pacific has been consistently ranked in the top 40 by U.S. News and World Report as a “Best Value” among the top 250 doctoral universities in the U.S.

During his presidency, DeRosa has truly been committed to improving Pacific for its students and showing potential students that Pacific has plenty to offer. Eighty-three percent of alumni have been “very” satisfied with their education at Pacific, and DeRosa’s dedication to that satisfaction will be missed.
Pineapple Express

A stoner and his dealer are forced to go on the run from the police after the pot-head witnesses a cop commit a murder.

Ill min., Rated R for pervasive language, drug use, sexual references and violence.

Blind Assassin

A tale of two sisters, one of whom dies under ambiguous circumstances in the opening pages.

Little Jackie,

"The World Revolves Around Me"

Adele,

"Chasing Pavements"

I Love Money

Reality television game show featuring contestants from the first two seasons of Flavor of Love, I Love New York and Rock of Love, competing in physical and mental challenges in an attempt to win $250,000.

VH1, Sundays at 10 p.m., 60 min.

Have your own recommendations? Questions? Comments? Email your suggestions to pacificanlifestyles@pacific.edu.
The Host

Stephanie Meyer

book review

Cristy Yadon
Pacifican Staff Writer

The Host, by Stephanie Meyer, is one part science fiction, one part romance, and two parts post-apocalyptic scifi—there is only one body. Meyer, best known for her bestselling Twilight series, presents a new science fiction novel for readers who may not normally be fans of the genre. With her previous works, Meyer tells the story of a potentially tragic, certainly unlikely love story in The Host.

The novel is set in a world that has been “peacefully” overtaken by aliens called “souls”. These souls have come with the purpose of creating peace on planet Earth because humans have become too violent of a race. Souls are implanted into host human bodies, and erase the human personality, but not the memories.

When Melanie Stryder is captured and implanted with a soul named Wanderer, she refuses to be erased. Though, the soul has control over most of her body, Melanie’s personality still remains. Wanderer finds herself overwhelmed by Melanie’s presence and is compelled to reconnect with Melanie’s old life and the people in it. However, sharing memories and feelings with a woman in love poses an impossible love triangle that sends the plot spinning.

The novel is geared initially for the female audience, but it certainly has the powerful combination of a strong, exciting plot and a great author that catches the appeal of men as well. The Host is available at local bookstores along with the rest of the Twilight series.

Allen Passalaqua: the SuperArtist

Lightning speed not only describes superheroes of the new DC Comics comic book, Trinity, but also, the speed of hands, fingers and thoughts of thirty-something Allen Passalaqua, a colorist for DC Comics.

Head into the Kansas Street Starbucks coffee shop in Modesto, where Passalaqua is usually working in Photoshop playing with swatches of color and layers of dimensions for comic book pages that are being colored or corrected. “I’m changing the yellow on Superwoman’s cape to Star Wars Yellow.”

After the artist, Mike Norton, draws these amazing scenes, they are inked by Jerry Ordway, sent to a Flatter, and then finally colored by Passalaqua and sent through the printing process.

Being a colorist sounds easy, but after sitting with Passalaqua and watching him work, it really is an art all its own.

Born and raised in Modesto, Passalaqua ventured out of his hometown but found himself coming back home. He describes himself as, “an artist first and then a colorist.” Passalaqua, a watercolor and acrylic painter, is also a photographic artist. He says of his influence, “Photography actually sparked my interest in coloring.”

While he has total lead-way with the chosen color schematics when creating the overall emotion provocations, he is able to make the pictures come to life having various dimensions and vivid colors to support the mood and tone of energy in the comic book scenes. “I’m trying to instill a sort of mood to show in the story,” said Passalaqua, as he adds, “3-dimensional aspects into the drawing.”

Passalaqua is a full-time colorist with DC Comics and has been working with the Company for a total of 6 years—off and on. He has also held support team positions for other colorists and has also been a flatter.

Among painting pictures, designing, and posting blogs, this local artist also helps to promote other events in Modesto and about every other month or so, he holds art shows of his own at Deva’s Café. Production art is another experience for him and he brings that skill to some of his many Asian-style, Chinese water brush paintings.

Passalaqua is the genius behind San Diego Zoo’s most popular selling design, the gorilla silhouette, and has created many water color paintings of Yosemite National Park for design companies. While Passalaqua lived in San Diego, he said, “I used to hang out with graffiti artists. A lot of people who start off that way usually go into fine arts or design.” This has been the path for Passalaqua for the past 15 years, fine arts and design. He said, “I learned a lot from [Junior College] classes, did a mentorship for this stuff but, it’s pretty much self-taught.”

He is bringing his personal artwork to Stockton through the Art Walk and Hip Hop show during the September 12. He has an array of water color paintings and photographs with one overall, satisfying element—provokingly simple subjects with vivid color contrasts.

Most of his artwork can be viewed at his web sites, www.angryfox.com and angryfblogspot.com.

Trinity is only going to be around for a year, so comic book fans can quickly get up to speed before later copies are released.

If not, compilation books will be made of them after initial circulation and then sold in bookstores upon demand.

Tomorrow Passalaqua will again arrive at Starbucks, as he does each day, to color comic book pages from his laptop in Modesto, for DC Comics, out in New York.

He is currently working on Trinity #16, which will not be released for another month or so. Stay tuned!
Student Life and Leadership: Then and Now
Reprinted from the Alumni Issue of June 2008

Former Dean of Students and first Vice President of Student Life tells her story

Dr. Elizabeth Griego
Vice President of Student Life

See if you can answer this pop quiz:
What is “pro-ana”?
What does Second Life have to do with a Pacific education?
What is SKYPE?
What possible educationally redeemable purpose could there be for Facebook?

Today's generation of university students number more than 80 million. Referred to as the “Net Generation,” or “Millennials,” students attending Pacific today have grown up in a world that is fundamentally different from that of all previous generations. Millennials are the most racially and ethnically diverse generation in U.S. history. They have new examples of family—blended families, working moms, partnered parents, and one in four grew up in a single parent household. They have been prodded, protected, and supervised by their Baby Boomer parents. They come to Pacific confident, high achieving, and service oriented.

But their most distinguishing characteristic is their familiarity with use of technology. As “Digital Natives,” they are visually oriented, constantly connected, and usually may be found online. They move at a million miles an hour, looking for the next new thing, the rush of the next experience.

The Residence Hall professionals found themselves right in between the potato chips and the Oreo cookies, because we were positive that the Board of Regents would never approve of their distribution through normal circles.

Over the years, many new and expanding areas have become a part of Student Life. The Residence Hall program has expanded in programming at an awesome level. Multiculturalism is alive and well on the Campus, and is the thread that permeates all Student Life programs. I have watched with great pride new development of leadership opportunities for students not only in terms of the practical experience, but in the addition of curricula as well.

President DeRosa's focus on the student centered-ness has paid off for the Student Life Division. Over the years, many of our most successful graduates will tell you that they owe much of their success to what they learned outside the classroom. Pacific has known for a long time. That's why we have a strong Student Life Division and that's one of the reasons we have so many successful graduates.

It's a pleasure to welcome many of those student leaders back to the campus for Alumni Weekend where they will have the opportunity to get an update on the current Student Life program from our outstanding Vice President, Dr. Elizabeth Griego.

University of the Pacific has always recognized the importance of Student Life and opportunity as well as the importance of student learning outside the classroom.

I became Dean of Students in 1973 under the Presidency of Stanley McCaffrey. One of the first things he did was form a University wide task force to examine the student life program and to make recommendations. The recommendations were well thought out and virtually all were implemented. One of the recommendations of the committee was the creation of a Vice President of Student Life. In 1975, the Board of Regents voted to create the position in order to recognize the importance of the Student Life program at the highest level of the University governance structure. The implementation of those recommendations built on the strength of the past, but enabled the Student Life program to diversify, to grow, to expand and to become the nationally recognized program that it is today.

I have often been asked what my most difficult years in Student Life were and I have to say the late 60's and the 70's. That era was when the students were rebelling from dress codes, hours for women, unnecessary rules and restrictions that literally limited student development, but those demonstrations were difficult because there was little chance to win. The Student Life professionals found themselves right in between students, the President, and the Board of Regents. They were expected to support the Administration and the Board while being strong advocates for the students. Those two positions rarely came together in a satisfactory way. I have to admit that many times trying to explain that student behavior was not easy.

One clear example of the difference between “Then and Now” is the fact that today birth control products are freely disbursed at the Health Center. In the 70's, we put them in the vending machines right between the potato chips and the Oreo cookies, because we were positive that the Board of Regents would never approve of their distribution through normal circles.

See if you can answer this pop quiz:
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What possible educationally redeemable purpose could there be for Facebook?

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The Janssen-Lagorio Gymnasium

The Janssen-Lagorio family has donated a $1 million boost to the University plan to build a multi-purpose gymnasium. The facility has been estimated to cost $7 million. The Main Gym and the South Campus Gym were built in the 1940s and are in dire need of renovation to be able to accommodate the University's growing athletic community. The Janssen-Lagorio Gymnasium will not only house Division I Athletics, but intramurals, summer camps, youth leagues, and the Sport Sciences Department.

Jeri and Alex Vereschagin donate to Alumni House Project

Originally Printed In the Pacifican February 14, 2008

The Class of 2008 raised a total of $4,326 for the Pacific Fund from which a grant will be made to the Alex and Jeri Vereschagin Alumni House. An outstanding 141 students contributed to the class gift efforts, which is a 19% participation rate. The gift was presented by Adam Ellison `08, chair of the Senior Class Gift Committee, to President DeRosa and Provost Gilbertson during Commencement. The class will be recognized on a plaque in the House when the project is completed.

Amber Edwards
Guest Writer

Sitting in his farmhouse kitchen in Orland beside his wife and college sweetheart Jeri, Alex Vereschagin tries to express their motivation for their recent gift of $2,000,000 to Pacific for its Alumni House, a $6,000,000 project. "Sometimes you just give because you can. Philanthropy is pretty fun."

Alex studied business while Jeri pursued a degree in elementary education, meeting for the first time during their sophomore year on a blind date. Their time at Pacific was full, his with the band and as president and member of Omega Phi Alpha fraternity and hers with yearbook and a presidency of her own at Alpha Theta Tau. "Those were the best four years of our lives," Jeri and Alex agree.

Following their graduation in 1957, the Vereschagins married and Jeri taught school in between the births of their three sons while Alex put his business degree to use co-founding Tri Counties Bank. The Vereschagins also continued the family history of farming, an operation that currently boasts 1,000 acres planted in walnuts, prunes and almonds.

Their donation to what will be called the Alex and Jeri Vereschagin Alumni House is just the latest in a long line of gifts to Pacific. Groundbreaking for the Alumni House is planned for Pacific Alumni Weekend 2009. The facility will house historical photos, yearbooks, and memorabilia dating back almost 160 years. Alumni will have access to a multifunctional hall, meeting rooms, and a library. Of the $6 million fundraising goal, almost $3 million has been raised thus far.

"Of the $6 million fundraising goal, almost $3 million has been raised thus far."

For the Alumni House is planned for Pacific Alumni Weekend 2009. The facility will house historical photos, yearbooks, and memorabilia dating back almost 160 years. Alumni will have access to a multifunctional hall, meeting rooms, and a library. Of the $6 million fundraising goal, almost $3 million has been raised thus far. To help with this goal, the graduating class of 2008 collected donations towards this future facility as part of their Senior Class Gift. Keep an eye out for more information on this exciting development over the next few months.

For more information contact
Bill Coen with the Pacific Alumni Association at (209) 946-2148.
Orange and Black Ball Starts the Year Out Right

Cristy Yadon
Pacifican Staff Writer

On Saturday, August 23, the Alex G. Spanos Center was transformed from a sports stadium to an elegant silent auction. The Orange and Black Ball is put on once a year to raise money for the athletic department and the athletic teams at Pacific. The night included a silent auction, live auction items, performances, dinner, and dancing.

Items were donated from a wide variety of people involved in the athletic department—from staff to fans to the teams. The donations ranged from tickets to professional sports games and autographed items to week-long trips to Hawaii. As of Sunday, August 31, the auction had raised $95,000 and counting, as the coordinators continue to fill second requests for repeat items from donors.

The 723 guests in attendance were treated to delicious food prepared by Angelina’s and some impressive live performances during dinner. The Tiger Dancers made their first appearance of the year and were followed by a beautiful song by Sara St. Pierre. But the capper was Lynn King, the Director of Athletics, and his unforgettable entrance on a Harley Davidson, decked out like a true biker. Once on the stage, he pulled off his leather jacket and chaps to reveal a long blond wig and white knee-high boots and performed a rousing song and dance to Abba’s “Dancing Queen.”

The evening was a great success and incredibly enjoyable. Thanks to the support of the donors and everyone involved, Pacific’s athletic teams can start the year out right with the finances they need for equipment and uniforms.

KSA First Meeting and Welcoming Event

Korean Student Association will be having first meeting at Spruce Room on Thursday, September 4 at 8:00 pm. We will be having Korean Traditional Shaved ice with sweets. Everyone is welcome to come. Contact h_kim2@pacific.edu for more information.