



PACIFIC OAKS COLLEGE

Alumni E-Newsletter

March/April 2012

Quick Links

[Alumni Stories](#)

[Class Notes](#)

[Admissions](#)

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Contact Information

Pacific Oaks College
45 Eureka St.
Pasadena, CA 91103
alumni@pacificoaks.edu

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Office of Alumni Relations

Dear Alumni,

We are aware that our alumni have made substantial contributions to their professions and communities as a result of their experiences at Pacific Oaks. At this time, we would like to invite our alumni to share their experiences to highlight the impact that our institution has had on individuals and communities around the world. We will be producing an Alumni Testimonial Publication to be used by alumni relations, admissions counselors, and department chairs to inspire the next generation of Pacific Oaks students.



All interested alumni are encouraged to submit the [attached form](#) along with a photo, bio and resume. Should you have questions or comments, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Siranoush Tokatlian
Assistant Director for Alumni Relations
stokatlian@pacificoaks.edu | 626.529.8095

Events

Upcoming Events

Evangeline Burgess Memorial Lecture Series - April 12, 2012

Dr. Barbara T. Bowman will be the featured speaker on Thursday, April 12, 2012 during the 2012 Evangeline Burgess Memorial Lecture Series. Dr. Bowman is an authority on early education, a national advocate for improved and expanded teacher training, and a pioneer in building knowledge and understanding of the issues regarding access and equity for minority children.



Register today at 2012burgesslecture.eventbrite.com.

Commencement Ceremony

Pacific Oaks' 2012 Commencement Ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 12, 2012 at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium at 11 a.m. For more information [click here](#).

Visit the [website](#) for more information.

News Around Campus

Pacific Oaks Making News

Pacific Oaks College bouncing back, plans to extend helping hand to Pasadena City College

By James Figueora, SGVN San Gabriel Valley Tribune

New Pacific Oaks College and Children's School President Ezat Parnia is already thinking big.

Under Parnia's leadership, the college is preparing for exponential growth only a few years after struggling to survive, with plans to offer more degrees, and expand its school of human development and family studies and school of education.

And Parnia has approached Pasadena City College with the idea of helping it solve some of its budget woes by offering general education classes at Pacific Oaks that could provide PCC credit.

That kind of collaboration is only in its formative stages and might take years to implement, however. For now, Pacific Oaks is simply engaging in discussions to create a basic agreement between the two schools.

Such a deal, which could be in place by this fall, would provide a pathway for PCC students interested in graduating to Pacific Oaks' programs. Those include teacher credentialing, early childhood education and counseling.

"With the tough times in higher education, students need to see light at the end of the tunnel," Parnia said. "The hope is that at some point we will help out with offering some (general education) courses."

Details would still have to be worked out, Parnia said, such as whether PCC students would enroll for courses through their own college or Pacific Oaks.

Please click [click here](#) to read the full article. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the article.

Annual Alumni Reception at the CAYEC Conference



Over 50 students, alumni and friends of Pacific Oaks College & Children's School attended the Regional Reception at the CAEYC Conference in San Diego on Friday, March 16, 2012. Attendees had an opportunity to network and connect with Dr. Parnia and hear of the latest happenings at Pacific Oaks. Also in attendance were Bill Sparks '74 and Ijumaa Jordan '10 Co-Chairs of the Pacific Oaks Alumni Association.

Pacific Oaks College Awarded \$225,000

Pacific Oaks College is pleased to announce the receipt of a grant of \$225,000 from the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation.

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation is dedicated to enriching the fabric of the Los Angeles region by investing in the very best human services, health care, education and cultural organizations.

This grant will help to build the College's infrastructure by supporting the purchase and installation of instructional technology that will attract and engage our students.

Pacific Oaks College is grateful for its longstanding relationship with the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation and continuing partnership.

Alumni News

Mari A. Lee - is a published author. Facing Heartbreak is now available on Amazon. For more information on Mari's practice visit www.marileetherapy.com.

Richard Swann 1991 M.A. HD - Rick Swann's book, Our School Garden! ([ISBN 978-0-9836615-0-4](http://ISBN978-0-9836615-0-4)), was published in April. It is a fictional story about how young Michael, new to the city and the school, experiences the garden through the changing seasons of the school year. He discovers not just how vegetables grow but how a community can grow from a garden. The book, written in verse, also features sidebars on gardening and an Author's Note on the history of community gardens. It is illustrated by Christy Hale, who has illustrated many award-winning picture books, including Elizabeti's Doll, winner of the Ezra Jack Keats Award, and its two sequels. She is also the author and illustrator of The East-West House: Noguchi's Childhood in Japan, named a Best Book of the Year by Kirkus Reviews.

[Click here](#) to read additional class notes.