

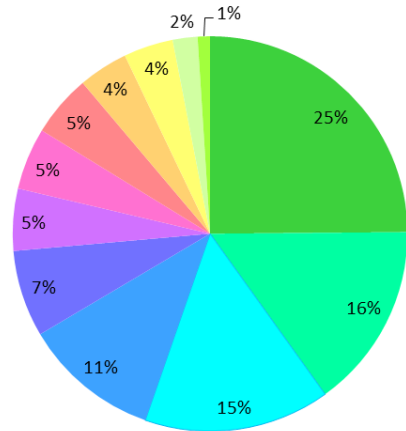
**Reflections** ...continued from p.1.

We may be Jackrabbits, but in my experience it is invariably the tortoise that wins the race. The magic that is PACE happens in classrooms among teachers that yearn to teach and students that consistently strive to learn. Nutrition, adequate sleep, and opportunities to recreate are all critical factors in a student's life, but the single most important factor in our success as an academic program is our students' impetus to learn all that they can and their recognition that the opportunity should never be taken for granted.

Students are overscheduled these days; their lives are too busy. PACE students have always had extracurriculars: sports, music, drama, robotics, community service, and countless others. But now we have the constant presence of the online, plugged in, relentless interruption of Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, whatever. Kids are constantly watching and being watched, distracted and disjointed, deprived of the experience of deep thought and reflection by the unremitting onslaught of whatever it is that seems so compelling in this moment and will not matter in the least in the next few hours. And the kids are not alone. Parents likewise are multitasking, reading news feeds and tending to the chores of home while worrying about their own work and distractedly asking our kids, "What was that again, what did you say?" We all need to break away, put it all down, and reconnect to what will matter ultimately and to each other. This is hardly a unique observation or prescription, but its validity is becoming ever more apparent.

This past year I met with a student who felt he was falling behind in chemistry and was concerned about the efficiency of his study habits. In an effort to possibly streamline his routines, I asked him what he did when school was over each day, what he did when he went home in the afternoon. He told me he walked his dog. Each day, after he arrived home from school with mountains of homework to do, he walked his dog. That answer filled me with a burst of joy and hope. I could envision an uncluttered, genuinely essential experience of presence as my student tended to the dog he loves and for whom he feels responsible, and in so doing took time to tend his own soul. And so, as I sign off as the facilitator of this necessary program that it has been my duty and privilege to direct and protect, I will ask your indulgence as I offer advice to students and parents alike. Walk the dog, smell the flowers as you do so, revel in the opportunity to explore new vistas and learn continuously, recognize the gift of human ties and love, and receive my intense gratitude for your presence and your participation in PACE. I am honored to have known and worked with you. You have conferred unimaginable meaning to my life.

PPSG Budget for 2017-2018



- Senior Scholarships
- Teacher Time for AP Reviews, Etc.
- College Aides in Classrooms
- Textbooks & Classroom Resources
- Parent Education, Newsletter & Website
- Senior Fieldtrip, Model UN, Mock Trial
- English Grading Sub Days
- PACE Counselor Supplement
- PACE Teacher Education
- Classroom Equipment & Supplies
- PACE Clerk Supplement
- PPSG Administration

**PACE Needs You !!!**

The PPSG generates funds to support the PACE Program. Last year's budget was about \$90,000, including \$24,500 in senior scholarships and the other items listed above. Your financial support is critical to maintaining the PACE Program and the superior educational experience it provides to your child. If you have donated already, thank you for your generosity and continuing dedication to PACE. If you haven't, please consider donating at this time. Simply go to our website at [paceparent.org](http://paceparent.org) and click on the donate button. It takes about \$150 per student per year to fund the annual budget. Some families donate less and some donate more. We are thankful for your donation in any amount, and remember coporate matching.

**PACE Parent Support Group Board**

- |                                  |                   |                            |
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- Website & Online Donations [www.paceparent.org](http://www.paceparent.org)
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- Mailing Address **Long Beach Poly PACE Parent Support PO Box 41845 Long Beach, CA 90853**



**Hello PACE Family**

Ms. Samantha Lawrence  
New PACE Facilitator

I am delighted to have the opportunity to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. I am Ms. Samantha Lawrence and I'll be taking over in the PACE office now that Dr. Aberle has retired. She leaves some awfully big shoes to fill and not to mention the responsibility of shepherding a successful, storied program that has spanned more than four decades so far at a school like Long Beach Poly.

You'll have to forgive me if I'm a little overwhelmed at first.

I have had the pleasure of working in the PACE program for the past 15 years. (Sophia Petrillo voice...) picture it -- 2003 -- the first iPhone is four years in the future and tweeting was still left to the birds. You get it -- I've been here a while. I taught PACE Sophomore English from 2003-2016. In 2014 I partnered with one of our brightest lights, Dr. Anne Gundry, to bring AP Capstone to Long Beach Unified. We worked hard to make that a reality, and, for a while, I tried to do both... but it was not to be. I gratefully relinquished my English class to take on the AP Capstone program, and have been working on that ever since. I loved teaching that sophomore class, but at the same time it was an opportunity to work with Dr. Gundry and to invest more in things that I had come to believe in -- like the AP Capstone courses.

If this seems like it's just nostalgic wanderings -- you're half right -- but past is often prologue and I find myself in a position of opportunity to work more closely with Ms. Connie Loggins and the dedicated staff of Long Beach Poly's PACE program, again, toward things I believe in. Our greatest resource is our community -- our staff, our families, and our alumnus. I am overwhelmed by the support I've gotten so far -- I am humbled by it too. I am ready to work with and for all of the PACE family to make the coming year the best it can be. I look forward to welcoming our new PACE students. I'm excited to work with the entire PACE Family to make the future of PACE at least as extraordinary as its past.

I hope you all enjoy what is left of your summer and I'll see you in September! (Or August 29th if I have you for class.)

**Farewell After 23 Years**

Dr. Michelle Aberle  
Former PACE Facilitator

When my middle school-aged daughter came home one day to tell me that she wanted to attend Poly High School to be part of the PACE program, I decided I had better go check it out. After all, the school was far from our home and not in the most celebrated of Long Beach neighborhoods. But it took precisely one day of visiting the campus, speaking with students and teachers, looking in on classes, feeling the energy on campus that I now know as "Poly Pride" for me to report back to her that not only would I be happy for her to attend the school as part of PACE, but that I also was prepared to seek a second career and become a high school teacher at that vibrant, bustling, wondrous high school. The place just seemed more vital and interesting than any place I could imagine. I enrolled at the CSULB science-credentialing program the very next day with the goal of teaching at Poly PACE. And thus began the odyssey that would occupy my thoughts, energy, and efforts for the next twenty-five years.

Now retired and looking back, I cannot imagine how better to have spent my working years. I recognized immediately in PACE the essential nature of its intent: to provide academically talented and motivated students the education they deserve and, indeed, require to satisfy the intense appetite for knowledge and learning that is inherent to a certain breed of person. Members of that breed may not even realize their affliction, which manifests as a subtle malaise unless they can experience intellectual challenge. With that challenge before them, this breed can experience excitement as they explore hitherto unknown terrain, acquiring knowledge and cognitive skills, and stretching the capability of their minds to analyze and ultimately understand all manner of human experience. Learning is essential to this breed; the opportunity to learn how to learn deeply is a gift of extraordinary value.

PACE is, frankly, unlikely. Why in the world would parents have sent their precious and gifted children to an inner city school plagued by racial unrest in 1975? Why would the most talented of teachers have agreed to assume the mantle of educating these children who required of them so much more: more depth, more thought and care in creating curriculum, more creativity in designing approaches to content, and more challenge to them intellectually? I have often described PACE as a boat that should never have floated. And yet, voila! Forty-three years later PACE continues to be the premier academic program in the region, producing scholars who go on to become the leaders of their prestigious colleges and ultimately their communities, enabled by mental habits acquired and assiduously groomed in this program and fueled by their own unalterable desire to learn and grow, continuously.

My years in the classroom with hundreds of different students has revealed to me that intelligence is so very much bigger and ineffable and amorphous than any linear scale can portray. What separates a true PACE student from others is less his or her innate intelligence, whatever that is, than a genuine love of learning and the unceasing determination to achieve.

*Continued on p.4...*

## 2018 PACE Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the 12 recipients of the 2018 PACE Parent Support Group Scholarship Awards. These outstanding students were selected from a pool of extremely qualified applicants by a faculty committee appointed by the PACE administration based upon academic, athletic and artistic achievements and other life circumstances. These scholarships are made possible through the generosity of PACE families and alumni who have donated to the Scholarship Fund.

**Nancy Gray Love of Learning Award \$2,500**

Lauren Calderon

**PACE Awards \$2,000 each**

Bryanna Becerra	Lily Brossus
Kayla Gibson	Frankie Huntley
Marisa Imbroane	Chelsea Mai
Joy Rowden	Celeste Sanchez
Clea Stammler	Jordan Sutter
Sabrina Thiem	



## College Acceptances & Choices PACE Class of 2018 \*

American University 2	Denver University 1	Northern Colorado Uni. 1	University of Alabama 1
<b>Amherst College 1/1</b>	DePaul University 1	<b>Northwestern University 4/1</b>	University of Arizona 4
Arizona State University 1	<b>Dickinson College 2/1</b>	The New School 2	<b>Uni. of Colorado Boulder 4/1</b>
Art Center Coll. of Design 1	Digipen Institute of Tech 1	New York University 2	<b>University of Dresden (Germany) 1/1</b>
<b>Bentley University 2/1</b>	<b>Drexel University 5/1</b>	Oberlin College 1	University of Illinois 1
<b>Boise State University 1/1</b>	Duke University 1	<b>Occidental College 7/2</b>	Uni. of Massachusetts 1
Boston College 1	<b>Fordham University 11/2</b>	Oregon State University 2	<b>University of Michigan 2/1</b>
<b>Boston University 13/1</b>	<b>George Washington Uni. 3/1</b>	<b>Pepperdine University 3/1</b>	University of Montana 1
Bradley University 1	<b>Georgetown University 1/1</b>	Pomona College 1	University of Nebraska 1
<b>Brown University 2/2</b>	Georgia Institute Tech. 3	Portland State University 1	<b>Uni. of North Texas 1/1</b>
Bryn Mawr College 1	Gonzaga University 2	<b>Purdue University 6/2</b>	<b>University of Oregon 8/1</b>
Bucknell College 1	Goucher College 1	Rensselaer Poly. Institute 1	<b>University of Portland 2/1</b>
Cal Institute of the Arts 1	Hamilton College 1	Rochester Inst. of Tech. 1	University of Puget Sound 1
Cal Lutheran University 1	<b>Harvard University 1/1</b>	Rose-Hulman Inst. Tech. 1	University of Rochester 2
<b>Cal Maritime Academy 3/2</b>	<b>Harvey Mudd College 2/1</b>	Rutgers University 1	University of San Diego 2
Cal Poly Pomona 12	Hawaii Pacific University 1	Santa Clara University 5	<b>Uni. of San Francisco 1/1</b>
<b>Cal Poly SLO 42/12</b>	<b>Hillsdale College 1/1</b>	<b>Santa Monica City Coll. 1/1</b>	<b>Uni. of Southern Cal. 4/4</b>
CSU Bakersfield 2	Holy Names University 1	Sarah Lawrence College 2	<b>University of Tampa 1/1</b>
CSU Channel Islands 2	Illinois Institute of Tech. 1	Scripps College 1	<b>Uni. of Washington 2/2</b>
CSU Chico 3	Indiana University 1	<b>Seattle University 5/1</b>	<b>Uni. of Wisconsin 2/2</b>
CSU Dominguez Hills 5	Ithaca College 1	<b>Smith College 2/2</b>	
CSU Fullerton 14	Johnson & Wales Uni. 1	St. Mary's College 1	
CSU Humboldt State 2	The Julliard School 1	<b>Stanford University 2/2</b>	
<b>CSU Long Beach 113/15</b>	<b>Long Beach City College 12/9</b>	Swarthmore College 1	
<b>CSU Los Angeles 7/1</b>	Lehigh University 1	Syracuse University 3	
CSU Monterey Bay 1	Lewis & Clark College 1	Tulane University 1	
CSU Northridge 3	Loyola Marymount Uni. 7	<b>United States Army 1/1</b>	
CSU Sacramento 1	Loyola Uni. of Chicago 3	University of Alaska 1	
<b>CSU San Diego (SDSU) 32/3</b>	<b>Macalester College 1/1</b>	<b>UC Berkeley 19/8</b>	
<b>CSU San Francisco 15/1</b>	Manhattan College 3	<b>UC Davis 22/3</b>	
CSU San Jose 5	<b>Manhattan School of Music 1/1</b>	<b>UC Irvine 59/20</b>	
CSU San Marcos 1	MA College of Pharmacy 1	<b>UCLA 27/14</b>	
<b>Chapman University 10/1</b>	<b>Middlebury College 1/1</b>	<b>UC Merced 5/1</b>	
Chicago State University 1	Montana State Uni. 1	<b>UC Riverside 11/2</b>	
Colorado State Uni. 3	New England Conservatory 1	<b>UC San Diego 50/12</b>	
Cornell University 2	<b>Northeastern University 11/1</b>	<b>UC Santa Barbara 48/5</b>	
Creighton University 1	Northern Arizona Uni. 4	<b>UC Santa Cruz 33/6</b>	

Schools students chose to attend are bolded with the number attending after the /. PACE students were offered about \$21,780,000 of scholarships and grants and accepted about \$7,080,000.

\*Information based upon student self-reporting.

## Welcome Class of 2022

Ms. Connie Loggins, PACE Counselor

Welcome to Long Beach Polytechnic High School, the home of Scholars, Champions, Musicians and Humanitarians. As an incoming freshman, you will have the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive academic setting that will not only challenge your intellect, but will also encourage, develop and define you as an individual by providing opportunities for you to explore and embrace your school community. The next four years will go by very quickly, so keep an open mind and take advantage of the support systems that are here for you. If you do so, there is no doubt in my mind that you will enjoy your high school experience academically and socially.

As you enter the campus of Long Beach Polytechnic High School, the motto says, "Enter to learn, go forth to serve". You have been admitted to one of the most revered high schools in the country. Long Beach Poly is known nation-wide for its impressive legacy of Advanced Placement passage rate, outstanding sports, excellent music programs and humanitarian ventures that abound on this campus. It is not an accident that you have been invited to join this dynasty and I look forward to your future contributions.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know you in the months and years to come. Have a wonderful summer and again, welcome to Poly.

**Musicians:** If are interested in participating in band or orchestra, you may contact Mr. Osman or Mr. Stevens who will provide information regarding auditions. Their telephone number is: 562-591-0581 Ext. 5129.

**Singers:** If you are interested in singing in one of Poly's seven choirs, please contact Mr. Brian Dokko at bdokko@lbschools.net.

**Athletes:** If you interested in participating in a sport you should have attended the Sports Orientation Day on Friday, June 16 at 10:00am. If you were unable to attend, and haven't yet contacted the coach, please contact him or her immediately. All coaches are listed on SchoolLoop. There is a pre-registration tab on Poly's SchoolLoop homepage that will have the pre-reg. packets posted by grade level on the website.

**Class of 2019:** Encouraged summer reading is posted on SchoolLoop. You have received a "comprehensive college" packet and we encourage you to work through it this summer. Senior Registration will take place the day and time of your "Senior College/Graduation" appointment that you signed up for when I spoke in Mrs. Beebe's class. You were provided information regarding the summer college application workshop that will take place at Poly on Monday, August 27th.

**Class of 2020:** Encouraged summer reading is posted on SchoolLoop. Summer is an ideal time to prepare for SAT and ACT exams. If you desire to participate in a "formalized" test preparation program, I have provided you with test preparation organizations contacts that many students have used yearly.

**Class of 2021:** English and AP US History encouraged summer reading assignments are posted on SchoolLoop.

**Class of 2022:** Encouraged summer reading is posted on SchoolLoop.

## PACE Perspectives

Brigitte Bigham, Former President  
PACE Parent Support Group

Oh wonderful lazy days of summer!!! I hope that all of you are taking the time to slow down, relax and try something new. This summer edition features the perspectives of two PACE students, my daughters. Angela will be a junior in the fall and Elizabeth will start her second year of college. We hope that by sharing their experiences, whether you are an incoming freshman, a graduating senior or somewhere in between, that you will find that the PACE rewards and challenges that you experience are shared by many.

**Elizabeth, PACE Class of 2017:** Being the oldest in my family, I had no idea what high school, let alone PACE would be like. I came from a small middle/elementary school of about 300 kids total. Going to Poly meant going to a school with nearly 15 times more students. I was definitely nervous, but as I look back on high school as a college sophomore, I realize that some of my biggest fears were not so big after all. I made new friends, I did pretty well in most of my classes, and I managed to sleep and have some sort of social life amidst everything PACE asked of me. Your teachers and the counselors are very supportive and truly do their best to instill a love of learning. Even in the classes that I typically struggled with (such as math), the teachers were always supportive, helpful and patient with me and the rest of their students. PACE can also be a bit of tough love at times. The classes are designed to challenge students in new ways that middle school often doesn't provide. After finishing a full year of college, I would say that the time I spent in PACE proved to be greatly beneficial to my college experience, especially in terms of the academic course load.

**Angela, PACE Junior:** Coming into PACE program, I expected the program to be pretty easy. I had been one of the smarter kids at my old school and I hoped that I could breeze through my first year. After a month or two, I realized that PACE was not anything like I had expected it to be. I had a large work load and there were many topics that I didn't understand for which I had to seek help. I felt defeated, and I felt like I wasn't smart enough for the program. As I started to make friends, I realized that I wasn't the only one struggling with the work load. Knowing that other people felt what I was feeling helped me because I no longer felt alone. After a few more months, I finally adjusted to the work load, and I didn't feel as overwhelmed. My freshman and sophomore years were an incredible amount of work but going through it with all of the other PACE kids made it easier because I was surrounded by people going through the same thing. Overall, my perspective of PACE has dramatically shifted, I am glad to be going through it with other intelligent individuals.

## Important Dates in August

- 16 Junior Registration  
Last Name A-L 8:00-10:00am  
Last Name M-Z 12:30-2:30pm
- 17 Sophomore Registration  
Last Name A-L 8:00-10:00am  
Last Name M-Z 12:30-2:30pm
- 20, 23 & 24 Freshman Summer Bridge
- 20 Freshman Parent Orientation  
5:00-7:00pm Auditorium
- 21 Freshman Registration & Orientation  
Last Name A-L 8:00am-2:00pm
- 22 Freshman Registration & Orientation  
Last Name M-Z 8:00am-2:00pm